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Fall 8-15-2021

ENG 1105-001: English Forum

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Eastern Illinois University

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Caldwell, Melissa, "ENG 1105-001: English Forum" (2021). *Fall 2021*. 55.

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ENGLISH 1105, section 001

English Forum: Or How to Be a Great English Major

CH 3290, 12:00-12:50pm, Fall 2021

Instructor: Prof. Caldwell

Email: mcaldwell@eiu.edu

Office: Coleman 3050

Office Hours: Mon, Tues, Wed, Fri 1:00-2:00pm, and by appointment

Use Calendly to Schedule: <https://calendly.com/mcaldwelleiu/fall-2021-office-hours>

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 this 1-credit hour course acquaints you with practical advice and important information about your home department at EIU.

Texts and Materials:

Important materials will be posted in Modules on D2L

Course Goals:

This 1-credit hour 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 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 actively engage with the class.

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 are posted on D2L.

Grading Scale

Requirements for this course include an E-scavenger hunt, active engagement and weekly class attendance, a meeting with me, a resume and major narrative, attendance (virtual or in person) at two English-related events, and 2 small group meetings (virtual or in person). See checklist below for point distribution.

A	90-100
B	80-89.9
C	70-79.9
D	60-69.9
F	Below 60

Academic Integrity

Students are expected to maintain principles of academic integrity and conduct as defined in EIU's Code of Conduct (<http://www.eiu.edu/judicial/studentconductcode.php>). Violations will be reported to the Office of Student Standards.

Plagiarism unequivocally will not be tolerated in this course. Plagiarism is defined as "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). The English Department's policy on plagiarism states that any teacher who discovers an act of plagiarism has the right and 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 Office of Student Standards. Respect for the work of others should encompass all formats, including print, electronic, and oral sources.

Covid-19 Practices & Expectations (from the Office of the Provost)

All students, regardless of vaccination status, are required to wear face coverings during class. Students may sit in any classroom seat where they are most comfortable. All reasonable efforts will be made to provide modifications to classroom seating arrangements if needed; however, this may not be possible in all situations. Students should not attend class if they are ill and should consult the student health clinic if they have any COVID-19-like symptoms. EIU's COVID-19 campus practices including face coverings, when and where required, avoiding campus if sick, sanitizing surfaces, social distancing, and hand washing all of which are based on the best available public health guidance. Everyone in the campus community is responsible for following practices that reduce risk. If you have a health condition that may require a potential classroom accommodation or variation from current EIU COVID-19 policy, please contact Student Disability Services (studentdisability@eiu.edu or 581-6583) to determine what options may be available based on current CDC guidance. If you are unable to follow EIU's COVID-19 guidelines, you may be asked to leave class or office hours as compliance with public health guidance is essential. To view the latest EIU COVID-19 related information and any policy updates, please visit <https://www.eiu.edu/covid/>.

Student Resources

Students with Disabilities

If you are a student with a documented disability in need of accommodations to fully participate in this class, please contact the Office of Student Disability Services (OSDS). All accommodations must be approved through OSDS. Please stop by McAfee Gym, Room 1210, or call 217-581-6583 to make an appointment.

The Student Success Center and The Writing Center

Students who are having difficulty achieving their academic goals are encouraged to contact the Student Success Center (www.eiu.edu/~success) for assistance with time management, test taking, note taking, avoiding procrastination, setting goals, and other skills to support academic achievement. The Student Success Center provides individualized consultations. To make an appointment, call 217-581-6696, or go to McAfee Gym, Room 1301.

The Writing Center

This fall, the Writing Center will be offering **face-to-face consulting sessions on weekdays and online sessions evenings and Sundays**. Students will be able to book either a face-to-face or online appointment through the Writing Center website (www.eiu.edu/writing).

English Teacher Education Majors

Students seeking Teacher Certification in English Language Arts should request each of their English Department professors to complete the "Application for English Department Approval to Student Teach" before the end of the semester. These forms are available in a rack outside the office of Dr. Melissa Ames (CH 3821) and online: <https://www.eiu.edu/english/machform/view.php?id=19831>.

Mental Health

Transitioning to college can be a stressful time. The EIU Counselling Center offers individual and group services to help students manage stress, anxiety, depression, and other mental health concerns. You can find more information at <https://www.eiu.edu/counsctr/appointments.php>.

Class Requirements / Checklist of Assignments

Assignment	Date Completed
E-Scavenger Hunt (10 points)	Due by August 29 at 11:59pm
Virtual Meeting with Dr. Caldwell during the first 4 weeks of class (by Oct 1) (10 points)	Sign up for a 30-minute appointment using my Calendly link: https://calendly.com/mcaldwelleiu/fall-2021-office-hours .
2 Small Group Meetings (virtual or F2F as agreed upon by the group) (15 points)	Date and description of meeting 1: Date and description of meeting 2:
Attend 2 Department-related event or campus events, either virtual or in-person (15 points)	Date and Description of event 1: Date and description of event 2:
Complete a draft of a resume (25 points)	Draft due in class on Nov. 15 Final due via D2L Dropbox on Dec. 2
Complete a draft of a major narrative (25 points)	Draft due in class on Dec. 6 Final due via D2L Dropbox

Attendance, Class Engagement and Participation in Class meetings (10 points)

Throughout the semester. You lose 1 point for each missed class. Additional points may be lost for lack of participation/preparedness in class.

Note: There is no midterm or final exam in this course.

Fall 2021 Course Schedule (tentative)

Aug. 23	Welcome to the Department; Introductions to Each Other; Life as an English Major; English Department Website. Set up meeting with Dr. Caldwell. Guest speaker: Dr. Angela Vietto, English Department Chair.
Aug. 30	Guest speaker: Dr. Angela Vietto, English Department Chair: Having a Plan A and a Plan B
Sept. 6	Labor Day—no class
Sept. 13	Writing center TA visit. Mental Health resources.
Sept. 20	Guest: Dr. Melissa Ames. Teacher Education & Media/Cultural Studies
Sept. 27	Guest: Dr. Colleen Abel, Creative Writing at EIU, literary magazines <i>Bluestem</i> and <i>The Vehicle</i> .
Oct. 4	Meeting with your advisor in English (hint: that's me!); Getting the most out of your Literary and Cultural Studies concentration; Advising in the English Department
Oct. 11	Guest: Dr. Terri Fredrick. Coordinator, Professional Writing Internships Professional Writing
Oct. 18	Guest: Dr. Randy Beebe, Director of Graduate Studies. Graduate studies in English; the English MA at EIU; the Accelerated MA Program at EIU.
Oct. 25	Guest: Bobbi Kingery, (Director, Career Services). How to get a job/internship and how EIU can help.
Nov. 1	Meet your future: Visit from senior English majors in ENG 4060, English Career Development.
Nov. 8	Guest: Dr. Tim Engles, Director of Undergraduate Studies in English. Undergraduate Research. Department Scholarships and Awards. Minor in Asian American Studies. Teaching English Abroad.
Nov. 15	In class workshop for Resume.
Nov. 22	No class—Thanksgiving Break Week
Nov. 29	In class workshop for Major Narrative. Resume due via D2L Dropbox.
Dec. 6	Course Wrap up. Evaluations. Final draft of Major Narrative due via D2L Dropbox.