

Fall 8-15-2007

## ENG 1002G-007: Composition and Literature

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**English 1002G-007: Composition and Literature****TR 12:30 – 1:45 pm; CH 3170****Fall 2007**

Professor Richard Sylvia

Office: Coleman 3775

Office Hours: TR 9:30 – 10:30 am; 2:00 – 3:00 pm; and by appt.

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**Course Description, Design, and Goals:** English 1002G is a writing course designed to improve your critical thinking, reading, and writing skills. To that end, we will read and discuss a variety of creative work: fiction, drama, poetry, and brief non-fictional essays. We will also write in class in response to reading assignments on a regular basis and produce three papers outside of class that will require some research and documentation. (I will provide an assignment sheet for each of these papers.)

The goal throughout the semester is for you to produce writing that develops purposefully and economically – that says clearly what is on your mind in a way that will both enlighten and interest your audience. This is not an easy task for anyone. Consistent effort in revision is the best guarantee of success, so I will give you lots of feedback and the opportunity to rewrite until we are satisfied with your results.

You will also get advice and suggestions for revision from your classmates. At some class meetings we will work in small groups, so that you can read each other's work and respond constructively. Learning to be a good reader is essential to improving your writing skills.

**Texts:** *Literature: The Human Experience**The Blair Handbook**Writing Essays about Literature***Requirements and Grading:**

completion of three essays (minimum 750 words each), each of which

requires use and citation of secondary sources – 30%

two exams – 30%

completion of several in-class written responses to assigned readings – 30%

participation in class discussions of the assigned readings – 10%

participation in your assigned work group

attendance at all scheduled conferences

(You must complete successfully **all** the work listed above to pass the course.)

**Course Policies:** If you have a problem completing an assignment, speak to me before it is due. I do not accept late papers but will extend a deadline for good reason. Sometimes

even a brief conversation can clear up difficulties.

You cannot make up missed in-class writing assignments, so while I do not have an attendance policy, it will be very difficult to pass the course if you do not earn credit for in-class writing assignments. Also you cannot earn credit for class participation if you do not attend class and contribute on a regular basis.

I have scheduled two conference periods during the semester. Both are required and I will mark down the essays scheduled for review in conference one full letter grade if you do not attend.

Let's agree to shut off our cell phones before class begins.

Use of laptops in class is okay, but not during class discussions, unless of course we need to get some information that will help us all. But since we do not meet in a computer lab, you will have to write out in-class assignments by hand.

This is a writing-centered course. You may submit an essay from the class for your EWP. For more information, visit the website: <<http://www.eiu.edu/~assess>>.

If you have a documented disability and wish to receive academic accommodations, please contact the Coordinator of the Office of Disability Services (581-6583) as soon as possible.

English Department 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) – 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 the Judicial Affairs Office."

**Tentative Schedule:**

Aug. 21: introduction to course

Aug. 23: LeGuin, "The Ones Who Walk Away from Omelas"

Aug. 28: Melville, "The Sparkling Bitch"; essay #1 assignment distributed

Aug. 30: Tan, "Two Kinds"

Sept. 4: **essay #1 draft due; in-class workshop**

Sept. 6: Auden, "The Unknown Citizen"; Joseph, "Warning"; Piercy, "The market economy"; Earle, "Rich Man's War"

Sept. 11: **essay #1 due**

Sept. 13: Doctorow, "Why We Are Infidels"; Rushdie, "Imagine There's No Heaven"; essay #2 assignment distributed

Sept. 18: conferences; no class meeting

Sept. 20: conferences; no class meeting

Sept. 25: **essay #2 draft due; in-class workshop**

Sept. 27: Chopin, "The Storm"; Oates, "Where Are You Going, Where Have You Been"

Oct. 2: **essay #2 due**

Oct. 4: Millay, "Love Is Not All"; Parker, "One Perfect Rose"; Roethke, "I Knew a Woman"

Oct. 9: **Mid-Term Exam**

Oct. 11: Bishop, "One Art"; Szymborska, "First Love"; Kizer, "Bitch"; Kumin, "Jack"

Oct. 16: Rich, "Living in Sin"; Clifton, "There Is a Girl Inside"; "Olds, "Sex without Love"; essay #3 assignment distributed

Oct. 18: Kenyon, "Surprise"; Peacock, "Say You Love Me"; Musgrave, "Right Through the Heart"

Oct. 23: **essay #3 draft due; in-class workshop**

Oct. 25: Soto, "Oranges"; Hirshfield, "Salt Heart"; Karr, "Revenge of the Ex-Mistress"; Donaldson, "Infidelities"

Oct. 30: **essay #3 due**

Nov. 1: Shakespeare, *Othello*, Act I

Nov. 6: conferences; no class meeting

Nov. 8: conferences; no class meeting

Nov. 13: *Othello*, Acts II and III

Nov. 15: *Othello*, Acts IV and V

Nov. 20, 22: Thanksgiving break; no class meetings

Nov. 27: Fromm, "Is Love an Art?"

Nov. 29: Kingston, "No Name Woman"

Dec. 4: reading to be announced

Dec. 6: reading to be announced; **all final revisions due**

Dec. 11: **Final Exam 2:45 – 4:45 pm**