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ENG 1001G-004: Composition & Language

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Composition and Language: Culture, Consumerism, and Technology
English 1001G, Section 004 :: Coleman Hall 3160
MWF 10:00-10:50 a.m.

Prof. Caldwell, mcaldwell@eiu.edu
Office: Coleman 3050
Office Hours: M 12-3, W 11-2, and by appt.

Required Texts

Writing: A Guide for College and Beyond, 3rd ed., Faigley
The Contemporary Reader, 11th ed., Gary Goshgarian
Prentice Hall Reference Guide, 9th ed., Harria and Kunka
They Say/I Say, Graff
A college dictionary of your choice

Course Description

According to Eastern's course catalogue, English 1001G - Composition and Language (3-0-3) is a "course in the reading and writing of expressive, expository, and persuasive essays. Attention is given to effective expression, clear structure, adequate development, and documentation of sources."

In my view, a good composition course teaches you to be a better writer as well as a better thinker. It is one of the most valuable and practical courses you can take in college. At EIU, ENG 1001G is a composition course that has been designed to prepare you for your academic career, regardless of your major field of study. The purpose of this course is to help you develop your analytical thinking and reading skills and to help you become an accurate, effective, and persuasive writer.

This course assumes that composition is not something you do just once. Writing is a process, and to do it well, you must spend time developing and revising your work. In this course you will:

- understand rhetorical principles and how they relate to your audience
- learn strategies that will help you carefully read and analyze the arguments and rhetoric of a variety of sources
- develop and write your own arguments using multiple sources as evidence
- develop your research skills and learn how to work effectively and ethically with sources
- strive to increase the clarity and accuracy of your writing
- become an astute reader of your own work and that of your peers
- learn strategies for effectively revising your work

These are skills that I hope you will transfer to your future college work and eventually to your professional career.

Keys to Success in ENG 1001G:

1. Attend class regularly and be on time
2. Come to class prepared to participate actively
3. Always do all readings and assignments and bring your texts and completed assignments to class
4. Do not use any electronic device in class unless I have asked you to do so
5. Come prepared on workshop days with full drafts
6. Be an active reader/editor of your own work and that of your peers
7. When you have questions, seek out help from me, your peers, the Writing Center, or other appropriate campus resources (see below)
8. Know that you are in control of your own education
9. Turn in all work on time

Office Hours and Other Campus Resources

Professor Caldwell's office hours: CH 3050, M 12-3 & W 11-2, or by appt.

Professor Caldwell's email: mcaldwell@eiu.edu

I am absolutely committed to your success in this course and at EIU more generally. I will hold regularly scheduled office hours every week. You do not have to make an appointment to come to my regularly scheduled hours: please just come by. If you are not able to come to my office during these hours because of another commitment (for example, your classes conflict with my office hours), please email me or ask me after class about making an appointment. I'm happy to help you at any stage in the writing process—whether you are just beginning or are refining your thesis.

Information for Students with Disabilities

If you are a student with a documented disability in need of accommodations to fully participate in this class, please contact the Office of Student Disability Services (OSDS). All accommodations must be approved through OSDS. Please stop by Ninth Street Hall, Room 2006, or call [217-581-6583](tel:217-581-6583).

Other Resources

The Student Success Center

Students who are having difficulty achieving their academic goals are encouraged to contact the Student Success Center (www.eiu.edu/~success) for assistance with time management, test taking, note taking, avoiding procrastination, setting goals, and other skills to support academic achievement. The Student Success Center provides individualized consultations. To make an appointment, call [217-581-6696](tel:217-581-6696), or go to 9th Street Hall, Room 1302.

The Writing Center

You are always welcome to meet with me during office hours to discuss any writing issues. However, I also encourage you to use EIU's Writing Center located at 3110 Coleman Hall. This free service provides one-to-one conferences with writing center consultants who can help you with brainstorming, organizing, developing support, documenting your papers, and working with sentence-level concerns. The writing center is open to help any student from any major at any stage of his or her writing process, and its system of one-to-one conferences demonstrates value and respect for individual writers, all of whom can benefit from feedback about their works in progress. To schedule an appointment, you can drop by the center (3110 Coleman Hall) or you can call 581-5929.

Classroom Expectations, Absences, and Tardiness

The classroom is meant to be a place of focused, engaged thought and productive discussion. Please do all readings and assignments and bring your texts to class. I expect habitual, thoughtful participation in the daily activities of class. In order to help you achieve this ideal, please silence cell phones or set them to vibrate and put them away. If you choose to use a laptop computer for taking notes during class, please stay on task and do not surf the internet, chat with friends, etc. while in class. Distracting the class from its work is disrespectful to everybody in the room. The first time I catch you texting or chatting or doing other kinds of distracting or irrelevant behaviors, you will receive a warning; the second time you will be asked to leave the classroom and I will count you absent for the day. If you eat or drink in class, please do so discreetly.

You must attend class in order to participate; if you are absent more than 4 times during the semester, your final grade will be lowered by 1/3 a letter grade for each additional absence (so, for example, 5 absences will make a final grade of a B- a C+). If there is a reason why you must be absent from class, please discuss this necessity with me so that we can make sure you do not fall behind in the class. For every two significant tardies (over 5 minutes), you will receive an absence. If you do not have a completed draft on a workshop day, I will mark you absent. If you make a habit of leaving your text or work at home, I will count you

absent. In addition, all of these acts will lower your participation grade as well. It is possible to fail this course due to poor attendance.

Academic Integrity and Plagiarism

Students are expected to maintain principles of academic integrity and conduct as defined in EIU's Code of Conduct (<http://www.eiu.edu/judicial/studentconductcode.php>). The English Department's policy on plagiarism states the following:

"Any teacher who discovers an act of plagiarism—'The appropriation or imitation of the language, ideas, and/or thoughts of another author, and representation of them as one's original work' (Random House Dictionary of the English Language)—has the right and the responsibility to impose upon the guilty student an appropriate penalty, up to and including immediate assignments, of a grade of F for the assigned essay and a grade of F for the course, and to report the incident to the Office of Student Standards."

To put this another way: plagiarism absolutely will not be tolerated in this class. If you plagiarize you will fail the assignment and the course. Plagiarists will be reported to the Office of Student Standards and will fail the course. If you are confused about plagiarism at any point in the semester, it is your responsibility to ask me about it before you turn in an assignment.

Assignments

If you miss a class, make sure to ask another class member for the day's assignments. All assignments are due at the beginning of class on the day indicated. Late assignments will rarely be accepted unless permission has been granted in advance. Please follow standard academic conventions regarding formatting:

- All essays should be typed, double-spaced, 1-inch margins and in 11- or 12-point Times New Roman font (or a rough equivalent).
- Each essay should include a single-spaced heading with your name, date, and the course number.
- Each essay should include an original, thought-provoking title.
- Each essay should be turned in with all draft and workshop materials.
- All summaries, paraphrases, or quotations of any outside sources **MUST** be documented using MLA documentation style or another appropriate style (e.g. APA, CBE, CMS, etc.)

Late work will not be accepted; however, you are allowed to turn in one paper up to 24 hours late during the course of the semester without any penalty. You may choose to do this if you find that you require an extension, in the case of an emergency, or in the case that you forgot your paper at home. Just beware that once you've used it, every other late paper will be counted off a full letter grade for each day it comes in late after the first day, which is automatically deducted as a full day. So, if a paper is due on Monday at 3:00 p.m. and you turn it in at 5:00 p.m., the highest grade you can receive is a B; if you turn it in on Tuesday at 3 p.m., the highest grade you can receive is a C, etc. I highly encourage you to turn in all work because numerically it is much easier to recover from an F than it is to recover from a 0.

Electronic Reading Notebook Assignment (Response Paper)

One of the most important places to begin when working on critical thinking and reading is with your own personal response to something you have read. Although ultimately critical thinking involves more than just a personal opinion or feeling about something, it is important to write about things that you know and care about, and writing responses can help you identify them. You are required to post a response on D2L for each set of readings in the course (unless the syllabus indicates otherwise). Ideally, your response should be posted by midnight the night before class, but you will receive full credit for the assignment as long as you post it before the beginning of class and follow the guidelines listed below. You may not like every reading

that has been assigned, but hopefully you will have something to say about it. It is up to you to determine the exact focus of your response, but it should include the following two things:

- 1.) A discussion about what you found particularly interesting, controversial, or meaningful about at least one of the assigned essays. Try to respond to a specific point or points in the essay. To that end, in your discussion you should directly quote the essay at least once.
- 2.) At least one critical observation about the essay. Your observation can point out something about the writer's biases or assumptions, the kinds of evidence the writer uses, the style or tone of the essay and its effectiveness, the purpose of the essay, etc.

The reading notebook is *not* a polished essay. I will grade your responses mostly on the quality of your thought rather than the quality of your writing.

Assignments, Grade Distribution and Scale

Assignment	Weight	Final Grading Scale	
Short essays (essay 1, 2, and 4)	15% (5% each)	90-100	A
Long Essays (3 and 5)	20% (10% each)	80-89	B
Final Project	30%	70-79	C
Grammar quizzes and reading notebook	15%	60-69	D
Class participation and preparation	20%	Below 60	F

The Electronic Writing Portfolio (EWP)

The Electronic Writing Portfolio, or EWP as it is more commonly known, is a university requirement for all students. All students must submit three writing samples by the end of their senior year in order to graduate. According to the EWP website, these writing samples can come from any class, but they "must be at least 750 words in length and written in Standard English." They must also be "a coherent writing sample that connects ideas within and between paragraphs." Since you will be writing many papers in ENG 1001G and ENG1002G, it is a good idea to choose your best work from these classes and to submit it. For more information, see <http://www.eiu.edu/assess/ewpmain.php>.

****Enrollment in this course constitutes your agreement to the state of affairs outlined in this course policy and in the schedule of readings below. ****

Course Calendar (subject to adjustment as needed)

Date	What happens in class	What you should complete for the next class
M 1/11	Course Introduction: writers and their audience.	Read selections from <i>On Writing Well</i> , "Putting our Brains on Hold" and "Effective E-mail Communication" on D2L.
W 1/13	Discuss critical reading strategies. Discuss Zinsser.	Practice critical reading strategies on "Putting our Brains on Hold." Create reading notes using the strategies we discussed in class. Bring the article and your notes to class next time.
F 1/15	In-class diagnostic essay.	Read "Strong Enough" (p. 53-56), "Out-of Body Image" (p. 64-67), and "The Natural Beauty Myth" (p. 68-71) in <i>The Contemporary Reader (CR)</i> and post a response on D2L (see assignment above).
M 1/18	NO CLASS	MLK Day Observed.
Unit 1: The Body and the World: Self Image		
W 1/20	Discuss reading. Introduce short essay 1 assignment and discuss observational writing.	Read "How Men Really Feel about Their Bodies" (p. 72-75) and "Never Too Buff" (p. 77-81) in <i>CR</i> and post notebook entry on D2L.
F 1/22	Discuss reading and paragraphing.	Read "Body Image, Media, and Eating Disorders" (p. 56-62), "Weight of the World" (p. 50-52) and "My Hips, My Caderas" (p. 47-49) and post a response on D2L.
M 1/25	Discuss reading. Introduce short essay 2. Discuss rhetorical appeals and establishing credibility. Short essay 1 due via D2L.	Begin drafting short essay 2.
W 1/27	Discuss using evidence effectively and ethically, and plagiarism.	Revise short essay 2 and bring a draft to class. Prepare for a quiz on plagiarism.
F 1/29	Plagiarism quiz. Workshop short essay 2.	Revise essay 2. Bring your workshop draft, workshop sheet, and revised draft to turn in next time. Read "Which One of These Sneakers Is Me" (p. 91-95) and examine "Perspectives: My Things Define Me" (p.107) and answer the three questions on that page. Bring your writing to class.
Unit 2: Consumerism, Marketing, and Personal Debt		
M 2/1	Introduce Essay 3. Discuss homework writing. Essay 2 due via D2L.	Read "The Daily You" (p. 108-114), "Coming to a Lab Near You" (p. 115-117) and "The Allure of Luxury" (p. 118-122) and post a response on D2L.
W 2/3	Discuss analysis.	Read "Generation Debt" (p. 147-151) and "Strapped" (p. 152-156) and post a response on D2L.
F 2/5	Discuss readings. In-class work on analytical writing and developing your topic.	Read "Generation Recession" (p. 166-170) and "Major Delusions" (p. 171-173). Complete critical writing task question 3 on page. 173. Begin brainstorming and create a list of ideas for essay 3.
M 2/8	Discuss readings. Work on effective introductions and thesis statements.	Read "Grow Up? Not so Fast" (p. 157-165) and "Viewpoints" section (p.181-184). Write introduction and an outline for your paper. Create a list of evidence you will use from essays.
W 2/10	Discuss essays. Workshop introductions. Work on paragraphing.	Write body paragraphs for essay.

	evidence, and transitions.	
F 2/12	NO CLASS	President's Day Observed
M 2/15	Workshop paragraphs. Sign up for conference.	Complete full draft of essay 3. Email me a draft of your essay by Tuesday evening at 9pm. Meet in Coleman Hall 3050.
W 2/17	Individual Conferences. Meet in Coleman Hall 3050.	Work on essay.
F 2/19	Individual Conferences. Meet in Coleman Hall 3050.	Revise draft and bring to class for a workshop.
M 2/22	Workshop Essay 3.	Make final revisions to draft. Examine advertisements insert at page 110 of <i>CR</i> . For your reading notebook entry, pick one of these ads and answer the questions in your text underneath the ad.
Unit 3: Using and Analyzing Visual Rhetoric		
W 2/24	Discuss visual rhetoric. Essay 3 due.	TBA.