

Spring 1-15-2007

ENG 3001-008: Advanced Composition

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Syllabus for English 3001: Advanced Composition, Spring 2007, Section 008

Texts and Materials

Bartholomae and Petrosky, *Ways of Reading: An Anthology for Writers*, 6th ed.

Gibaldi, *The MLA Handbook*, 6th ed.

The lab requires USB "flash" drives (also known as "jump" or "thumb" drives) for data storage. Please consider buying one.

Course Description

This advanced course covers a range of academic and professional writing, and requires the development of skills in the following areas:

- interpretation and critical thinking
- review of critical literature in a discipline
- collaboration and peer review
- oral and visual communication
- résumé and letter writing
- portfolio construction

During the semester, you will be expected to:

- constructively criticize peers' thinking and writing
- use peer responses to improve your own thinking and writing
- read challenging texts
- carefully research a problem or issue in your discipline
- produce polished written and oral work for academic and professional audiences
- show initiative, and be thorough and precise in your work

Writing-Centered Course

You should consider submitting an essay written for this class to the Electronic Writing Portfolio or EWP. Please visit the following web address for information on the submission process: <www.eiu.edu/~assess/electronic_writing_portfolio1.htm>. The course deadline for EWP submissions is Wednesday, April 25, 2007.

Brief Description of Assignments

Explaining a Specialized Subject: you will review an article or book chapter, explaining key concepts to an educated but non-expert audience.

Group Analysis/Presentation: in a group of three, you will carefully analyze a visual image (or set of images) chosen by the group.

Review Essay: you will write a critical overview of journal articles or book chapters dealing with a specific problem or issue.

Job Letter and Résumé: you will find an available internship, research assistantship, or other advertised position in your field (preferably, one that somewhat matches your qualifications). Then, you will write a letter and résumé that could actually be sent as part of an application for the position. The position may be located through a personal contact; a career center or job information service; or a newspaper, library, or on-line source.

Portfolio: you will revise selected work from the course and construct a portfolio. You will need the files for all of your papers in order to put together the portfolio—so keep them!

Peer Reviews: on several occasions, you will respond to your peers' papers; your peer reviews should be honest and descriptive, explaining in detail your reading experiences.

Examinations: a mid-term and comprehensive final examination will test your knowledge of grammar, style, and course readings, as well as your ability to read and analyze texts.

Daily Assignments: you will do reading responses, process writing, document and site searches, group work, and various other daily assignments. If discussion logs, quizzes or additional in- and out-of-class writing may be assigned as part of the daily assignment grade.

Policies

Attendance: 3 unexcused absences will result in the reduction of your final grade by one letter (10%). If you miss class, you are responsible for finding out what happened and asking me for any missed handouts. Absences will be excused only in the case of a documented illness or emergency, or of documented participation in an official university activity. For your absence to be excused, you must provide me with a legible photocopy of your documentation for my records. Such documentation must be provided prior to the absence or immediately upon your return to class. Please do not come to class late. Three instances of tardiness will count as an absence. Missing a mandatory conference will count as an absence.

Late work: Daily assignments will not be accepted late, and missed peer reviews cannot be made up. Presentations must be given on the dates for which you have scheduled them, except under the most extenuating of circumstances. Failure to submit a complete first draft of a paper (including Works Cited Page) on the draft due date will result in a reduction of the final grade for that paper by one letter. All major assignments are due at the start of class on the final due date. If you want an extension on a major assignment, you must seek the extension a full day in advance of the class period during which the assignment is due and cite compelling reasons for the request; otherwise, you will be penalized one letter grade for not turning in the paper on time and an additional letter grade for every twelve hours thereafter. Only in the case of a properly documented absence may an examination be taken before or after the scheduled date. The rescheduled examination may cover different material than the original.

Grading Scale: 100 to 90 = A, 89.99 to 80 = B, 79.99 to 70 = C, 69.99 to 60 = D, 59.99 and below F

Percentages for Major Assignments		Exams and Other Requirements	
Explaining Specialized Subject	15%	Mid-term Examination	10%
Group Analysis/Presentation	10%	Comprehensive Final	15%
Review Essay	15%	Average of Peer Reviews	5%
Job letter and résumé	5%	Daily Assignments	5%
Portfolio	<u>10%</u>	Participation	<u>10%</u>
	55%	+	45% = 100%

Assessment: For each of the major assignments listed in the left column above, I will provide a formal assignment sheet. Your grade for a given major assignment will be determined by how well your work fulfills the requirements outlined in the assignment sheet. You will receive worksheets to guide you through peer reviews, and written or verbal descriptions of daily assignments. Your participation grade will be based on your attendance, the regularity and quality of your contributions to class discussion, and your level of engagement during group work and class activities.

Academic dishonesty: According to the *MLA Style Manual*, the word “plagiarism” has its origin in the Latin term for “kidnapper”: plagiarists kidnap other writers’ sentences, phrases, or ideas and present them as their own. The *Random House Dictionary* defines “plagiarism” as “The appropriation or imitation of the language, ideas, and/or thoughts of another author, and representation of them as one’s original work.” As these sources suggest, plagiarism often results from faulty documentation or careless note taking. *Always place quoted materials in quotation marks, and always cite quoted and/or paraphrased sources, even in rough drafts of papers or presentations.* Respect for the intellectual work of others should encompass all formats, including print, electronic, and oral sources. Inexcusable acts of plagiarism include downloading or buying a paper from the internet; copying and pasting phrases or passages from electronic sources into your paper without citing them; submitting a paper written by another student as your own; borrowing the language and content of a website verbatim and using it as an “original” presentation; and so on. The penalty for academic dishonesty is failure in the course. All instances of academic dishonesty will be reported to the Office of Judicial Affairs.

The Office of Disability Services: If you have a documented disability and wish to receive academic accommodations, please contact the Office of Disability Services (581-6583) as soon as possible.

Provisional Schedule

Note: Each reading should be completed *before* class on the day it is listed.

Week One

- M Jan 8 Introduction to the course
Introduction to the writing lab
- W Jan 10 Excerpt from Introduction (*Ways of Reading* 1-14, hereafter abbreviated *WR*)
Analytical reading exercise; writing diagnostic
Avoiding plagiarism; bring *MLA Handbook* (hereafter abbreviated *MLA*)

Week Two

- M Jan 15 MLK Birthday; no class
- W Jan 17 Reading Workshop: Baldwin, "Notes of a Native Son" (*WR* 49-68)
Explaining a Specialized Subject (assigned)
Clauses, Faulty Sentence Structures, Parallelism

Week Three

- M Jan 22 Reading Workshop: Freire, "The 'Banking' Concept of Education" (*WR* 258-70)
Verbs, Agreement, Usage
- W Jan 24 Due: source for Explaining a Specialized Subject
Workshop using source; bring *MLA*

Week Four

- M Jan 29 Drafting a strong introduction
First draft due: Explaining a Specialized Subject; peer review; bring *MLA*
*A Works Cited page is an integral part of any paper using sources. Always submit one with *rough and final* drafts of papers.
- W Jan 31 Conferences

Week Five

- M Feb 5 Final draft due: Explaining a Specialized Subject/write cover letter
Group Analysis and Presentation (assigned)
Excerpt from Berger, "Ways of Seeing" (*WR* 105-7)
Begin analysis exercise (magazine advertisements)
- W Feb 7 Finish analysis exercise
Reading Workshop: Bordo, "Hunger as Ideology" (*WR* 138-171)

Week Six

- M Feb 12 Form groups
Due: image, be prepared to show/interpret image
Group meeting to do research, plan presentation
- W Feb 14 Workshop: formulate overarching interpretation/theme; create visual aid; finish and practice presentation

Week Seven

- M Feb 19 Due: Group Analysis/Presentations
- W Feb 21 Mid-term examination

Week Eight

- M Feb 26 Review Essay (assigned)
Reading Workshop: Comparing Arguments, Constructing Grids
Schwarzbaum and Denby, Reviews of "Pirates of the Caribbean" (provided)
- W Feb 28 Reading Workshop: reread Freire, "The 'Banking' Concept of Education" (*WR* 258-70); Rage against the Machine, "Take the Power Back"

(provided); Bell Hooks, "Toward a Revolutionary Feminist Pedagogy"
(provided)

Week Nine

M Mar 5 Library
W Mar 7 Due: sources for the Review Essay; bring MLA
Exercises using sources

Spring Recess

Mar 12, 14 No classes

Week Ten

M Mar 19 Summary vs. Analysis, Transitions, Conclusions, etc.
Concision vs. Wordiness, Redundancy
First draft due: Review Essay; peer review; bring *MLA*
W Mar 21 TBA

Week Eleven

M Mar 26 Conferences
W Mar 28 Conferences

Week Twelve

M Apr 2 Dangling Modification, Needless Shifts, Mixed Constructions, etc.
Final draft due: Review Essay
Write cover letter
Job Letter and Résumé (assigned)
W Apr 4 Résumé writing
Hiring committee exercise

Week Thirteen

M Apr 9 Due: job ad
Writing a letter of application
Draft the letter and resume
W Apr 11 First draft due: Job Letter and Résumé; peer review

Week Fourteen

M Apr 16 Final draft due: Job Letter and Résumé
Portfolio (assigned); designing a portfolio
Review for final examination
W Apr 18 Conferences

Week Fifteen

M Apr 23 Portfolio Workshop
W Apr 25 Due: Portfolio; deadline for EWP submissions

Final Examination: Thursday, May 3, 2:45-4:45 pm