

Spring 1-15-2010

ENG 1002G-059: Composition and Literature

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COMPOSITION AND LANGUAGE

English 1002G

Spring 2010 Mon, Wed, Fri, 9:00 am—9:50 am /Coleman 3290

Glen Davis

Office: 2110 Coleman

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Office Hours: ~~Monday~~ Wednesday, and Friday 10:00-11:00am, Thursday 2:00-3:00pm (and by appointment)Email: gddavis@ciu.edu

Materials: *A Pocket Style Manual*
The Bedford Introduction to Drama
An Introduction to Poetry
Fiction 100
Outside Sources may be provided

Purpose

Composition and Literature is a writing intensive course designed to enhance your ability to write critical essays and respond to literary works. You will learn to discuss and interpret literature in three major genres: drama, poetry and fiction. Since this is a writing intensive class, you will be required to write about these works, and a large portion of your grade is based on these writings. You will also be required to conduct research on one of the works we discuss in class, and write a substantial paper proving that you understand and can take part in the discourse regarding your topic.

Like English 1001, English 1002 is heavily weighted towards writing. We will examine how writing should look and sound, and you will learn to tailor your writing towards a specific audience. Attendance in this class is not optional, neither are the writing assignments. It is not possible to pass this class if you have not kept up with the reading or writing assignments. Do not get behind in your reading and plan time to do good writing for the assignments. I will be allowing very few revisions in this class, make the first draft count. This class also includes two exams, one at mid-term and one final exam. Failure to complete either of these exams will result in a failing grade.

Absences

I will allow three absences, for any reason, without hurting your grade (other than in-class assignments you will have missed). Absences beyond three will lower your grade. I do not need or want excuses for these three absences. If you know in advance that you will be missing class, and that these three absences will not be enough, you should see me during office hours. Upon the fourth missed class you will lose half of your attendance and participation points. A fifth absence will result on no attendance and participation points, lowering your overall grade by one full letter. Excused absences (accompanied by appropriate legal, medical, and/or University documentation) will not count as part of the three "free" unexcused absences, and I do want documentation for them.

If you miss class, **do not E-mail or call me to ask what you missed.** We will create a class e-mail list so that you can get in contact with one of your classmates to find out what you missed.

Attendance means more than simply showing up for class. You will receive participation points for the time you spend in class. These points account for a full ten percent of your grade. In earning this ten percent, I expect that you will come prepared for class, and ready to participate.

Plagiarism

Don't. It should be as simple as that. I will not tolerate copying or cheating in this class. If I catch you plagiarizing, I am obligated to report you to the Office of Student Standards. It will certainly result in a failing grade in this class, leave a permanent mark on your record, and may lead to expulsion. So, don't do it. All of you should have discussed plagiarism in your English 1001 classes. You know what it is, and how to avoid it. I will not tolerate plagiarism, and I will not feel bad about failing you out of this class if you do it.

Eastern Illinois University takes plagiarism very seriously:

"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 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."

Essay Format

Your papers should be in MLA format for this class. Pages should be paper clipped or stapled, include page numbers, and be written in Times New Roman 12 point font, double spaced, with one inch margins. Papers that do not fit this criteria will have reduced grades.

Email Policy

I check my email daily, and welcome questions you might have through email. However, since this is a writing class, I expect those emails to be professional letters. You will have to occasionally email your instructors. You should always write your emails in a formal manner, using standard letter conventions. Get into the habit of doing this. Your instructors are not your friends, and they do not want to receive emails that are disrespectful, badly written, or informal.

Reading Assignments

The readings for this class are not optional. You will be quizzed on the information in the readings whenever I see fit, without warning. You should strive to go beyond simply reading the assignments and try to understand and have your own thoughts regarding these readings. We will have discussions on these readings and being prepared to talk about the readings is a huge part of this class. Take notes on the readings, and pick out things you would like to discuss during class.

Grades

Percentage break down:

Attendance and participation= 10%

Short writing assignments = 10%

Quizzes = 20%

1st Essay = 20%

2nd Essay = 20%

Exams =20%

Late Assignments

Assignments will be accepted late, but at a penalty to your grade. Assignments are due at the beginning of class. Assignments are considered late if they are not turned in at the beginning of class. Late assignments will lose 10% of the grade value. You will lose an additional 10% for every class period the assignment is late until the grade is an F. This system is less strict than it initially sounds.

Assignments not turned in at the beginning of class are late and you lose 10% of the grade value, but you have until the next class period to get the assignment to me. We meet three times a week; this gives you an extra day to continue working on the assignment before you lose another 10%. This leaves you more time to ensure that you are turning in a good paper.

Quizzes

You cannot make up quizzes or in-class assignments unless the absence is excused. These activities take place during class time, and it just doesn't make sense to do them outside of class. Make sure that you consider this when deciding which classes to miss.

Etiquette

You have decided to take part in a college environment. I will expect that you behave like a college student. I will lower participation grades for anyone who fails to show respect for me or any of the other students in this classroom. **Turn off your cell phones.** Some professors ask that you turn them all of the way off. I am okay with phones being on silent mode. However, if I can hear your phone vibrating, it isn't silent. Don't store your vibrating phone next to your keys. Texting in class is disrespectful and just annoying, don't do it.

Conferences

We will meet frequently on a one to one basis to discuss paper topics and your performance in this class. These conferences are not optional. If you miss a conference appointment, it counts as two absences.

Questions

I will keep regular office hours during the semester. You should feel free to come and talk to me during these hours.

Schedule of Assignments and Readings
(Subject to change depending on the needs of the class)

Section One: Poetry

Week One

- 1/11: Introduction and policies. Create class email list.
- 1/13: Ch1 and 2 in *Poetry*. Look at sample student paper.
- 1/15: Ch 3, 4, and 5 in *Poetry*. Look at sample student paper.

Week Two

- 1/18: Martin Luther King Jr. Day. No classes. (good day to catch up or get ahead on your reading)
- 1/20: Ch 6 *Poetry*.
- 1/22: Ch 7 in *Poetry*. Bring in song lyrics.

Week Three

- 1/25: Present response essays on song lyrics.
- 1/27: Ch 8 and 9 in *Poetry*.
- 1/29: Ch 10 and 11 in *Poetry*.

Week Four

- 2/1: Ch 12 and 13.
- 2/3: Ch 14.
- 2/5: Work on paper one (poetry paper)

Week Five

- 2/8: Paper due.
- 2/10: Conferences.
- 2/12: Lincoln's Birthday. No classes.