

Fall 8-15-2009

ENG 1002G-007: Composition and Literature

Tammy Veach
Eastern Illinois University

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Veach, Tammy, "ENG 1002G-007: Composition and Literature" (2009). *Fall 2009*. 47.
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ENGLISH 1002-G COURSE GUIDELINES AND POLICIES

ENG 1002-G, Fall 2009
 Instructor: Tammy Veach
 Office: CH 3055; Phone 581-6295
 Email: tveach@eiu.edu
 Office Hours: 8:30 - 9:00 MW, 12 - 1 MWF, and by appt.

Texts: Kennedy, *An Introduction to Poetry*
 Pickering, *Fiction 100*
 Jacobus, *The Bedford Introduction to Drama*
 Griffiths, *Writing Essays About Literature*
 Fulwiler & Hayakawa, *The Blair Handbook*

COURSE DESCRIPTION & OBJECTIVES: This course is designed to make you better readers, writers, and critical thinkers, but I hope it also encourages you to enjoy literature. We will examine works of poetry, fiction, and drama written by men and women from culturally-diverse backgrounds, exploring them within historical, social, cultural, and aesthetic contexts. Because this is a composition course, we will write quite a bit about this literature (at least 5,000 words). Expect to spend 1 - 2 hours reading, analyzing, and writing about each day's assignment before class.

SPECIAL INFORMATION ABOUT ENG 1002-G AND ABOUT THE EWP: To be enrolled in this class, you must have passed ENG 1001-G with a grade of C or higher, or must have received credit through transfer or through the CLEP proficiency examination. As a graduation requirement, you must submit 3 essays to be included in your Electronic Writing Portfolio; you may choose to submit an essay from this class to help fulfill that obligation. Please see syllabus for deadline, and please go to www.eiu.edu/~assess/ewpmain.php for complete information regarding the EWP.

ATTENDANCE, MAKE-UP WORK, AND LATE WORK:

- If you are absent, it is your responsibility to find out what you missed and if changes were made to our tentative syllabus. Your regular attendance is important -- due to the interactive nature of this course, much of what we do simply cannot be replicated, even if your absence is excused.
- Excused absences are granted only for **serious and verifiable** reasons (such as illness documented with a doctor's note), NOT for matters of personal convenience (e.g. travel arrangements, appointments with your advisor, over-sleeping, etc.), **nor for unverified illnesses or emergencies**. You must initiate the verification process; merely calling or emailing to say you won't be in class is **NOT** acceptable verification.
- Attendance is recorded daily; unexcused absences will substantially hurt your grade, especially as follows:
 1. In-class work (quizzes, writing exercises, etc.) can be made up only if your absence is excused
 2. Late work is graded down one letter grade for each day it's late, unless due to an excused absence
 3. Part of your final grade is based upon daily activities: a presentation, contributions to class discussion, and other activities that can be completed only if you're here.
- Absences on assignment due dates, test dates, or conference dates will require strong verification before make-up privileges will be granted or before late penalties will be waived.
- If your absence is excused, late/ make-up work must be completed promptly. If you were absent on the day an assignment was due, you must turn it in the day you return to avoid penalty. In general you will have as much time for make-up work as you were absent (e.g. if you miss 1 class, make-up work is due 1 class after you return).
- If participating in an official EIU activity, work you'll miss must be completed in advance. Remind me (not just a list of dates in a letter), allowing yourself time to complete assignments before you leave.
- In the event of a catastrophic situation that causes you to miss class for an extended period (such as a serious illness or a death or family emergency that causes you to return home), contact the office of the Vice President for Student Affairs at 581-3221, who will notify me (and your other instructors) and assist in the verification process.
- **No assignments will be accepted more than one week after the due date; a zero will be recorded.**

CLASSROOM ETIQUETTE: Demonstrating courtesy to others is important in this class; please listen while another person is talking, save conversations with classmates for before or after class, do your homework at home, put your cell phone on vibrate, refrain from texting or emailing in class, stay awake and alert (no iPods or headphones), handle points of view that differ from your own respectfully, etc. Problems in this area will adversely affect your daily grade. If you repeatedly violate these principles or cause a distraction to me or your classmates, you will be asked to leave.

INFORMATION FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES: Contact the Coordinator of the Office of Disability Services (581-6583) as early in the term as possible if you have a documented disability and wish to receive academic accommodations. Please let me know as well, as early in the semester as possible.

GRADING: English department standards will be used to determine grades on all written work, rather stringent guidelines that evaluate not only the quality and development of your ideas and the effectiveness of your literary analysis, but also your style, organization, grammatical proficiency, etc. While you will be graded on a variety of activities, the quality of your writing will largely determine your grade in this class. In calculating your semester grade, I will use a 90-80-70% scale. I anticipate assigning a total of 1,000 points, thus 900 - 1,000 for an A, 800-899 for a B, 700 - 799 for a C, but I reserve the right to make changes (such as adding or deleting essays, quizzes or other assignments) that may affect the semester point total, though I will still grade on a 90-80-70% scale. For a variety of reasons (including the fact that you will have the opportunity to earn extra credit through a service learning project and accompanying essay), I do not round off grades; for example, 799 points or 79.9% still equals a C. English 1002-G is graded on an A, B, C, and NC (no credit) basis, **so you must earn 70% (tentatively 700 points) to pass this class.**

TENTATIVE REQUIREMENTS AND THEIR POINT TOTALS:

- **Essays, 550 points --** You are required to submit all work on your essays, from beginning to end -- notes, brainstorming, rough drafts (save/print a copy of each rough draft before new revisions), and final draft:
 - Essay 1, poetry, minimum length of 750 words, mandatory conferences, worth 150 points
 - Essay 2, fiction, minimum length of 1,000 words, worth 200 points
 - Essay 3, drama, minimum length of 1,250 words, worth 200 points
- **Research assignments, 25 points each, 50 points total --** You will complete brief research assignments on specific questions/topic prior to our discussions of Anne Sexton's poetry and the play *Death of a Salesman*. MLA parenthetical documentation will be used.
- **Exam, 100 points each, 300 points total.** We will have exams -- primarily essay in nature, so be prepared to write -- on each of the genres we're studying (poetry, short fiction, drama -- given on the final exam date)
- **Project/presentation, 100 pts --** a group project, creative in nature, over any aspect of the course (poetry, fiction, drama, or a recurring theme or technique in more than 1 genre), and presentation on your project. Details later.
- **Daily grade, participation, discussion, in-class writing, and quizzes -- 100 points:** Due to the interactive nature of this class, your attendance and participation are essential. Discussion is the heart and soul of this class, and if you're not here obviously you cannot participate or contribute your thoughts. Participation also means more than just showing up and sitting silently or taking notes on other people's ideas -- you are expected not only to read and think about the assignments before class but also to **contribute actively** to class discussions. Other factors that go along with a solid daily grade will include successfully completing all in-class writing and activities; being punctual, prepared for, and attentive during class and conferences; keeping your cell phone on vibrate and not texting/answering calls in class; no unauthorized computer use in class; having a positive attitude; and treating your classmates and teacher with respect. You can control the frequency (or infrequency) of unannounced quizzes over the day's reading by contributing to class discussion; expect a quiz if the day's discussion is weak. Please note that I record details regarding student participation (who spoke out in class/ how often and/or solid the comments, who came in late, who fell asleep, whose cell phone went off, who chatted with others instead of paying attending, etc.) and use this information to help determine your daily grade for the semester. Remember, too: while attendance is important, your grade is about much, much more than just having good attendance!

RETURN OF ESSAYS/ TEACHER COMMENTS: You will receive detailed comments from me on all major writing assignments, exams, and projects -- not only to explain the grade you received but to help you improve as a writer. Be sure to read the comments and to discuss them with me if you have any questions. Because of the length of time I devote to reading and commenting upon your essays, expect them to be returned no sooner than 1 week after I receive them.

CONFERENCES, FEEDBACK ON ROUGH DRAFTS, ETC.: We will have mandatory conferences on Essay 1 to discuss your rough draft (class will be cancelled for face-to-face meetings with each of you), and I encourage you to come by my office any time you have questions. If my office hours don't fit your schedule, we will arrange a conference at a mutually-convenient time or you may email me your rough draft, with some conditions: I expect you to be an active participant in this process. I WILL NOT read/comment on essays unless you include SPECIFIC questions (not vague ones like "Any suggestions?" or "Is this organized?" or "Did I include enough details?" but "Does paragraph 2 seem unorganized because I discuss so many different issues?" or "Do I need more evidence in the paragraph about Mrs. Wright's canary as a motive for murder?" and so forth). Also, don't expect me to be your personal editor; I will use conferences -- face-to-face or electronic -- to answer questions and to address global issues in your work rather than cleaning up your grammar, typos, etc. Finally, do not wait until the last minute to ask for my advice, whether in person or via email. I cannot guarantee that I will be able to respond if you're contacting me just a few days before your essay is due; I will answer as many questions as possible on a first-come, first-served basis but may not be able to respond to all emails or conference requests due to time constraints. Consider the Writing Center as another option.

EMAIL, VOICE MAIL, LONG-DISTANCE NUMBERS: While I don't give out my home phone number, I do encourage you to contact me. If emailing, please include your name in the subject heading or sign your message so I'll know who you are! I will respond to your message as soon as I receive it, so if I haven't replied within 24 hours, re-send because I probably didn't receive it (exception: weekends -- I'm not always available). You may also call me at my office number. If I'm not in, leave a voice-mail message INCLUDING YOUR PHONE NUMBER; I'll get back to you ASAP, though I'll caution you that I don't always pick up voice mail when I'm off campus (email is preferred). Please note: I can only return your call if you leave a local number (581, 345 or 348 prefixes); my department is charged for calls placed to cell phones and long-distance numbers, so please leave a local number for call-backs -- or email me instead.

IF CLASS IS CANCELLED: There will be a note on the classroom door with information. Be sure to read it carefully and to check for TODAY'S date, my name, and our section (notes aren't always taken down promptly, and it is also possible for one of my classes to be cancelled but an earlier/later class to be in session). Read the entire note to see if it includes special information, such as changes to assignments or due dates. As soon as possible but well before our next class, check you EIU email account for a message from me with complete details and instructions.

COMPUTER ETIQUETTE AND SPECIAL INFO FOR ETIC SECTIONS (those meeting in rooms 3120, 3130, 3140, or 3210): To maximize English classes' access to the computer lab, we'll alternate weeks between the lab and a regular classroom (paired as either 3210/3140 or 3120/3130) -- consult your syllabus for each week's room assignment. The technology will enhance our class, making it easier for us to write and revise our work, to share our writing, to locate information using the Internet, etc., but our emphasis will be placed upon writing and analyzing the assigned literature, assisted by technology when appropriate, rather than focusing on computer skills. Note that the computers and printers in the ETIC are to be used only for your work in this class and times, for purposes other than our work in this class (email, Internet surfing, doing assignments for other classes, etc.), or for offensive purposes (visiting racist, sexist, or pornographic sites, etc.). Because of the English department's limited budget, you may not use the printers except to print in-class writing; please use your own printer for formal essay assignments, Internet research, etc.

ENGLISH DEPARTMENT'S POLICY 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 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 Judicial Affairs Office. Respect for the work of others should encompass all formats, including print, electronic, and oral sources.

MORE ON PLAGIARISM, ACADEMIC DISHONESTY, AND SEEKING APPROPRIATE HELP WITH YOUR

WRITING: Plagiarism means taking the words or ideas of another person and passing them off as your own. To avoid it, take special care when using outside sources (including Internet sites): if you incorporate such material into your work, you must follow MLA documentation guidelines to cite in parentheses each author and page number after any sentences that include this material (and include a Works Cited page with complete bibliographic information). If you use both ideas and wording from a source, it's not enough just to cite author and page number; you must also use quotation marks around sentences, phrases, or even key terms taken verbatim from this source. Failure to cite AND also use quotation marks around "borrowed" language is plagiarism. If you have any questions about incorporating or citing material from sources, please see me -- *before* the assignment is due.

Even if you're not using outside sources, you must still make sure that all of the work is your own and that it has been developed for this class. If you have problems with your writing, you need to develop the skills necessary to overcome those problems, and I'm here to help you do that, but it won't happen magically or effortlessly or overnight. However, even though it takes hard work and is often a slow process, it's a far better choice than cheating. Please do not attempt to submit work that you've written for another class. If you have a previous assignment that you would like to modify for this class, you must get specific permission from me and must be willing to make significant changes to the work -- no recycled papers from high school or other college courses!!!

Acceptable help with your writing: These are the only sources of outside help that I will allow my students to utilize: consulting with me; working with your peer evaluation group, who are instructed to respond to your work following specific guidelines and restrictions explained in class; seeking tutoring from the ENG department graduate assistants in the Writing Center (Coleman Hall 3110), who will help you with your writing, but without doing the work for you (tutoring, not proofreading).

Unacceptable help with your writing: It is unacceptable to take any of these obvious shortcuts -- having someone mark your mistakes or edit or polish your work for you; having anyone else write, rewrite, or correct any portion of your essay; taking anyone else's ideas and/or words and/or efforts and passing them off as your own; submitting an essay in which any portion has come from anyone else's essay (including fraternity and sorority files) or from an Internet site, term paper company, *Cliff's Notes*, *Masterplots*, or any other "cheater" source, or submitting without permission an essay you wrote for another class. Remember: I enforce my department's plagiarism policy to the fullest and impose similar penalties for all incidents involving academic dishonesty.

Please note that the F gained through plagiarism or academic dishonesty has a disastrous impact on your grade point average, but an NC gained honestly has no harmful effects upon your GPA. And by working hard, you might find yourself raising your skill level, and thus your grade, to the C level -- or even higher! -- the honest way!

I wish each of you the best of luck this semester -- and am happy to point out that only the few of you who refuse to do the necessary work for this class will be affected by most of these policies. For the rest of you -- together we will work hard, but I hope we'll also have fun along the way. I hope not only to challenge you this semester, but also to encourage you, to inspire you, and to delight in your success. Welcome to my class, and I hope you'll soon feel that it is *OUR* class. I'm looking forward to a great semester with you!

FALL 2009 TENTATIVE SYLLABUS
ENG 1002-G, SECTION 007, 1:00 - 1:50 MWF CH 3150

Instructor: Tammy Veach
Office: 3055 Coleman Hall
Office Hours: 8:30 - 9:00 MW, 12 - 1 MWF

Office phone 581-6295
Email: tfveach@eiu.edu

Read/reread/begin analyzing all literature assignments BEFORE coming to class on the day the assignment is listed. P = poetry book; F = fiction book; D = drama book; H = handout

Week 1

M (8/24) Intro to course and policies
W (8/26) Poetry terms and tips; "Those Winter Sundays" (P 461)
F (8/28) Writing sample in class; Speaker: "The Gift" (H)

Week 2

M (8/31) Speaker: "Home Burial" (H)
W (9/2) Speaker: "Snapping Beans" (H) and "Weather Stripping" (H)
F (9/4) Imagery: "Travelling Through the Dark" (P 335) and "A Blessing" (P 530); Essay # 1 Assigned

Week 3

M (9/7) LABOR DAY OBSERVED; NO CLASSES
W (9/9) Imagery: "Dulce Et Decorum Est" (P 42-43) and "Patterns" (H); research assignment #1 given
F (9/11) Library research on Anne Sexton instead of regular class

Week 4

M (9/14) Diction: "Ex-Basketball Player" (P 521-22), "The Elder Sister," and "Execution" (both H)
W (9/16) Tone: "Still I Rise" and "My Arkansas" (both H)
F (9/18) Tone: "Race Politics" (H) and "We Real Cool" (P 177-78); study guide for poetry exam given

Week 5

M (9/21) TBA in class on Friday, 9/18
W (9/23) **Research assign. on Anne Sexton due;** An author's work: "Her Kind" (P 31), "Cinderella" (P 267-69); "All My Pretty Ones," "The Lost Ingredient," "The Truth the Dead Know," "The Starry Night," "Self in 1958," "For My Lover, Returning to His Wife," and "To A Friend Whose Work Has Come to Triumph" (All H)
F (9/25) Finish Sexton; Maxine Kumin's "How It Is" (H); make sure you've signed up for a conference time

Week 6

M (9/28) **Exam # 1 on Poetry; bring your own paper**
W (9/30) No Class -- Mandatory conferences over Essay #1 in my office, CH 3055. Show up on the day/time you
F (10/2) " " signed up for! Contact me immediately if you haven't signed up for a conference!

Week 7

M (10/5) No Class -- conferences, continued
W (10/7) " " -- final day of conferences
F (10/9) No Class -- Fall Break

Week 8

M (10/12) **Essay # 1 is due!** Introduction to Fiction. Read "The Story of an Hour" (F 273-275)
W (10/14) "Hills Like White Elephants" (F 670 - 673); Essay # 2 Assigned
F (10/16) "The Shawl" (H)

Week 9

M (10/19) "The Things They Carried" (F); study guide for fiction exam is given
W (10/21) "The Red Convertible" (F 1124 - 1135)
F (10/23) "A Good Man Is Hard to Find" (F 1124 - 1135)

Week 10

M (10/26) **Exam #2 over fiction; bring your own paper**
W (10/28) Peer Evaluation of Essay # 2 -- bring 2 copies of your rough draft to class
F (10/30) Introduction to Drama: Read *Trifles* (D)

Week 11

M (11/2) **Essay # 2 is due!** Finish *Trifles*. Research assignment over *Death of a Salesman* given.
W (11/4) Begin *Death of a Salesman* (D 1130 - 1167)
F (11/6) Finish *Death of a Salesman*; **Research assignment on *Death of a Salesman* due**

Week 12

M (11/9) DVD of *Death of a Salesman*; Essay # 3 Assigned
W (11/11) " "
F (11/13) Finish DVD; Semester group project assigned

Week 13

M (11/16) Begin *A Raisin in the Sun*, Acts 1 and 2 (D 1234 - 1264)
W (11/18) *A Raisin in the Sun*, Act 3 (1164 - 1170); finish discussion of the play
F (11/20) Available in my office from 9 - 11 a.m. to assist with essays or projects

Week 14 -- Thanksgiving Break: No Class on MWF, 11/23 - 27)**Week 15**

M (11/30) DVD of *A Raisin in the Sun*
W (12/2) " "
F (12/4) Finish DVD. During last part of class, work with your project group.

Week 16

M (12/7) **Essay # 3 Due!** Mandatory attendance. Work on projects in groups.
W (12/9) " "
F (12/11) **Projects and project presentations are due!** Study guide for final exam distributed.

Week 17 -- Final Exam Week

Tuesday, December 15, 12:30 - 2:30 is our exam. Bring your own paper.

1. Requests to reschedule your final exam must be made in person (NOT by phone or email) no later than Friday, Dec. 11. **REQUESTS ARE NOT AUTOMATICALLY GRANTED!!!!**
2. If you're requesting a change because you have 3 finals on Tuesday, you must present me with an up-to-date copy of your official EIU class schedule AND syllabi for the 3 courses for verification.
3. Final Exams will ONLY be rescheduled for catastrophic reasons with IMPECCABLE verification, and you must contact me no later than 2:30 on Tues. 12/15 (the end time of our final) to be considered for rescheduling if you missed your final due to a legitimate reason.
4. Make up exams for those who have made the arrangements and have provided proper verification will be given on Friday, December 18 from 8:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.