

Fall 8-15-2008

ENG 1002G-011: Composition and Literature

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COMPOSITION AND LITERATURE
 ENGLISH 1002G (Fall 2008)

Objectives:

- to promote careful, coherent, substantive writing;
- to encourage active, thoughtful reading of world-class drama, fiction, and poetry;
- to increase understanding of views and cultures represented in literature;
- to sharpen critical thinking -- the analysis of ideas and evidence;
- to provide experience using primary and secondary evidence.

Scope: During the term you will read a range of drama, fiction, and poetry. You will complete three typed essays of three-four pages (700-800 words) of argument, plus a "Works Cited." You will write two essays in class (500-600 words each). To help you write the in-class essays, you can bring outlines but not complete drafts. As a capstone experience, you will interpret a range of stories and poems during a final in-class exam. The final exam will require you to write two short interpretations (about 250-300 words each) and one essay (about 500-600 words). In addition, a portion of your grade will reflect class participation. Here's a breakdown of the components that will determine your final grade for the course:

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|---|--------------|
| -three out-of-class essays supported with research: | 50% of grade |
| -two in-class essays: | 25% of grade |
| -class participation: | 10% of grade |
| -final examination: | 15% of grade |

Grading Policy: For the essays and final, I will grade using a simple ten-point scale. That is, a 92% is an A-, an 87% is a B+, and so on. When I grade the essays and the final, I will consider content (purpose, reasoning, evidence), organization and coherence, grammar and mechanics, and style. Keep in mind that an essay or a final will fail if it is radically deficient in any of the areas for grading I have mentioned. After all, readers are served neither by a technically perfect essay that is superficial and empty nor an otherwise thoughtful essay that is riddled with distracting errors and infelicities.

Revision Opportunity: You can revise your first in-class essay for a new grade.

Late/Absence Policy: You are expected to hand in your work on time and in class. You will forfeit five points each day for late work and five points for work placed in my mail on the due date. If you are enrolled in another class or engaged in any other activity that may cause you to miss a significant number of classes in 1002G, you should not attempt to take 1002G this term. If you have an excused absence, I will arrange time for you to catch up with written work. For an excused absence, you must provide a verifiable excuse from Health Service, a doctor, or a University official. After three unexcused absences, you will forfeit 5% of the course grade for each subsequent absence.

Plagiarism Policy: Plagiarism is a serious offense; it is intellectual theft and fraud. Accordingly, plagiarism will be punished in conformity with English Department and University procedures. Here is the English Department's statement concerning plagiarism:

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 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 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.

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.

TENTATIVE SCHEDULE

1. Week of August 25
 - Introduction to Course; Writing Assignment: Your Reading and Writing
 - “Greek Drama” and “Sophocles” (29-40); Writing Assignment Due
2. Week of January September 1
 - Labor Day: No Classes
 - Shakespeare’s *Oedipus the King* (40-64); Assignment for In-Class Essay
3. Week of September 8
 - Othello the Moor of Venice* (243-63)
 - Othello the Moor of Venice* (263-81)
4. Week of September 15
 - Othello the Moor of Venice* (281-88); Assignment of Out-of-Class Essay;
 - Discussion of Outlines for *Oedipus the King*
 - In-Class Essay**
5. Week of September 22
 - Miller’s *Death of a Salesman* (699-726)
 - Death of a Salesman* (726-740)
6. Week of September 29
 - Introduction to Fiction; Poe’s “The Cask of Amontillado” (1149-54)
 - Discussion of Plans for Out-of-Class Essays on Drama; Hawthorne’s “Young Goodman Brown” (660-69); Assignments for Essays on Fiction
7. Week of October 6
 - Gilman’s “The Yellow Wallpaper” (574-85) and Faulkner’s “A Rose for Emily” (505-11)
 - Out-of-Class-Essay on Drama Due**; O’Connor’s “The Artificial Nigger” (1109-23)
8. Week of October 13
 - “Melville’s “Bartleby the Scrivener” (986-1111)
 - Cather’s “Paul’s Case” (213-27); Discussion of Outlines for In-Class Essay on a Short Story
9. Week of October 20
 - “The Blue Hotel” (407-26)
 - In-Class Essay on Short Story**

10. Week of October 27

- Baldwin's "Sonny's Blues" (37-59)
- Malamud's "The Magic Barrel" (933-45)

11. Week of November 3

- Thurber's "The Catbird Seat" (1245-51); Welty's "Petrified Man" (1326-1334)
- Oates's "Where Are You Going, Where Have You Been?" (1326-35)

12. Week of November 10

- "Introduction" to Poetry (1-17); Dancing an Attitude: "Because I could not stop for Death" (174-75), "Do Not Go Gentle Into That Good Night" (275-76), "Home Burial" (207-10), "The Last Words of My English Grandmother" (220-21)
- Now for Something Completely Different: "Anecdote of the Jar" (213-14), "Disillusionment of Ten O'clock" (214), "The Red Wheelbarrow" (221), "This is Just to Say" (223); "Kubla Khan" (118-20)

13. Week of November 17

- Out-of-Class Essay Comparing/Contrasting Stories Due**; Rhythm and Rhyme (26-33); Handout of Poe's "Annabel Lee"
- "Figurative Language" (17-23); Shakespeare's Sonnets 18, 73, 116, 130 on pages 66-69; Donne's "Holy Sonnet 24" (75)

Thanksgiving Break (Nov 24-28)

14. Week of December 1

- Dramatic Monologues: "To His Coy Mistress" (89), "My Last Duchess" (11-13); Discussion of Plans for Out-of-Class Essay on Poetry
- "Ulysses" (151-53), "The Love Song of J. Alfred Prufrock" (235-39); Announcing Your Chosen Poems

15. Week of December 8

- Out-of-Class Essay on Poetry Due**; Discussing Your Chosen Poems
- Preparation for Final Examination