Spring 1-15-2009

ENG 3001-005: Advanced Composition

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English 3001-005
Advanced Composition
Spring 2009

Dr. Francine McGregor
Coleman Hall 3355
581-6305
fmcgregor@eiu.edu (M-F 8am -2:30pm only)

Office Hours: When my door is open, and M/W/F 10-11:45, and by appointment

About the Course
This course should give you experience with the writing and research skills used by professionals in your field, skills you will apply to specific writing situations throughout the semester. To succeed in this course, you must be willing to work without constant teacher intervention. You will work independently on individualized and group projects and problem solving, and make continual self-assessments as you go. You should develop the following skills this semester: 1) how to give and receive constructive criticism to improve your writing, 2) how to work independently and in groups to meet a deadline, 3) how to employ research processes effectively, 4) how to revise in order to improve the effectiveness of your writing.

Required Texts
Graff, They Say/I Say
Ramage, Writing Arguments, Brief 7th
Truss, Eats, Shoots, & Leaves

Course Requirements/ Evaluation

1) Research Project I 35%
2) Research Project II 35%
3) Presentations (5% each) 10%
4) Class participation (may include quizzes) 20%

There will be no final exam in this class.

Note: You may choose to submit an essay from this course to your Electronic Writing Portfolio. For more information, see me and/or the assessment website (www.eiu.edu/~assess).
Policies

1) The reading/writing/research load for this course is heavy, so make sure you allow yourself plenty of time to complete assignments. Much of what you will learn in this course will come from collaborative work in class so your presence in (and engagement with) the class are essential. Coming to class unprepared will lower your participation grade. It will also lower your grade on any project we are working on in class.

2) Assignments must be typed and must be handed in on the day they are due unless we have worked out a prior arrangement. Work handed in after that time will lose half a letter grade for each calendar day it is late. No work will be accepted a week after the deadline. If you must miss a class, you are still responsible for preparing all work required for the next meeting.

3) You must complete all work for the course in order to receive a passing grade.

Plagiarism Policy

The following 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 original 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 a grade of ‘F’ for the course, and to report the incident to the Judicial Affairs Office.”

While I assume I’ll have no need to impose penalties for plagiarism, the ones I consider appropriate are that the student fail the course and be reported to the Judicial Affairs Office. If at any point in your writing for this course (or for another, if you like) you’re uncertain about whether you’re using sources appropriately, please come to talk to me.

Students with Disabilities

If you have a documented disability and wish to receive academic accommodations, please let me know and please contact the Coordinator of the Office of Disability Services (581-6583) as soon as possible.
Syllabus Through Spring Break

(Changes are likely – I’ll keep you posted)
Unless otherwise indicated, all readings are from Ramage and Bean’s Writing Arguments.

Week 1: (Jan 12-16) room 3130
Ch 4: Core of an Argument

Week 2: (Jan 19-23) room 3120
No class Mon 19 – King’s Birthday
Ch 2: Reading Arguments

Week 3: (Jan 26-30) room 3130
Ch 5: Logical Structure of Arguments

Week 4: (Feb 2-6) room 3120
Ch 17: Using and Documenting Sources

Week 5: (Feb 9-13) room 3130
No class Fri 13 – Lincoln’s Birthday
They Say/I Say, Preface, Introduction, Part I

Week 6: (Feb 16-20) room 3120
Eats, Shoots, & Leaves (pages tba)
Workshops on Independent Projects

Week 7: (Feb 23-27) room 3130
Eats, Shoots, & Leaves (pages tba)
Workshops on Independent Projects

Week 8: (March 2-6) room 3120
Independent Projects are due: mini presentations

Week 9: (March 9-13) room 3130
Discuss Annotated Bibliographies
Meet with project groups

Week 10: (March 16-20)
No Classes – Spring Break
Week 11: (March 23-27) room 3120
   Ch 10: Categorical and Definitional Arguments
   Ch 11: Causal Arguments
   Friday: **Annotated Bibliographies are due**

Week 12: (March 30-April 3) room 3130
   Ch 12: Resemblance Arguments

Week 13: (April 6-10) room 3120
   Ch 13: Evaluation Arguments

Week 14: (April 13-17) room 3130
   Workshops on Final Projects

Week 15: (April 20-24) room 3120
   Workshops on Final Projects

Week 16: (April 27-May 1) room 3130
   Project presentations
   **Final Projects are due**

There is no final exam in this class.

Ch 8: Accommodating your Audience