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ENG 1092G-096: Composition and Literature: Honors

F. McCormick
Eastern Illinois University

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COURSE DESCRIPTION & SYLLABUS: ENG 10092G, Spring 2007**Instructor:** Dr. McCormick**Office:** Coleman 3050**Phone:** 581-6121**E-mail:** fgmccormick@eiu.edu**Office hours:** MWF 10-11 & 12-1 & 2-3 (& by appointment; I am also frequently in my office on T & R)**TEXTBOOKS:** (1) Poetry: An Introduction, (2) The Story and Its Writer, (3) Stages of Drama (4) Blair Handbook, (5) Webster's New World Dictionary, (6) Writing about Literature**REQUIRED PURCHASES:** (1) Theme folder; (2) large spiral notebook**NATURE OF THE COURSE:**

English 1002G, "Composition and Literature," is an introduction to the principal literary genres--fiction, drama, and poetry. It is also a writing course, a sequel to 1001G. (See your "Writing Assignments" handout.) Note that you must have credit for ENG 1001G before you are eligible to enroll in ENG 1002G.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS:

You must read the assigned material carefully and perform the required writing assignments. For each fifty-minute class session you will need to spend two to three hours reading and re-reading the assigned material, and preparing your journal entry for the day.

YOUR ELECTRONIC WRITING PORTFOLIO (EWP)

Each of you will submit to your ELECTRONIC WRITING PORTFOLIO **one** theme from either of your two required freshman writing courses. If you have submitted a theme from your ENG 1001 course, you have already met your freshman EWP requirement. For detailed information concerning the procedure for submitting an **ENG 1002** theme to your ELECTRONIC WRITING PORTFOLIO, consult the information provided on the **Assessment** website at the following address: www.eiu.edu/~assess

ATTENDANCE/MISSED WORK/LATE PAPERS:

You will be expected to attend class regularly. I will consider an absence "excused" only after you have supplied me with documentation from your physician, from the University Health Service, or from another appropriate source. Late papers will be penalized a half-letter for each class day they are late. Papers that have still not been submitted two weeks after the due date will be regarded as "missing" and will receive a -1. They may not be made up. (See "**GRADING**.")

INFORMATION FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES:

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.

PLAGIARISM POLICY (POLICY FOR ALL ENGLISH DEPARTMENT COURSES):

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 report the incident to the Judicial Affairs Office and to impose upon the guilty student an appropriate penalty, up to and including immediate assignment 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.

SAMPLE STUDENT THEMES

I have placed a selection of "Sample Student Themes" on reserve at Booth Library's Reserve Desk (located at the foot of Booth Library's atrium, on level one). Request call # 105. You may check out the "Sample Student Themes" for a maximum of three hours. For a brief description of your writing assignments this semester, see the description of "**GRADING**" on the next page.

GRADING:

Your grade for this course will be determined by your performance on the following tasks:

- 10% Participation in class and group discussion; daily reading quizzes
- 10% Theme 1
- 20% Theme 2
- 20% Mid-Term Exam (includes an objective portion as well as a take-home essay and an in-class essay (each essay 400-800 words in length))
- 20% Final Exam (includes an objective portion as well as a take-home essay (500-750 words) and an in-class essay (300-500 words))
- 20% Journal Entries and In-Class Journal Writing Assignments + Points Earned on Spot Checks of Journal

I will assign the following values to the grades you receive on the above projects:

A+ = 4.2	B+ = 3.2	C+ = 2.2	D+ = 1.2	F = 0.0
A = 4.0	B = 3.0	C = 2.0	D = 1.0	Missing = -1.0
A- = 3.8	B- = 2.8	C- = 1.8	D- = 0.8	

I will use the following cutoff points in determining final grades:

A = 4.2 to 3.8	B = 3.7 to 2.8	C = 2.7 to 1.8
D = 1.7 to 0.8		

Note the following incentive to attend class faithfully:

If at the end of the semester your average falls 1 to 2 decimal points below the cutoff for the next higher grade category, I will assign you the higher grade if you have had **no more than 3 unexcused absences**. For example, if your average were 3.6 or 3.7 (i.e., 1 or 2 points below the cutoff for an A), you would receive a final grade of A if you had had no more than 3 unexcused absences. If you had 4 or more unexcused absences, your average of 3.6 or 3.7 would earn a final grade of B.

IMPORTANT: To receive **credit** for this course you must have a final average of **1.8** (C-) or better (or **1.6** for students who have no more than 3 unexcused absences). Final grade averages that fall **below** the **C-** cutoff point will be recorded as "NC" -- **no credit**.

(Your reading and writing assignments for this course are outlined in the **SYLLABUS**, which begins on the next page of this handout.)

SYLLABUS: ENG 1092G

THREE PRELIMINARY REMARKS:

1. Asterisks below indicate important due dates. Mark them on your calendar.
 2. I welcome your questions about any of our assignments for this course. Ask and I'll be happy to clarify.
 3. Perform an assigned reading or writing task **BEFORE** you come to class. For example, read the short story "The Lesson" before you come to our second meeting of the semester.
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JAN 8 Introduction to the course.

Topic: CHILDREN'S VOICES

- 10 Story, "The Lesson," pp. 48-54. Also read pp. 1-3 of this "Course Description and Syllabus" & pp. 1-3 of your "Writing Assignments" handout.
- ** BRING SPIRAL NOTEBOOK (journal) TO CLASS TODAY – along with your first journal entry (a response to "The Lesson").
- 12 Story, "Ultimate Safari," pp. 319-327, & Story, "White Heron," pp. 388-396.
IMPORTANT: Before coming to today's class, write a journal response to today's reading and bring it to class. See pp. 1-3 of your "Writing Assignments" handout for suggestions.
- 15 Martin Luther King's Birthday. No class.

Topic: BLACK VOICES (Pre-1956)

- 17 Story, "Blood-Burning Moon," pp. 772-779.
(REMINDER: Bring a journal entry to class. And remember to do so for every future class meeting when we have a reading assignment.)
- 19 Story, "Battle Royal," pp. 248-259.
- 22 Story, "That Evening Sun," pp. 276-288.
Read carefully the description of topics for **THEME ONE** on your "Writing Assignments" handout. In your journal before today's class scribble down at least

three different ideas for developing several of the topics listed for THEME ONE. Then spend some journal time developing the idea you like best. The writing you do in today's entry will give you a good start on a potential topic for Theme One.

- 24 Devote no fewer than three hours to working on **THEME ONE**. Bring your questions (and your texts) to today's class. In class today you will sign up for a conference to discuss your plans for the theme with me. Bring to the conference a 100-word description and preliminary outline of your plans for the paper (make a copy for yourself and submit the original to me).

Also before coming to today's class, read your handout entitled "SAMPLE PARAGRAPHS AND THEME."

Bring your "CHECKLIST" handout to class.

- 26** Prepare a **ROUGH DRAFT** of **THEME ONE** and bring **TWO (2) COPIES** to class – one for me, another for a classmate. In class today, you and a classmate will swap your drafts and the two of you will use your "CHECKLIST[s]" as the basis for your assessment of one another's drafts.

- 29** **THEME ONE** – two copies -- due at beginning of class. Submit in a theme folder, along with early versions and scribbles, arranged as called for in your "Checklist," item #9. Photocopy and include in your theme folder any journal pages in which you worked on material for your theme. (Don't tear pages out of your journal.)

Today's class activity: Informal presentations of themes.

- 31 No class. You deserve a break, and I need time to read your papers.

Topic: WOMAN'S SITUATION

- FEB 2 Drama, Henrik Ibsen and A Doll's House, Act I, pp. 547-561. Today we will watch a portion of A Doll's House on videotape, and I will return and discuss your themes.
- 5 A Doll's House, Act II, pp. 561-570.
- 7 A Doll's House, Act III, pp. 570-579, & commentary on staging A Doll's House, pp. 584-585.
IMPORTANT: Remind me to distribute a Mid-Term Exam Study Guide today.
- 9 Story, "The Yellow Wallpaper," pp. 305-318.
Optional supplementary readings: Gilbert & Gubar, "A Feminist Reading . . .," pp. 873-875, & Charlotte Perkins Gilman, "Undergoing the Cure . . .," pp. 876-878.

- FEB 12 Story, "A Worn Path," pp. 794-801.
Optional supplementary reading: Eudora Welty, "Is Phoenix Jackson's Grandson Really Dead?", pp. 930-932.
- 14 Story, "The Necklace," pp. 523-530.
Optional supplementary reading: Kate Chopin, "How I Stumbled upon Maupassant," pp. 861-862; Guy de Maupassant, "The Writer's Goal," pp. 896-898.
- 16 Lincoln's Birthday. No class.
- 19 Story, "Where Are You Going, Where Have You Been?," pp. 618-631.
Optional supplementary reading: Joyce Carol Oates, "Smooth Talk," pp. 904-907.
Review for Mid-Term Exam.
- ** 21 Mid-Term Exam, Part I (Objective Portion.)
** Submit your **JOURNAL** for evaluation at the beginning of class. (Make a photocopy of your journal entries before submitting the journal.)
- ** 23 Mid-Term Exam, Part II. (Essay Portion. Bring your textbooks, your dictionary, and an exam booklet to class. Purchase exam booklet at the University Union Bookstore.)
- 26 Before coming to today's class, correct all errors of punctuation, grammar, spelling, or mechanics which I marked on THEME ONE. Make your corrections in pencil directly above or beside the errors I marked. Use your Blair Handbook as your guide in interpreting abbreviations I may have used in your margins. Begin by consulting the page headed "**Editing symbols**" on the back flap of Blair. The bold black numbers after each of the Blair symbols on the book's back flap refer you to the section of the handbook which explains how to correct your error. Seek assistance from a tutor in the Writing Center (Coleman 301) if you need additional help in preparing your penciled corrections. Bring your penciled corrections to class -- and your Blair Handbook.
- 28 Today (God willing) I will (1) return your Mid-Term exams and your journals and (2) schedule mid-term conferences with as many of you as wish to have a conference. If you are NOT doing as well in this course at mid term as you wish you were doing, **make certain you schedule a conference**. At our conference I will offer suggestions for improving your grade in the second half of the course.
- MAR 2 Daniel Defoe, Moll Flanders, pp. 3-38. (What's it about? An 18th-century woman attempts to escape the poverty into which she is born.) **BEGIN THINKING ABOUT A TOPIC FOR YOUR RESEARCH PAPER**. Use your journal to develop material that would be pertinent to several possible term paper topics.
- 5 Moll Flanders, pp. 39-85. Class will meet today at BOOTH LIBRARY. Meet me

at Booth's **SOUTH ENTRANCE** (on the Coleman Hall side) five minutes before class time. A librarian will conduct us to our library meeting room.

- MAR 7 Moll Flanders, pp. 86-136.
- 9 Moll Flanders, pp. 137-184.
- 12, 14, 16 Spring Break. No classes.
- 19 Moll Flanders, pp. 185-229. **IMPORTANT**: Remind me today to assign each of you the task of reading and writing a one-page summary of the contents of one of the essays on Moll Flanders reprinted in pp. 351-434 of your text.
- 21 Read and bring to class a one-page summary of the essay assigned to you at our last meeting. In class today, I will ask each of you to offer a brief oral summary of the argument of your assigned essay. I will collect your written summaries and distribute copies of them at our next meeting.
- 23 Moll Flanders, pp. 230-268. Also read your classmates' summaries of their assigned essays
- 26 No class. Individual conferences to discuss your Term Paper projects.
- 28 No class. Research day. Use this time to gather and study your research material for your paper.
- 30 Bring your research material and your questions to class today. Work on your term paper.
- APR** 2 Bring **2 copies of a rough draft of your research paper to class today**. You will submit one copy to me. A classmate will read and offer a peer critique of the other copy.
- 4 No class. Individual conferences instead. Revise your research paper. It's due at our next class meeting.
- ** 6 Submit Research Paper, with materials arranged as called for in your "Checklist."
- 9 No class. You need a break, and I need time to read your research papers.

Topic: BROTHERS

- 11 Story, "Rich Brother," 806-819, & Story, "The Red Convertible," pp. 260-267.
Optional supplementary reading: Tobias Wolff, "On 'The Rich Brother,'" pp. 933-934.

CHILDREN AND THEIR PARENTS:

- APR** 13 Drama, Arthur Miller and Death of a Salesman, pp. 865-878.
- 16 Death of a Salesman, pp. 879-894. **IMPORTANT:** Remind me today to distribute your **FINAL EXAM STUDY GUIDE**.
- 18 Death of a Salesman, pp. 895-905 & commentary on staging Salesman, pp. 909-914.
- 20 Story, "Everything that Rises Must Converge," pp. 646-658.
Optional supplementary reading: Flannery O'Connor, "Writing Short Stories," pp. 910-915.
- 23 Story, "Tiny, Smiling Daddy," pp. 289-298, &
Poetry, "Daddy," 516-518. (This is a difficult, ferociously angry poem. Read it carefully at least three times.)
- 25 In-class writing today. Bring to class an outline of your plans for your take-home final exam essay. Also bring the textbooks you will need in writing the essay. You will write a rough draft of the essay in class.
- 27 Last class day. Review for final exam.

Good luck on all of your FINAL EXAMINATIONS. Our FINAL EXAM for this course is scheduled for

DEADLINE FOR SUBMITTING OPTIONAL REVISION OF THEME 1 or RESEARCH PAPER:

NOON ON THURSDAY, MAY 3