

Fall 8-15-2010

ENG 1091G-095: Composition and Language, Honors

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English 1091G-095 (Honors)
Class Meeting: T-Th 14:00-15:15
Autumn 2010/Class meets in Coleman Hall 3160

Dr. Dagni Bredesen
Office Hours: Tues 12.45-1.45 pm, Wed 10.30-11.30 and by appointment
Office: Coleman Hall 3556
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Course Description:

English 1091 is an introduction to expository writing, that is, we will study different styles, purposes, and requirements of writing in particular academic (and sometimes, non-academic) contexts. This course is useful for any major and seeks to cover material that come from different fields of study.

This section of English 1091 focuses upon the theme of "Travel and the Traveler." In this class, students will develop their writing skills as they examine the ways people write about travel. As we consider issues attendant to travel and tourism as cultural practices, we will also hone writing skills through formal and informal writing exercises and assignments, extensive reading and intensive discussions that emphasize careful critical reflection of the verbal and visual texts we encounter.

Required Texts* and Materials:

Hacker, Diane. *Pocket Style Manual*
Haggard, H. Rider. *King Solomon's Mines*
Marshall, Paule. *Praisesong for the Widow*
Truss, Lynne. *Eats, Shoots, and Leaves*.
Wood, Denis. *The Power of Maps*
A good college-level dictionary
Film of your choice from a selected list for review

* all texts available through TEXTBOOK RENTAL SERVICES unless noted.

Course Requirements:

This course emphasizes attentive reading, in-class discussion, and attention to writing issues. Attendance and participation are mandatory and crucial to your success. This class is smaller than many and relies heavily on peer interaction and evaluation in its aim to establish a collaborative writing community. Thus, your commitment to being present is important, not only for your intellectual growth, but that of your classmates. If you miss a class, it is **your** responsibility to find out what went on.

The course grade will be determined by the work you do in each unit.

Unit One, 'Orientations,' will involve a short introductory writing assignment, a presentation, and a three to four page formal essay assignment. (Essay assignments in this class will generally include at least two editions and peer reviews and other forms of written and oral engagement). 15%

Unit Two, 'Imperial Eyes,' will include writing in a format that you may not have been exposed to before, at least two editions, and a conference with the instructor. It will also require that you respond to some supplementary scholarship on the topic you write on (which will be provided) and an introduction to "primary" historical materials. 20%

In Unit Three, "Going to Extremes," you will watch a film and read a book then write an essay that considers the issues travel poses for the individual traveler and the environment in which they travel. Revisions are recommended but not mandatory for this unit. 15%

The final unit will be a research paper. Assignments in this unit will include a proposal, an annotated bibliography, a research report, a presentation, and a final essay that will demonstrate the skills you have acquired in developing an interesting, well-considered, and persuasive argument that shows as well a competency in working with the conventions of expository prose in English. 35%

There will be other work that will fall under the category of Attendance and Participation. Showing up to class, having read the material and with the material under discussion in hand will be a component of this grade. As will a partnered "interlocution" (more on that later) of one of Lynne Truss's chapters from her book *Eats, Shoots, and Leaves*.

Please be aware that **you cannot pass this class without fulfilling all the assignments. Papers must be turned in at the beginning of class on the due date. Late papers will lose .3 grade points per day off the unit grade (this includes weekends and holidays).**

As far as nightly homework, in addition to the reading, there may be some short writing assignments, but the majority of the written work will be devoted to your paper drafts.

There are no exams in this class (but there may be quizzes).

Please Note: Apart from in-class assignments, the writing you turn in for class needs to be typed, spell-checked, and properly formatted (i.e. your name, the date, the title of the assignment, proper paragraphing and proper use of citations where necessary).

Attendance and Participation: As mentioned above, your participation is a factor in your grade. I expect you to pay attention, contribute ideas, and ask questions. Please don't fall asleep in class or try to read the *Daily Eastern News*. Please turn off your cell phone. Believe it or not, there is no such

thing as multi-tasking. Your brain switches attention very rapidly but you can't do two or three or four things at the same time and still absorb the material fully. I know some of you won't believe this but I'd like you to give this a try. Embrace the experience of this class and take as your mantra: "Be Here Now."

Please feel free to email me any questions that only I can answer. I will endeavor to respond within 24 hours.

If you miss a class you will need to collect materials and notes from a "study-buddy," that is, one of your classmates with whom you have agreed to exchange information etc. I suggest you have at least two study-buddies. If you miss a class and email me asking what you missed, before answering I will ask you to tell me what your study-buddy said you missed, so ask them first.

You may miss class THREE times, no questions asked. After three absences you will lose a third of a grade for every day in excess of those allowed; so, for example, if you are getting a B- and you are absent a fourth day, your grade will be dropped to a C+.

Conferences with me are also a course requirement. You will sign up for these in advance. Please also take advantage of my office hours whenever you have questions or problems, or if you just want extra clarification of an assignment. (I am available by appointment if you can't make my office hours).

English 1091 Course Schedule (may be subject to change)

Week One:

T/Aug 24 Introduction to Course

Assignment #1: Choose ONE of the following options:

1. Write about the most interesting place you have ever been. What made it so fascinating or fun?
2. Write about the most dreadful trip you have taken some place and the awful time you had. What made it so terrible?
3. Write about a place that you have never been that attracts you and try to explain what draws you to this place. What is it about the idea of this place that makes it so appealing?

Whichever option you choose involve as many of your senses as possible in your description. Length: 2 pages, typed, double-spaced, 12 point font. Due in class Thursday, August 26th.

Assignment #2: Pick up texts from TRS and start reading *The Power of Maps*

Assignment #3: Please look up the word "Plagiarism" and come with a definition and a theoretical but specific example of plagiarism.

Th/Aug 26

Continue reading *The Power of Maps* (be prepared to discuss chapter 1-5 by Wednesday, September 3). After you have read the first three chapters of the *Power of Maps*, choose 2 or 3 maps that you think serve an interesting function and that you would want to study further, that is maps you would want to actually want to write on.

Here are some suggested websites (At least one of your maps should come from one of these sites).

- Ancient World Mapping Center (University of North Carolina) <http://www.unc.edu/awmc/>
- David Rumsey Historical Map Collection <http://rumsey.geogarage.com/> Note: this link will take you to a world map with what looks like it has coins scattered all over it. Click on the region and it will show you a historical map of that place.\
- Mapping History (The Darkwing Atlas Project) mappinghistory.uoregon.edu
- (interactive maps and atlases in European and American history)
- University of Texas, Perry-Castañeda Library Map Collection <http://www.lib.utexas.edu/maps/>

You may also choose a more recent map: for example, representing election/campaign results (for example: red states/blue states); maps of the earth from space; or maps representing a fictional land; medical maps that chart the presence of disease in given areas, etc. Please email me if you have any questions.

Please print up a copy of each of the maps you have selected, along with a paragraph explaining what the map represents, the information it is trying to convey, as well as some of your initial ideas about the map (you may want to do a bit of research so you will be able to discuss its significance) and bring the maps and write-ups with you to a 15" conference with Dr. Bredesen in week two.

Week Two:

T/Aug 31 Introduce Unit One: "Orientations" and Essay I

Discuss *The Power of Maps* chapters 1-5 and the presentation

Assignment: finish reading *The Power of Maps* chapters 6-7.

Mini-conferences

Th/Sept 2 Continue discussion of *The Power of Maps*

Due Tuesday, September 7th: 5 minute Presentation on maps

Week Three:

T/Sept 7 Begin presentations

Read: Truss, "Introduction—The Seventh Sense."

Th/Sept 9 Finish presentations

Go over questions regarding the first essay

Week Four:

T/Sept 14 DUE Essay 1.1. Bring 3 copies

Revision Strategies

Read: Truss, "The Tractable Apostrophe."

Th/Sept 16 Peer Edit Returned (2 copies: 1 for instructor/1 for peer)

Revision Strategies continued

Assignment: Complete revisions of the Unit One essay, due Monday.

Bring copy of *King Solomon's Mines* to class

Week Five:

T/Sept 21 Due Essay 1.2

Introduction to Unit 2: "Imperial Eyes"

Assignment: Start reading *King Solomon's Mines* chapters I- IV

Th/Sept 23 Begin discussion of *King Solomon's Mines*: Jose de Silvestre's map,
Assignment: read *KSM* chapters V-XII and be prepared to discuss Pratt's essay

Week Six:

T/Sept 28 Discuss chapters V-XII and Pratt
Assignment: read *KSM* XIII-XVI

Th/ Sept 30 Discuss assigned reading.
Assignment: finishing reading *KSM*

Week Seven:

T/Oct 5 Discuss conclusion of *KSM*, Introduction to Unit Two paper
Assignment: Read Truss, "That'll do, Comma."

Th/Oct 7 TBA

Week Eight: CONFERENCES THIS WEEK

T/Oct 12 Essay 2.1 due. **BRING THREE COPIES of Paper to class**
In-class Author Assessment; Peer Edit
Assignment: Take Home Peer Edit
Read Truss, "Airs and Graces."

Th/Oct 14 Begin Watching film "Into the Wild"

Week Nine:

T/Oct 19 Finish watching "Into the Wild"

Th/ Oct 21 Revised Essay 2.2 Due/In-class assessment
Introduce Units Three and Four:
Unit Three: "Going to Extremes: Outward and Inward"
Unit Four: The Research Paper
Assignment: Choose topic
Read: Truss, "Cutting a Dash."

Week Ten:

T/Oct 26 Discuss *ITW* Read: *Praisesong for the Widow*

Th/Oct 28 Research Proposal Due Tues Nov 2: 1-2 paragraphs (see handout)
Read *Praisesong for the Widow*
Intro to the Annotated Bibliography

Week Eleven:

T/Nov 2 Discuss *Praisesong for the Widow*
Intro to Essay 3
Read Truss, "A Little Used Punctuation Mark."

Th/Nov 4 Library Research Lab: On line, Journals and in the Stacks

Week Twelve:

T/Nov 9 Truss "Merely Conventional Signs"
Introduce the Research Report Due: Monday, Nov
Th/ Nov 11 NO CLASS
Email the Annotated Bibliography to dabredesen@eiu.edu by 5pm 11/11/10
Work on the Research Report

Week Thirteen:

T/Nov 16 **Due** The Research Report
The Research-Based Persuasive Essay: Argument and Audience
W/ Nov 17 Conferences
Th/ Nov 18 Conferences
Assignments: prep for presentations and watch a film chosen from the Travel Film
List. Film review due December 10th

THANKSGIVING BREAK: Nov 22-26**Week Fourteen:**

T/ Nov 30 Judicious Quoting and Citation format 10" Presentations begin (3 students)
Th/ Dec 2 10" Presentations continued (5 students)

Week Fifteen:

T/ Dec 7 10" Presentations (6 students)
Th/ Dec 9 10" Presentations (2 students)
Evaluations

Final Paper due Tuesday, December 14th by 3.15 pm in Dr. Bredesen's office.
Papers will be available for pick up at Dr. Bredesen's office Friday, December 17th between 10.00am-12 noon.