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ENG 1091G-099 College Composition I Critical Reading & Source-Based Writing Honors

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eastern illinois university

ENGLISH 1091G

College Composition I, Honors Critical Reading & Source-Based Writing

Course Description

English 1091G is the honors version of the two required freshman writing courses at EIU. This course is designed to improve your skills in critical thinking and analytical expression, preparing you for the kinds of writing that you will be asked to perform throughout your university and professional career.

You will be asked to write a variety of papers—of different lengths, complexity, and formats for different audiences. Regardless of the writing task, however, the premise of this course is simple: good writing comes from sustained inquiry and revision in an intellectually rich and cooperative environment. In short this course will challenge your critical thinking skills and sharpen your writing ability—helping you deploy these assets in the college classroom and beyond.

Course Goals:

This course will help you . . .

- Develop an effective writing process
- Produce informative, analytical, and persuasive prose
- Find and evaluate appropriate sources
- Adapt to different rhetorical situations
- Integrate sources ethically and appropriately using at least one recognized citation style
- Use effective language and delivery skills through speaking opportunities

Course Schedule & Due Dates

For each major writing project, you will receive a detailed writing assignment that will include a schedule of daily activities, reading and brief writing assignments, and quizzes.

So you can plan ahead: the approximate due dates for the major papers are listed on page 2.

Fall 2023

Coleman Hall 3140/3210

MWF 9:00-9:50 am

Texts & Materials

- Sloan, *Mr. Penumbra's 24-Hour Bookstore*
- Graff, Birkenstein, *They Say/I Say*
- Other Readings & Handouts (D2L)

Instructor: Prof. R. Beebe
rlbeebe@eiu.edu

Office: Coleman 3841

Office Hours:
M,W,F 10-11
T 9-11

Set Up a Conference:

<https://calendly.com/rlbeebe>

Requirements

5 Writing Projects	75%
In-class work, brief writing, quizzes	25%

D2L

This course uses D2L, often quite extensively.

Learn how to use it—especially how to upload assignments to a dropbox.

Check it often. Sign up for automatic notification so you'll know when something new is posted.

Writing Assignments & Grading

You will complete five writing projects over the course of the semester. For each project you will receive an assignment sheet, indicating due dates, activities, and expectations.

As a final project, you will substantially revise one of the writing projects.

The five writing assignments comprise approximately 75% of your final grade, with the remaining 25% comprised of group work, discussion posts, and quizzes. There is no final exam for English 1091G.

You may revise any paper for a higher grade, providing the paper was turned in on time.

D2L

EIU uses D2L Brightspace for its learning management system, where all the course material is located.

I use the “News” item in D2L to relay course updates and reminders, and so it’s important to check D2L frequently.

Attendance

This course follows closely EIU’s official policy on absences, which essentially means that you won’t be penalized for excused absences (illness, emergency, participation in an official University activity, etc.). See [EIU’s IGP #43](#) for more information.

The semester is long and things happen. You may miss 2 classes for personal reasons without being penalized. Without any documentation or prior arrangements, you cannot make up any work missed. If you miss more than 2 days, your final grade will be docked accordingly — approximately one letter grade for every two days missed.

This really shouldn’t be a problem, providing you talk to me ahead of time.

Electronic Writing Portfolio

This course is a writing-centered course and, as such, your papers satisfy the requirements for the Electronic Writing Portfolio. EWP guidelines insist that you complete your submission prior to the last day of class. Talk to me if you have any questions about this or consult the EWP website.

Conferences

Individual conferences are crucial to writing courses. I encourage you to meet with me about any writing concerns you have. I’m happy to brainstorm with you, discuss writing strategies, or go over a draft of your writing. We can do this either before or after class or we can easily arrange a conference time on a different day. I’m happy to help. Just ask.

Plagiarism

Since the university is a place of ideas, discussion, and reflection, it views plagiarism—the taking of others’ ideas as one’s own—very harshly. The penalty for plagiarizing is swift and severe. You will receive an immediate F for the course and notice will be given to the Office of Student Standards.

If you have any questions about plagiarism—however small—please talk to me before you turn in your work.

Approximate Due Dates

Project 1	10%	Sept 17
Project 2	15%	Oct 8
Project 3	15%	Oct 22
Project 4	20%	Nov 12
Project 5	15%	Dec 8

Grading Policy & Late Work

Each writing project has an evaluation rubric, which we will discuss in class as you revise your initial drafts. In other words, I'll make it clear what writing tasks are essential in each project.

You will submit all formal writing projects to a D2L dropbox. With prior approval, you may turn in late work. However, work submitted after the due date — without prior approval — will be penalized, usually one letter grade for each day that it is late.

Academic Integrity

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>). Violations will be reported to the Office of Student Standards.

This policy includes plagiarism, where, even if unknowing or accidental, can result in your failing the course and in further action by the university. Please note the English Department's statement on plagiarism. 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 own 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. If you have any questions about what constitutes plagiarism, feel free to ask me to clarify.

On the Use of AI

Students are allowed to use advanced automated tools (artificial intelligence or machine learning tools such as ChatGPT, Grammarly, or Dall-E 2) on assignments in this course **if instructor permission is obtained in advance**. Unless given permission to use those tools, each student is expected to complete each assignment without substantive assistance from others, including automated tools.

If permission is granted to use advanced automated tools (artificial intelligence or machine learning tools such as ChatGPT, Grammarly, or Dall-E 2), they must be properly documented and credited. Text generated using ChatGPT-3 should include a citation such as: "Chat-GPT-3. (YYYY, Month DD of query). "Text of your prompt."

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 McAfee Gym, Room 1210, or call 217-581-6583 to make an appointment.

The Student Success Center

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, or go to McAfee Gym, Room 1301.

Reading & Activity Schedule

As indicated above, you will be given a detailed activity schedule for each writing project, which will also be available on D2L

Course Etiquette

Even though this is an in-person course, it's important to be respectful of others in class discussions, group work, or any online discussion posts. Accordingly, I abide by EIU's policy on acceptable etiquette for online courses, which is as follows:

Eastern Illinois University (EIU) is committed to open, frank, and insightful dialogue in all of its courses. Diversity has many manifestations, including diversity of thought, opinion, and values. We encourage all learners to be respectful of that diversity and to refrain from inappropriate commentary. Should such inappropriate comments occur, the instructor will intervene, removing inappropriate content. The instructor may also recommend university disciplinary action. Learners as well as faculty should be guided by common sense and basic etiquette. The following are good guidelines to follow:

- Never post, transmit, promote, or distribute content that is known to be illegal.
- Never post harassing, threatening, or embarrassing comments. If you disagree with someone, respond to the subject, not the person. Conflicts of ideas are encouraged, while conflicts of feelings are discouraged.
- Never post content that is harmful, abusive; racially or culturally insensitive, or religiously offensive, vulgar; sexually explicit, or otherwise potentially offensive.

Remember you are communicating with real people.

Students and instructors in your course have feelings, lives, jobs, families and a myriad of other issues that you may know little about. Once you have finished writing something, and before you send it, re-read it looking at your words from someone else's perspective. How would they see it? Could it be misinterpreted? Could you rephrase to make it clearer or more on topic?

Write clearly & professionally.

In any course-related communication (emails, chats, discussions), use standard proper English with correct grammar. Using slang, errors in mechanics, and shortcuts maybe difficult for others to understand. Avoid ALL CAPS, bolding and underlining. It could be misinterpreted. Avoid offensive language. Also make sure to sign your name to any post.

Be kind and ethical.

Do not belittle other students or the instructor. You may disagree with what someone says, but focus on the issue, not the person. Behave online as you would in person. Be forgiving of the mistakes of others.

Help others.

If someone asks a question, answer it if you are sure of the correct answer or if you have insight that could be helpful.