

Spring 1-15-2009

# ENG 1002G-043-054-057: Composition and Literature

Brown

*Eastern Illinois University*

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1002G-043  
- 054  
- 057

**Course Guidelines**  
**Spring 2009**  
**English 1002G – 043, 054, 057**

Instructor: Mr. Brown                      Office: Coleman 3762  
Phone: 6319                                  Email: jlbrown8@eiu.edu  
Office Hrs: T-R: 1-2 p.m., 3:15 –5 p.m.

**Required Texts:**

Abcarian and Klotz. *Literature: The Human Experience*. 9<sup>th</sup> ed.  
Fulwiler and Hayakawa. *The Blair Handbook*. 5<sup>th</sup> ed.

**Course Description:**

Description and Guidelines: English 1002G, Composition and Literature, is a writing course designed to improve skills in critical thinking and analytical expression based on the study of fiction, drama and film. All students enrolled in this course should have passed English 1001C (with a grade of C or better) or must have fulfilled the requirement through transfer credit or through the CLEP proficiency exam. Please make sure you have fulfilled this prerequisite before continuing this course.

**Course Goals:**

1. To write expository and persuasive texts in which paragraphs, sentences, and words develop a central idea that responds to the reading of literary works. These papers should reflect an understanding and command of recursive writing processes: generating and prewriting strategies for formulating a thesis, methods for planning and drafting a paper, strategies of revising for clarity and adequate development, and means for polishing and editing. These papers should demonstrate consideration and employment of effective methods of organization. At least one paper should introduce students to methods of library, online and/or field research, entail the use of primary and secondary source materials drawn from both online and library sources, and reflect current principles of documentation.
2. To write focused, adequately developed paragraphs and sentences in standard written English that are direct, economical, free of ambiguity, structurally appropriate for the ideas expressed and suitable to the purpose of the text.
3. To develop the ability to evaluate and criticize their own and their peers' writing.
4. To read poetry, fiction, and drama expressing a wide range of cultural perspectives and to think critically and write analytically about them.
5. To engage in reading and writing experiences about literature so as to establish a foundation for continued social, cultural, intellectual, and aesthetic discovery and appreciation.

**Attendance Policy:**

Regular attendance, punctuality, preparation, and participation are expected of ALL students. The only acceptable reasons for missing class are: 1) illness; 2) death in the family; 3) religious holiday; 4) officially organized, documented university event. In order to deal with unforeseen emergencies, you are allowed to miss up to three class meetings (the equivalent of one week of class) without excuse. Any additional absences will, however, be penalized at a rate of one letter grade per two class meetings; any student who is absent for more than four weeks (8 classes) will earn a grade of F for the course. Bonus 10% awarded for perfect attendance. Every three times a student is late equals one absence. Students are responsible for all material covered in class, which includes but is not limited to all lecture material and any changes made in the syllabus. Quizzes may not be made up.

**Academic Honesty**

Please make sure that you understand the meaning of plagiarism and the policy of the English Department: 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 assignment of the grade of F for the course, as well as to report the incident to the university's Judicial Affairs Office. Respect for the work of others should encompass all formats, including print, electronic, and oral sources.

### **Late Work and Assignments**

Assignments are to have been completed by class time on the date for which they appear on the syllabus. I accept late assignments ONLY in the case of excused absences for illness or family death (work for other excused absences must be submitted in advance). Otherwise, late assignments receive no credit. This includes instances of computer and/or printer problems: Make a back-up copy of all coursework and leave yourself plenty of time before class to print off assignments. While I don't accept late work, I will grant extensions under certain circumstances. You MUST speak with me in advance of the due date to receive an extension – that means, don't come to class on the due date and expect to be given more time. Extensions are handled on a case-by-case basis, so I urge you to speak with me a.s.a.p. if you realize you may not have an assignment finished on time. If I do grant an extension, papers will be penalized one full grade every day—including Saturday and Sunday—that the paper is late.

The book(s) in which the day's assignments are contained should be brought to class. Unannounced quizzes on assigned material may be given at any time. Students are responsible for all material covered in class and all announcements or assignments made in class as well as for all assignments on the syllabus. Any lateness may delay the grading and return of the paper, perhaps until the end of term. Keep a copy of every paper you hand in and an electronic copy as well as a hard copy of every paper you submit.

Exams: There will be no opportunities to make up a missed exam or oral report other than in cases of documented medical emergency; (signing in at Health Service does not constitute documentation of a medical emergency).

Papers: All papers must be typed, double-spaced; pages should be numbered and stapled together. The student's name, the date, the instructor's name, and the title of the essay should appear, single-spaced, at the top left of the first page of the essay. All papers will be given a number grade, a letter grade, critical comments, and an explanation of the grade.

Documentation: Use the current MLA system to cite both primary and secondary sources used in your papers. The system is fully explained and illustrated in *The Blair Handbook*. Inform yourself about documentation conventions for electronic media information and materials. All such materials must be documented and citation forms are illustrated in recent handbooks; go to the Writing Center for assistance. Electronic-media materials must be evaluated for quality at least as scrupulously as print materials. Please remember that you must absorb and process all materials: downloading is not research.

### **General Course Policies**

*Turn off cell phones, iPods, and any other electronic device before class begins.* I reserve the right to ask you to leave for the day if your cell phone or electronic devices disrupts class. Anyone found text messaging during class will be asked to leave as well. In either case, you will receive a zero for that day's assignment(s).

*Do not check email, Facebook, Myspace, or any other website while in class.* If you are caught, you will be asked to leave, and you will receive an absence as well as a zero for that day's assignment(s).

*Take advantage of my open door policy.* If you're having difficulty with any aspect of the course, please come see me as soon as the problem arises. In addition to my office hours, I'm happy to make appointments with you at other times if needed. Don't suffer in silence; talk to me, and we'll see if we can work out a solution.

**Required Conferences:**

At a few strategic points in the semester, I will cancel one class in order to hold (15-20 minute) conferences with you and your classmates on particular writing projects. You are required to attend your chosen conference time; the course attendance policy applies to conference days.

**Students with Documented Disabilities**

If you have a documented disability and wish to receive academic accommodation, please note that arrangements must be made through the Office of Disability Services; you should, therefore, contact the Coordinator of the Office of Disability Services (581-6583) as soon as possible.

**Coursework:**

Assignments and Grading System:

Diagnostic Essay	not graded
Class Participation	10%
Writer's Notebook & Quizzes (rarely announced)	15/15%
Fiction Paper	20%
Poetry Paper	20%
Drama/Film Paper	10%
Final Exam (comprehensive)	10%

**Grading Scale:**

Excellent 90-100% = A	Above Average 80-89% = B	Average 70-79% = C
Below Average 60-69% = D	Failing 0-59% = F	

A course grade lower than 70/C- will appear on the student's report card and on E.I.U. records as an NC (no credit). Extra Credit (an essay, after reading a novel or book of stories) is offered; see the instructor.

**DAILY SCHEDULE**  
**Spring 2009**  
**English 1002G – 043, 054, 057**

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The following is subject to deletion and expansion based on our progress. Updates will be provided via WebCT.

**POETRY**

**Week One:**

T 1/13: Course introductions. Fill out Profile Sheets. Log on to WebCT. Diagnostic Essay.  
R 1/15: Read: Print out Course Guidelines and Syllabus. Read (in-class) “Bowlers Anonymous,” Stephen Dobyn. Discuss poetry elements and literary terms.

**Week Two:**

T 1/20: Literary Terms Quiz & Writer’s Notebook #1 & Read “Oranges,” Gary Soto & “Bitch,” Carolyn Kizer.  
R 1/22: WN #2 & Read “Help Me to Salt, Help Me to Sorrow,” & “Untitled,” Judy Jordan.

**Week Three:**

T 1/27: WN #3 & Read Sharon Olds poem, “The One Girl at the Boys’ Party,” and her poems posted on WebCT. Discuss introduction, thesis statement, and topic sentences.  
R 1/29: WN #4 & Read Bob Hickok’s poems, “A Primer” posted on WebCT. Discuss body, transitions, and conclusion.

**Week Four:**

T 2/3: WN #5 & Read “We Wear the Mask,” Paul Laurence Dunbar & his poems on WebCT. Sign up for conferences.  
R 2/5: WN #6 & Read “Bourgeois,” Stephen Dunn and his poems posted on WebCT. Sign up for conferences.

**Week Five:**

T 2/10: POETRY EXPLICATION ROUGH DRAFT DUE  
R 2/12: **Mandatory Conferences**

**Week Six:**

T 2/17: WN #8. GROUP ORAL EXPLICATION. POETRY EXPLICATION PAPER DUE  
R 2/19: WN #9. Finish GROUP ORAL POETRY EXPLICATIONS.

**FICTION**

**Week Seven:**

T 2/24: WN #10-11 & Philip Deaver’s “Arcola Girls” & Discuss Elements of Fiction.  
R 2/26: WRITER’S NOTEBOOKS DUE & read Tom Perrota’s “The Smile on Happy Chang’s Face” &

**Week Eight: MIDTERM**

T 3/3: WN #12 & Read Lorrie Moore’s “You’re Ugly, Too”  
R 3/5: WN #13 & Read Roger Hart’s “Lubing”

Week Nine:

T 3/10: WN #14 & Read Raymond Carver's "What We Talk About When We Talk About Love."

R 3/12: WN #15&16 & Tim O'Brien's "The Things They Carried" & Pick a story for the fiction paper.

SPRING BREAK: 3/16 – 3/20

Week Eleven:

T 3/24: WN #17 & Read Flannery O'Connor's "A Good Man Is Hard To Find" FIRST DRAFT OF FICTION PAPER FOR PEER REVIEW. First Draft of Fiction Paper (4-6 pages) typed. Any student failing to produce a typed First Draft will be downgraded ten (10) points on the Fiction Paper.

R 3/26: WN #18 & TURN IN SECOND DRAFT OF FICTION PAPER. Second Draft of Fiction Paper (4-6 pages) typed. Any student failing to produce a typed Second Draft will be downgraded ten (10) points on the Fiction Paper.

Week Twelve:

T 3/31: **Mandatory Conferences.**

R 4/2: WN #19 & Watch Film (TBA) & Discuss.

**DRAMA/FILM**

Week Thirteen:

T 4/7: FICTION PAPER DUE. Continue Watching Film & Discuss.

R 4/9: WN #20 & Read "Death of a Salesman," Arthur Miller.

Week Fourteen:

T 4/14: WN #21 & Read "Tender Offer," Wendy Wasserstein.

R 4/16: WN #22 & Watch Film (TBA) & Discuss

Week Fifteen:

T 4/21: WN #23 & Watch Film (TBA) & Discuss

R 4/23: (In-class Writer's Notebook #24 & #25) WRITER'S NOTEBOOKS DUE

Week Sixteen:

T 4/28: DRAMA/FILM PAPER DUE

R 4/30: Go Over Final Exam. Evaluations.

Finals Week

5/4 – 5/8: Final Exam. Time TBA.