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# ENG 1002G-010-039: Composition and Literature

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10026-010  
-039

EASTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY  
CHARLESTON, ILLINOIS

Instructor: Gerard Donovan  
Semester: Spring 2008  
Course: English 1002G Composition and Literature  
Sections: 010 / 039  
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Office Hours: MW 10-11, 12-1 and by appointment  
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Texts

Griffith, Kelley. Writing Essays About Literature. (7th ed.)  
Kennedy, XJ. An Introduction to Poetry. (12<sup>th</sup> ed.)  
Jacobus, Lee A. The Bedford Introduction to Drama. (5<sup>th</sup> ed.)  
Pickering, James. Fiction 100. (11<sup>th</sup> ed.)

Please purchase one notebook that can serve as a journal and one notebook for class notes.

Course Description

English 1002G Composition and Literature is a writing course designed to improve skills in critical thinking and analytical expression based on the reading of literary texts. Attention is given to the ongoing development of student writing, including effective expression, clear structure, adequate development, and documentation of sources. Prerequisite: English 1001G.

Course Objectives

1. To write expository and persuasive texts in which paragraphs and words develop a central idea that responds to the reading of literary works. As in 1001G, these papers should reflect an understanding and command of the following: generating and prewriting strategies for formulating a thesis; methods for planning and drafting a paper; strategies of revising for clarity and adequate development; and means for polishing and editing. Papers should demonstrate effective methods of organization. At least one paper will involve library, online, and/or field research and employ primary and secondary sources together with proper documentation.
2. To write focused, adequately developed paragraphs and sentences in standard written English that are direct, economical, free of ambiguity, structurally appropriate for the ideas expressed and suitable to the purpose of the text.
3. To develop the ability to evaluate and criticize their own and their peers' writing.

4. To read poetry, fiction, and drama expressing a wide range of cultural perspectives and to think critically and write analytically about them.
5. To engage in reading and writing as a way of developing ideas about the literature under review and thereby to establish a foundation for continued social, cultural, intellectual, and aesthetic discovery and appreciation.

#### Guidelines

1. All students enrolled in English 1002G should have passed English 1001G or must have fulfilled the requirement through transfer credit or through the CLEP proficiency examination. If your transfer credit is from a community college, please see the Dept. Chair, Dr. Ringuette, so that he can verify the transfer of this credit. If otherwise you did not pass English 1001G, you may not continue in this course.
2. All students must submit a document from either 1001G or 1002G as part of the requirements for their Electronic Writing portfolio. This is a University requirement for graduation. If you did not submit a document from 1001G, you must do it this semester. Here is the link to the appropriate English Department website:  
[www.eiu.edu/~writcurr/](http://www.eiu.edu/~writcurr/)
3. The writing requirement for the course is approximately 5,000 words, consisting of journals, essay tests, and papers, including any drafts.
4. Having passed English 1001G, you are expected to execute the following in your writing:
  - a. Plan a paper using prewriting strategies
  - b. Draft several paragraphs
  - b. Formulate a thesis
  - c. Avoid major usage errors
  - d. Develop an idea over several paragraphs using concrete, detailed English
  - e. Revise the writing into a cohesive and effective document.
5. The Writing Center in 3110 Coleman Hall offers help with various kinds of writing and at all stages of the process, including invention, developing a thesis, organizing ideas, and utilizing proper documentation. Students should make an appointment and arrive with the assignment.
6. The order of reading is as follows: we will begin with fiction, proceed to poetry, and end with drama. I will hand out or announce a reading list.

#### Grading System and Assignments

Grading Scale:      Excellent (90-100%) = A; Above Average (80-89%) = B  
Average (70-79%) = C; Below Average (60-69%) = D  
Failing (0-59%) = NC

Essay #1 (Fiction)	20 percent
Essay #2 (Biographical Research/Poem)	10 percent
Panels	15 percent
Journals	20 percent
Quizzes	15 percent
Final Exam (Drama Essay)	20 percent

(Essay length: final draft, 4 pages.)

Final draft papers returned to you will have a letter grade, a number grade, and comments.

As the course develops, you may be assigned extra in- and out-of class writing, or I may reformulate the assignment/grading as indicated above. If so, I will announce the grading for the extra assignment(s), or the change.

The final grade entered for the course will be either A, B, C, or NC. Plus (+) and minus (-) are not used in the final course grades but may be used in grading during the semester.

The journal is due approx 2/3 way through the course (due date will be announced). The final exam will be a written essay in response to one out of a selection of questions offered on drama.

#### Class Policies

1. You are allowed three unexcused absences. If you are late three times, you may be assigned one absence.
2. Late work will cost you one full grade per calendar day. After three days, the assignment fails. With an excused absence and prior arrangement with the instructor, an essay may be handed in late without penalty.
3. Cell phones are disruptive. They must be turned OFF and be out of sight during class periods. If the phone rings, beeps, or buzzes, one grade will be deducted from your next paper. If I see a phone on your desk during a quiz or a test, you will fail that quiz or test. If you answer the phone during class or leave the class to use the phone, you will be assessed an absence.
4. You are responsible for assignments even if you were absent the class in which they were assigned. Please take the telephone numbers and/or e-mail addresses of at least 3 students in the class, adding or updating when necessary. In this way you can keep current and be advised of assignments.
5. You must bring the textbook(s) under review with you to class.
6. All essay manuscripts must be typed and double-spaced, pages numbered and stapled in the top left-hand corner. Please do not use a cover sheet or plastic cover sheets or any folders. The student's name, the date, the assignment, and instructor's name should appear on the first manuscript page, in top left-hand corner. All essays will be given a number grade, a letter grade, critical comments, and an explanation of the grade. If an essay has more than five major usage errors, it is likely to fail. Any essay grade can be discussed during office hours or a scheduled appointment.

7. Plagiarism. Eastern Illinois University's policy on plagiarism is as follows: Any teacher who discovers an act of plagiarism (the appropriation of the language, ideas, and/or thoughts of another author, and representation of them as one's original work) has the right and the responsibility to impose upon the guilty student an appropriate penalty, up to and including immediate assignment of a grade of F for the course, and to report the incident to Judicial Affairs.

8. Students with Disabilities: If you are a student who has a documented disability and wishes to receive academic accommodations, please contact the Coordinator of the Office of Disability Services as soon as possible.

Tentative Schedule (subject to change--depends on progress)

Weeks 1-5: Fiction/Readings/Journals/Quizzes/Fiction Paper

Weeks 6-9: Poetry/Readings/Journals/Quizzes/Biographical Research Paper

Weeks 10-15: Drama/Readings/Film/Quizzes

Final Exam: Drama