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ENG 1091G-095: Composition and Language (Honors)

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Course Description:
English 1091 is an interdisciplinary expository writing course, which means that the readings and writing assignments will be drawn from a variety of fields of study. We will be looking at different styles, purposes, and requirements of writing in particular academic (and sometimes, non-academic) contexts, which makes this course useful for any major.

This section of English 1091 focuses upon the theme of the American home. Rather than making conclusive determinations about what the "ideal" or "typical" American home is, we will be looking at the divergent definitions of home that our different readings propose. We will also be studying the various techniques that writers, critics, architects, and sociologists (among others) use to dissect the values as well as the physical properties of the American home. From our investigations into what different people seek to find in a home, we hopefully will take away a better understanding of those representations of domesticity that confront us every day and extend our skills in critical thinking and writing as we analyze in depth an aspect of culture that we often take for granted.

Required Texts:
Course Packet (available at Copy Express in the MLK, Jr. Student Union Building)
Gilman, Charlotte Perkins, *The Yellow Wallpaper and Other Stories* (available at Textbook Rental Services)
Dillard, Annie *An American Childhood* (available at TRS)
A good college-level dictionary

Course Requirements:
Assignments: The process of writing is a major part of this class so three short paper assignments that work directly with the class readings will start us off. I will provide topics for papers 1 and 2, and based upon these, you will develop a topic for paper 3. These will be 4 page analytical arguments that summarize and critically examine at least two of the class readings. You will have the chance to revise all of these papers after receiving comments from me, and from your classmates. The second edition of your paper will be graded. All of these papers will give you a chance to work out ideas in preparation for your final research paper.

Your 7-9 page final paper will be an independently researched project. The course is structured so that you will be working on this project throughout the term. You will also make a brief oral presentation of your paper topic in the last two weeks of the semester.
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 tests in this class.

Please Note: I expect all of the writing you turn in for class to be typed, spell-checked, and properly formatted (i.e. your name, the date, the title of the assignment, proper paragraphing and use of citations where necessary). This requirement is non-negotiable, and hopefully goes without saying.

Attendance and Participation: 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. Furthermore, it is necessary to attend every class. If you don’t make it to class, I will not provide you with the material that was handed out, or the directions that were announced. Conferences with me, which you sign up for in advance, are also a course requirement. 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 also available by appointment if you can’t make my office hours.

Please see attached handout on Eastern Illinois University’s Plagiarism Policy
English 1091 Course Schedule (may be subject to change)

Week One: Computer Lab
M/25 Introduction, syllabus.
   HMWK: Buy Course Packet. Pick up required texts at TRS. Read in Gilman: “The Yellow Wallpaper,” “The Cottagette” (in *The Yellow Wallpaper*) and “In Two Houses” (handout)
   W/27 Discuss Gilman.
   HMWK: Read “Domestic Architecture” (*The Hearthstone*) and “Our House” (in packet); read “Girls and Land” (handout)

Week Two:
M/1 Labor Day/ No Class
W/3 Discuss readings; prescriptive writings past and present; introduce Paper #1
   HMWK: read Gilman, “Domestic Mythology” and “Domestic Ethics” (in packet); read “Their House” (handout).

Week Three: Computer Lab
M/8 Focus: Paper #1: Gilman. HMWK: read Wright (in packet); work on Paper #1
W/10 Discuss Wright; contemporary prescriptions of domesticity in media. HMWK: Work on Paper #1

Week Four:
M/15 **Paper #1 due (bring 3 copies to class)** In class Author Assessment and Peer Edit. Introduce Bachelard. HMWK: Read Bachelard “the home” and “house and universe” (reader); Take Home Peer Edit (please make a copy of your comments).

Week Five: Computer Lab
M/22 Get back Paper #1. Discuss Bachelard and Douglas. HMWK: Revise Paper #1 for Monday
W/24 Revision Strategies

Week Six:
M/29 Paper #1 revision due. Discuss Bachelard and Douglas.. HMWK: Read Keeble “Zeta’s House” (packet); Exercise for Paper #2
W/October 1 Discuss Paper #2 (due Monday, October 6); Introduce Research Paper Topics (due Wednesday, October 8th)

Week Seven: Computer Lab
M/6 Paper #2 due. **BRING DISK WITH PAPER TO CLASS. MAKE SURE YOU CAN OPEN DOCUMENT IN ETIC BEFORE COMING TO CLASS.** In-class Author Assessment; Peer Edit, HMWK: Take Home Peer Edit and Type-written description of research paper topic.
W/8 Begin Bibliographic Research. Intro to Dillard. HMWK: Dillard, Prologue through p. 69

Week Eight
M/13 Get back paper #2 (Revision due Monday, October 21); Discuss Dillard. HMWK: keep reading Part one; Continue doing research on paper topic.
W/15 Discuss Research paper and bibliographies; sign up for conferences. HMWK: Paper # 2