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ENG 1002-032: Composition and Literature

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Policy Statement and Course Description
English 1002G, Composition and Literature, Section 032
12:30—1:45 p.m., TR
Coleman Hall ETIC 3120 (lab) and 3130 (classroom)

Instructor: Debra Valentino
Office: CH 3836
Campus Phone: 581-6987
E-mail: davalentino@eiu.edu

Office Hours: Tuesday and Thursday
8:15 - 9:15 and 11 - 12:15
and by appointment

Texts:

The Story and Its Writer, Charters, 6th ed.
Poetry: A Pocket Anthology, Gwynn, 4th ed.
Writing About Literature, Roberts, 10th ed.
Drama: A Pocket Anthology, Gwynn, 2nd ed.
The Blair Handbook, Fulwiler, 4th ed.
Online! A Reference Guide to Using Internet Sources

Course Description: English 1002 is a general education writing-centered course designed to improve skills in critical thinking and analytical expression based on the reading of literary texts, as well as a survey in the examination of literary genres including short fiction, drama, poetry, and film. As with 1001G, attention is given to the on-going development of student writing, effective expression, clear structure, adequate development, and documentation of sources. The prerequisite for this course is successful completion of English 1001G or its transferred equivalent.

Course Objectives – To improve students' abilities to:

- read and understand literary texts
- discuss and analyze literary texts
- demonstrate a close familiarity with a text
- think creatively and develop ideas
- write expository and persuasive essays that develop a central idea
- implement proper strategies of the entire writing process from prewriting to editing
- write in standard edited English, employing effective methods of organization
- research and implement correct documentation of sources

Class Participation: All outside readings must be completed by the start of the class period for which they were assigned. Since this is a course that depends heavily on student participation, students will be expected to contribute relevant and insightful questions and comments to class discussions. Student participation is best supported by active, responsible reading of all course material. In addition, students are expected to conduct themselves in a respectful manner in the classroom. Performance in this category will be factored into final grading by being awarded a point value (see "Grade Distribution" below).

Homework: A reading and/or writing assignment will be given nearly every class period, and will usually be due the following class period. Our goal will be to spend a minimum of five hours working outside of class per week, as established by the Department of English.

Written Assignments / Drafts and Essays: In addition to receiving several written exercises, assignments and hand-outs, students will develop, revise, and edit three (3) critical essays and one (1) research essay both in and out of class. Many pages of drafting, writing, and revising will go into each essay. In order to receive the benefits of peer evaluation and instructor guidance, several "workshops" will be held throughout the semester. Drafts will be checked and discussed during these times, with student progress assessed on each of the drafts. In addition,

peer review sessions may be conducted with some responses collected for credit (as part of the draft or final essay grade.) Make sure you KEEP ALL COURSEWORK, especially essays and drafts, until after the semester ends!

Note: Be sure to bring all drafts on current essays to all class meetings, including both electronic and hard copies.

(Failure to do so will result in a deduction of points.)

As specific assignments are made, drafts will be expected to meet specified criteria, and the instructor will clarify the objectives as the student builds awareness and works through the writing process. For example, you may write an essay, but then be expected to develop an argument supporting your thesis, or further modify or subordinate sentences as you learn to refine these specific techniques. Often, you will be given a rubric, a handout, or a checklist to help manage the writing process, and to help master various writing skills that will assist you in completing a polished final draft.

All out-of-class essays will be due at the beginning of the class period on the date specified. In-class essays will be due at the end of the class period.

Late Work: Essays are expected to be completed in a timely fashion and turned in on the due date. If no extension has been granted, late papers will be marked down ten points for each missed class period.

Note: All final drafts must be submitted to complete this course. Failure to submit any essay will result in a grade of N/C (No Credit) for the course.

Quizzes: Reading quizzes will be given throughout the semester. Some will be scheduled, but some will be unannounced, or announced only in the preceding class. Points from quizzes will be added and averaged, then factored into final grades as listed in the grade distribution below.

Attendance: Regular attendance is expected. When an absence does occur, it is the absent student's responsibility to get all class information (including schedule/assignment modifications) from another class member. Students should **use the class phone list to consult classmates** regarding missed material and assignments. Once informed, students may then e-mail, visit, or telephone the instructor with specific questions. Failure to comply with this policy will result in lowered class participation points.

Absences/ Missed Work: Students who are ill must telephone the instructor on the day of their absence. Report Health Service visits and provide documentation of them upon your return to class. Because we cover a great deal of material each class meeting, multiple absences may adversely affect one's writing, and ultimately one's final grade. Any student with poor attendance for any reason should set up a conference as soon as possible. If you wait until the end of the semester to express concern over attendance problems, it will most likely be too late to compensate for missed work. See further information on attendance under "Classroom Conduct" below.

Note: E-mail is not always a reliable source of communication. The server may be down, or I may not be near a terminal to retrieve your message. When it comes to attendance, use e-mail only as a supplemental means of communication. Also, do not assume that all reported absences are excused.

Make-up Work: No make-ups will be given for missed in-class exercises or quizzes. Missed essays due to an excused absence may be made up within two weeks of the student's return to class, but only with permission and at the instructor's discretion. If the absence is unexcused (no note, no phone call, or without approval) make-ups are not allowed.

Grades: All essay grades will be evaluated using the "Guidelines for Evaluating Writing Assignments in EIU's English Department" (attached) and averaged using the following scale:

90—100	A
80—89	B
70—79	C
60—69	D
below 59	F

Students with Disabilities: Any student who has a documented disability and wishes to receive academic accommodations should contact the Coordinator of the Office of Disability Services (**581-6583**) as soon as possible.

Tentative Schedule of Assignments

January 9, 2007	Course Introduction
January 11, 2007	Diagnostic Essay I – In Class
January 16, 2007	Sophocles, “Oedipus the King” pp. 39-55 <u>Drama</u> , Gwynn, pp. 5-22
January 18, 2007	Sophocles, “Oedipus the King” pp. 56-88 <u>Drama</u> , Gwynn, pp. 29-36
January 23, 2007	August Wilson, “Fences” Act 1, pp. 451-491
January 25, 2007	“Fences” Act 2, pp. 491-520 Identify themes, and Troy’s “profound heights of expression”
January 30, 2007	Composition Workshop
February 1, 2007	Film Essay II Draft Due
February 6, 2007	Roberts, <i>WAL</i> , Ch 1. pp. 1-44 “The Necklace” pp. 5-12 (and <i>Charters</i> , pp. 524-30) Film Essay II Due
February 8, 2007	“A Small, Good Thing” pp. 81-98
February 13, 2007	“Where Are You Going, Where Have You Been?” pp. 619-31
February 15, 2007	“What We Talk About When We Talk About Love” pp. 98-107 “Hills Like White Elephants” pp. 340-43 <i>WAL</i> , Chapter 7, p. 107
February 20, 2007	Review literary terms and the elements of fiction
February 22, 2007	“Young Goodman Brown” pp. 329-38 Assign Fiction Essay III
February 27, 2007	Midterm Exam
March 1, 2007	“The Lottery” pp. 381-87 “Sonny’s Blues” pp. 25-47 “A Good Man is Hard to Find” pp. 658-69

Mandatory Student Conferences – As Scheduled

March 6, 2007	Fiction Essay III – Workshop
March 8, 2007	Fiction Essay III – Draft Due (3-4 pages)
	March 12—16 Spring Recess
March 20, 2007	Introduction to Poetry
March 22, 2007	Fiction Essay III Due Library Orientation
March 27, 2007	Introduction to Poetry
March 29, 2007	selected poems TBA
April 3, 2007	Research Exercise 1 due
April 5, 2007	selected poems TBA
April 10, 2007	selected poems TBA
April 12, 2007	Research Exercise 2 due
April 17, 2007	Research Exercise 3 due
April 19, 2007	Oral Presentations of Research
April 24, 2007	Research Essay IV due
April 26, 2007	Last Class Day

**The Final Exam for this Course is scheduled for
Monday, April 30, 2007, 12:30-2:30 p.m.**

Classroom Conduct: Part of your Class Participation grade.

“Order in the Class! Order in the Class!”

Be on time. We have a lot to cover this semester. I will call roll within the first few minutes of class. Some students make a habit of continually arriving late. If you are not present when attendance is called, you may be counted absent.

Come prepared. Make sure you bring your flash drive, your book(s), your drafts, and your folder to every class. Do not ask to print your paper before class begins on the day it is due, or ask on lab days if you can run back to your dorm to get your flash drive. This is a writing course. Come prepared to work by bringing the proper supplies. Papers turned in late because of technical problems will receive a deduction of ten (10) points.

Keep this syllabus, a class schedule, and all class materials in a folder, and bring them with you to class daily.

Listen Up! If the instructor is talking, there’s a good chance she’s giving information you need to have. Listen carefully, attend to the tasks at hand, and don’t waste unnecessary time asking the instructor to continually repeat herself. When assignments or page citations are given, the instructor will announce that she is about to identify them. Keep pen and paper handy, and write down all useful information so that you will have it to refer to. This applies to class lectures, discussions, and notes, too.

Be responsible. Label all drafts and save all work in a folder. Make a hard copy (printed version) of all files. Make it a habit to BACK UP ALL ELECTRONIC FILES to protect from losing them. Label your flashdrive with a phone number at the very least. Remove your flashdrive at the end of class. Try not to forget your belongings in any of the classrooms. If you do lose something, the English Department has a Lost and Found you may check...or I may have noticed it, so check with me as soon as you realize it’s missing. Every semester, students lose valued work, and textbooks disappear that students never recover. Make an effort to keep track of your belongings.

If you are absent, arrange to have a classmate secure a copy for you of any and all handouts distributed that day. Promptly arrange to pick up any graded work that may have been returned when you were absent – do not leave it to the instructor to track you down.

Be considerate and respectful – of the instructor and of one another, as well as of the classroom, of equipment and materials, and of education itself.

If you are in a bad mood and/or have a bad attitude, try not to burden or distract others. Believe it or not, focusing on your work may cheer you up! (If your work is what’s frustrating you, it might indicate that you are growing and learning...and that is a good thing, because that is your objective – you are actually ON TASK, so pat yourself on the back, and smile!)

Do not talk while others are speaking. If someone else is called on, it is their turn to talk. If you wish to respond in a dignified way, raise your hand and you will be acknowledged.

No cross talking, please; it is distractive and can become disruptive (if not to many, to one – your neighbor, who may want to attend to the discussion at large.) Deliberately disrupting anyone’s attention is imposing and, therefore, inconsiderate.

Do not surf the net, check email, chat online, or work on other courses when you should be working on class or group assignments.

Do not exit the classroom without permission. Do not ask permission to leave the classroom under any circumstance, unless it is a dire emergency (health related). If, for any reason, you feel you must leave, do not reenter the classroom...and expect to receive an absence for that class period.

Do not start packing up to leave while the instructor is still talking. When class is over, the instructor will dismiss you from the classroom. Occasionally, important information that may need to be recorded (such as assignment or schedule changes) may be announced in those final moments of class.

No smoking, tobacco or gum chewing. No food or beverages are allowed in the ETIC classrooms.

No cell phones or iPods allowed. Turn them off before you enter the classroom, and keep them out of sight for the duration of the class meeting. This includes earplugs.

No hats or ball caps. It is difficult to see your face and get to know who you are when your identity is concealed.

Show up for class, especially tests! A zero (0) (on the particular assignment) will be given to any student who does not attend class on the day of the final (or any other test or graded activity) who has not made previous arrangements approved by the instructor. With regard to daily attendance, five (5) points will be deducted for every missed class period beyond two missed classes. Any student who misses more than six (6) class meetings will automatically receive “N/C” for the course. Those students with perfect attendance will receive a bonus of ten (10) points added to their class participation score.

Cooperate. Have a spirit of cooperation. Know that I am here to help, and that I care about your performance. I want every student to succeed, and I will do everything in my power to make that happen (Hence, these guidelines)!

Have fun! If you’re not happy, and I’m not happy, then we’re both slacking. Work together, work with me, work on yourself, work hard, and RELAX! Don’t sweat the small stuff, and we’ll all have a productive, gratifying semester.

Unless otherwise noted, each infraction will result in a deduction of five (5) points for every occurrence.