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ENG 1105-001: English Major Forum

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ENGLISH 1105, section 001

English Forum: Or How to Be a Great English Major

CH 3609, M 12:00-12:50pm, Fall 2022

Instructor: Prof. Caldwell

Email: mcaldwell@eiu.edu

Office: Coleman 3050

Office Hours: MWF 11:00-12:00pm, W 9:00-10:00am and by appointment

Course Description:

What makes English such a great major? And how can students be empowered to get the most of out their studies and time at EIU? These are the main questions we will be answering in English Forum this semester as this 1-credit hour course acquaints you with practical advice and important information about your home department at EIU.

Texts and Materials:

None. Important materials will be posted in Modules on D2L. Participation in certain department events will be required.

Course Goals:

This 1-credit hour course has several goals:

1. to introduce you to the students and faculty, options of study, and other opportunities in the English Department;
2. to provide you with information you need to get the most out of your time in the English Department;
3. to help you begin career planning, including planning a path through the major.

In order to meet these goals, we will explore:

- resources;
- share our favorite literary/linguistic thinking;
- meet and talk with professors and other resources at EIU who will help you on your journey at EIU;
- attend department and campus events;
- and begin thinking about how to build your electronic portfolio/resume.

Course Expectations:

This is a one-credit designed to assist you in your transition to college life and into the English Department. **The most important requirement is that you actively engage with the class.**

I hope to provide an environment where you feel comfortable asking questions and just feeling at home. But in this informal and friendly class—where your concerns are the priority—you will also need to observe the requirements, which are posted on D2L.

Grading Scale:

Requirements for this course include active engagement and weekly class attendance, a meeting with me, a resume and major narrative, and attendance (virtual or in person) at two English-related or other qualified university events. I will be requiring that you attend Handshake Night (time and date TBA soon). See checklist below for point distribution.

A	90-100
B	80-89.9
C	70-79.9
D	60-69.9
F	Below 60

Class Requirements / Checklist of Assignments

Assignment	Date Completed
Meeting with Dr. Caldwell by week 4* (15 points) *note that a regular advising meeting does not count	Sign up for a 15-minute appointment. Appointment times will be posted weekly for the first four weeks outside my office door.
Attend Handshake Night + 1 other Department-related events or campus event, either virtual or in-person (15 points)	Please indicate date and description of each event in the appropriate Dropbox in D2L. Due by the end of the semester.
Complete a draft of a resume (25 points)	Draft due in class on Nov. 14 Final due via D2L Dropbox on Dec. 5
Complete a draft of a major narrative (25 points)	Draft due in class on Nov. 28 Final due via D2L Dropbox on Dec. 5
Attendance, Class Engagement and Participation in Class meetings (20 points)	Attendance will be taken every week throughout the semester. You lose 1 point for each missed class. Additional points may be lost for lack of participation/preparedness in class.
Note: There is no midterm or final exam in this course.	

Important Semester Dates

- Aug. 26: Last day to add a class
- Sept. 2: Last day to drop a course with no grade
- Sept. 2: Last day to withdraw from all classes with full tuition and fees refund
- Sept. 19: Last day to withdraw from all classes with 50% tuition and fees refund
- Nov. 4: Last day to withdraw from a class

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.

Plagiarism unequivocally will not be tolerated in this course. Plagiarism is defined as "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). The English Department's policy on plagiarism states that any teacher who discovers an act of plagiarism has the right and 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. Respect for the work of others should encompass all formats, including print, electronic, and oral sources.

Student Resources

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 and The Writing 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: call 217-581-6696, or go to McAfee Gym, Room 1301.

The Writing Center

The Writing Center offers **face-to-face consulting sessions on weekdays and online sessions evenings and Sundays**. Students will be able to book either a face-to-face or online appointment through the Writing Center website (www.eiu.edu/writing).

English Teacher Education Majors

Students seeking Teacher Certification in English Language Arts should request each of their English Department professors to complete the "Application for English Department Approval to Student Teach" before the end of the semester. These forms are available in a rack outside the office of Dr. Melissa Ames (CH 3821) and online: <https://www.eiu.edu/english/machform/view.php?id=19831>.

Mental Health

Being a college student can be stressful at times. My door is always open for you to have conversations with me about your concerns, academic and otherwise. Additionally, I highly encourage you to contact the EIU Counselling Center as soon as possible if you need their help. They offer individual and group services to help students manage stress, anxiety, depression, and other mental health concerns. You can find more information at <https://www.eiu.edu/counscctr/appointments.php>.

A note about restrooms: The closest all-gender restroom to our class is on the 2nd floor of Coleman Hall, directly under the main English Dept. office. This restroom is newly designated as gender inclusive and has a lockable door and two stalls. Gendered restrooms are located on every floor in Coleman Hall. There is a map of gender-inclusive restrooms at EIU at <https://www.eiu.edu/lgbtqa/all-gender-restrooms.php>; please note that this map is not up-to-date, and the Coleman Hall restroom is not listed. It is, nonetheless, clearly labeled gender inclusive.

