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ENG 1105-001: English Forum

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ENGLISH 1105

English Forum: Or How to Be a Great English Major

Fall 2019

Wed 3-3:50 pm

Coleman Auditorium

Course Description

What makes English such a great major? And how can students be empowered to get the most of out their studies and time at EIU?

These are the main questions we will be answering in English Forum this semester as the course acquaints you with practical advice and important information about your home department at EIU.

Course Goals

The course has several goals:

1. to introduce you to the students and faculty, options of study, and other opportunities in the English Department;
2. to provide you with information you need to get the most out of your time in the English Department;
3. to help you begin career planning, including planning a path through the major.

In order to meet these goals, we will explore:

- resources;
- share our favorite literary/linguistic thinking;
- meet and talk with poets, directors, actors, and professors about different ways to interact with literary texts;
- attend cultural events together (maybe even a play);
- and begin thinking about how to build your electronic portfolio/resume.

Course Expectations

This is a one-credit designed to assist you in your transition to college life and into the English Department. The most important requirement is that you attend all classes.

I hope to provide an environment where you feel comfortable asking questions and just feeling at home. But in this informal and friendly class—where your concerns are the priority—you will also need to observe the requirements—which I will be reminding you about through D2L.

The main writing requirements (résumé and English Major Narrative) will not be graded, but you will need to work with me to help me better understand your experiences and goals. More on all that later.

Texts & Materials

Important documents will be handed out and made available on D2L.

Instructor: Prof. Caldwell

mcaldwell@eiu.edu

Office: Coleman 3050

Office Hours: MF 10-11, 12-1
& by appointment

Requirements

Attend every class

Earn 10 Points

Complete a Résumé

Draft of Major Narrative

D2L (Desire to Learn)

Check D2L often for course updates.

How to Get an Easy A

- Attend each class.
- Earn 10 points. This is easy and maybe even fun. Various ways to earn points will be announced throughout the semester or can be found by looking for English-related events and activities on the Department calendar.
- Complete Résumé and English Major Narrative

Course Schedule (tentative)

Weeks 1-3 Aug. 21, Aug. 28 & Sept. 4	Introductions to Each Other; Life as an English Major; Introductions to English RSOs, Photo Op Guest: Dr. Angela Vietto, Dept. Chair
Sept. 11	Guest: Dr. Angela Vietto. "What Do English Majors Do With a Degree? Glad You Asked."
Sept. 18	Guest: Dr. Bess Winter. Creative Writing at EIU
Sept. 25	Guest: TBD from Counseling Services. Navigating the Personal Side of Your Professional Life: Mental Health and Knowing When to Talk to Someone
Oct. 2	Guest: Dr. Melissa Ames. Teacher Education & Media/Cultural Studies
Oct. 9	Guests: Dr. Marjorie Worthington, Coordinator, Women's, Gender, & Sexuality Studies Minor. English Studies Conference. Dr. Julie Campbell, Premodern Global Studies Minor.
Oct. 16	Guest: Dr. Terri Fredrick. Coordinator, Professional Writing Internships Professional Writing
Oct. 23	Guest: Dr. Robin Murray, Coordinator, Film Studies Minor
Oct 30	Guest: Dr. Tim Engles, Director of Undergraduate Studies in English. Undergraduate Research. Department Scholarships and Awards. Major Narratives. Minor in Asian American Studies.
Nov. 6	Guest: Dr. Randy Beebe, Director of Graduate Studies in English. Graduate School: What is it? Is it for you?
Nov. 13	Guest: Bobbi Kingery, (Director, Career Services). How to get a job/internship and how EIU can help.
Nov. 27	Workshop: Major Narratives
Dec. 4	Course Wrap-Up