

Fall 8-15-2007

ENG 1091G-098: Composition and Literature, Honors

David Raybin
Eastern Illinois University

Follow this and additional works at: http://thekeep.eiu.edu/english_syllabi_fall2007



Part of the [English Language and Literature Commons](#)

Recommended Citation

Raybin, David, "ENG 1091G-098: Composition and Literature, Honors" (2007). *Fall 2007*. 61.
http://thekeep.eiu.edu/english_syllabi_fall2007/61

This Article is brought to you for free and open access by the 2007 at The Keep. It has been accepted for inclusion in Fall 2007 by an authorized administrator of The Keep. For more information, please contact tabruns@eiu.edu.

**English 1091.098: Composition and Literature, Honors
Fall 2007**

Instructor: **David Raybin**

Office: **3761 [324] Coleman Hall**

Office Hours: **Tu 9:30-11; W 9:00-12:00** (and by appointment)

Telephone: **581-6980** (office); **330/678-2628** (home, weekends before 8:30)

Electronic Mail: **draybin@eiu.edu**

Texts: Edward Abbey, *Desert Solitaire*
Henry Benton, *The Outermost House*
Annie Dillard, *Pilgrim at Tinker Creek*
Aldo Leopold, *A Sand Country Almanac*
Terry Tempest Williams, *Refuge: A Natural History of Family and Place*
Toby Fulwiler, *The Blair Handbook*, 5th ed.

Schedule of Readings and Assignments

- | | |
|-----------|--|
| August | 21: Introduction to the course
23: Benton, <i>Outermost House</i> , pp. 1-58

28: Benton, <i>Outermost House</i> , pp. 59-140
30: Benton, <i>Outermost House</i> , pp. 141-218 |
| September | 4: Paper #1
Conference
6: Williams, <i>Refuge</i> , pp. 3-95

11: Williams, <i>Refuge</i> , pp. 96-190
13: Williams, <i>Refuge</i> , pp. 191-290

18: Paper #2
Conference
20: Abbey, <i>Desert Solitaire</i> , pp. xi-94

25: Abbey, <i>Desert Solitaire</i> , pp. 95-195
27: Abbey, <i>Desert Solitaire</i> , pp. 196-269 |
| October | 2: Paper #3
Conference
4: Dillard, <i>Pilgrim</i> , pp. 3-77

9: Dillard, <i>Pilgrim</i> , pp. 78-183
11: Dillard, <i>Pilgrim</i> , pp. 184-277

16: No class – Paper #4
18: Conference

23: Leopold, <i>Sand Country</i> , pp. xvii-98
25: Leopold, <i>Sand Country</i> , pp. 99-173 |
| November | 30: Research Project - prospectus
1: Conference

6: Library Workshop
8: Class Workshop |

13: **Research Project – draft of ten-page paper**
15: Conference

20-22: Thanksgiving Holiday

27: Class Workshop
29: **Research Project – final copy of ten-page paper**

December 4: To be announced
6: **Portfolio of Short Essays**

Course Requirements and Grading

Final grades will be determined on a 100-point scale:

Four papers and portfolio	40 points
Research project	50 points
Participation	10 points

Course Grade: **A**= 91-100; **B**= 82-90.99; **C**= 73-81.99; **D**= 65-72.99; **F**= below 65

Writing Assignments. You will write three short papers, two of which will be revised. You will also complete a research project, including a prospectus, a first draft, and a final paper of at least ten pages. Grading will be based on what you have to say and how well you say it. Handouts will describe the assignments more fully.

Participation. This is not a lecture class. I expect you to show up for every class and offer sensible contributions to the classroom discussion.

Course/University Policies

Typing. Your papers must be typed (double-spaced with one-inch margins).

Honor Policy. Education depends on honesty. Should you cheat and I find out about it, you can expect to fail the course. The University may take additional action.

Plagiarism. If you use other people's words or ideas without citing your sources and indicating when you have quoted, you risk failing an assignment or even the course depending on how serious I deem the offense. If you are not sure what plagiarism is, or whether a particular use of language constitutes plagiarism, ask me before you turn in an assignment.

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."

Course Description

During the first nine weeks, you will read five books, each a classic of writing about the natural world. In class we will discuss the books, and you are expected to be fully engaged in the discussion. Outside of class, you will write four short papers, experimenting with different approaches to observing and writing. Later, you will revise these papers into a portfolio of your writing. During the final six weeks, you will engage in a research project, the goal being to learn enough about some feature of the world around you to write a knowledge-based ten-page paper in which you say something you care about to a reader . . . and say it both intelligently and beautifully.