

Fall 8-15-2008

ENG 3001-006: Advanced Composition

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Recommended Citation

Smith, Jad, "ENG 3001-006: Advanced Composition" (2008). *Fall 2008*. 97.
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Syllabus for English 3001: Advanced Composition, Fall 2008, Section 006

Texts and Materials

Bartholomae and Petrosky, *Ways of Reading: An Anthology for Writers*, 6th ed.
Gibaldi, *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 Thursday, December 11, 2008.

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, peer evaluations, 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

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. 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 two full days 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. After forty-eight hours, the assignment will not be accepted, and you will receive a zero on it. Only in the case of an excused absence may an examination be taken before or after the scheduled date. An absence will be excused in the case of a properly documented illness or emergency, or of properly documented participation in an official university activity. A 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

Explaining Specialized Subject	15%
Group Analysis/Presentation	10%
Review Essay	15%
Job letter and résumé	5%
Portfolio	<u>5%</u>
	50%

Exams and Other Requirements

Mid-term Examination	10%
Comprehensive Final	15%
Average of Peer Reviews	5%
Daily Assignments	10%
Participation	<u>10%</u>
+	50% = 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 must submit all major assignments to receive a passing grade in the class. 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. More than three instances of tardiness this semester will result in the loss of your participation grade.

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 in 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.

<u>Week One</u>	Meet in 3120
T Aug 26	Introduction to the course Introduction to the writing lab
R Aug 28	Excerpt from Introduction (<i>Ways of Reading</i> 1-14, hereafter abbreviated <i>WR</i>) Analytical reading exercise; writing diagnostic
<u>Week Two</u>	Meet in 3130
T Sept 2	Explaining a Specialized Subject (assigned) Reading Workshop: Baldwin, "Notes of a Native Son" (<i>WR</i> 49-68)
R Sept 4	Reading Workshop: Freire, "The 'Banking' Concept of Education" (<i>WR</i> 258-70) Basic Grammar: Clauses, Faulty Sentence Structures, Parallelism
<u>Week Three</u>	(3120)
T Sept 9	Due: source for Explaining a Specialized Subject Avoiding plagiarism exercise Verbs, Agreement, Usage Workshop using source; bring <i>MLA Handbook</i> (hereafter abbreviated <i>MLA</i>)
R Sept 11	Drafting a strong introduction for an Explaining a Specialized Subject paper First draft due: Explaining a Specialized Subject; peer review; bring <i>MLA</i> *A Works Cited page is an integral part of any paper using sources. Always submit one with <i>rough and final</i> drafts of papers.
<u>Week Four</u>	(3130)
T Sept 16	Conferences
R Sept 18	Conferences
<u>Week Five</u>	(3120)
T Sept 23	Final draft due: Explaining a Specialized Subject/ write cover letter Group Analysis and Presentation (assigned) Excerpt from Berger, "Ways of Seeing" (<i>WR</i> 105-7) Begin analysis exercise (magazine advertisements)
R Sept 25	Finish analysis exercise Reading Workshop: Bordo, "Hunger as Ideology" (<i>WR</i> 138-171)
<u>Week Six</u>	(3130)
T Sept 30	Form groups Due: image, be prepared to show/ interpret image Group meeting to do research, plan presentation
R Oct 2	Workshop: formulate overarching interpretation/ theme; create visual aid; finish and practice presentation
<u>Week Seven</u>	(3120)
T Oct 7	Due: Group Analysis/Presentations Group Presentation Peer Evaluations
R Oct 9	Due: Group Analysis/Presentations Group Presentation Peer Evaluations
<u>Week Eight</u>	(3130)
T Oct 14	Review Essay (assigned) Summary vs. Analysis Reading Workshop: Comparing Arguments, Constructing Grids Schwarzbaum and Denby, Reviews of "Pirates of the Caribbean" (provided)
R Oct 16	Mid-term examination

<u>Week Nine</u>	(3120)
T Oct 21	Library instruction
R Oct 23	Due: sources for the Review Essay; bring MLA Exercise using sources
<u>Week Ten</u>	(3130)
T Oct 28	Reading Workshop: reread Freire, "The 'Banking' Concept of Education" (WR 258-70); Rage against the Machine, "Take the Power Back," and Bell Hooks, "Toward a Revolutionary Feminist Pedagogy" (provided)
R Oct 30	Transitions, Conclusions, Concision vs. Wordiness First draft due: Review Essay; peer review; bring <i>MLA</i>
<u>Week Eleven</u>	(3120)
T Nov 4	Conferences
R Nov 6	Conferences
<u>Week Twelve</u>	(3130)
T Nov 11	Final draft due: Review Essay; write cover letter Dangling Modification, Needless Shifts, Mixed Constructions, etc. Job Letter and Résumé (assigned)
R Nov 13	Résumé writing Draft the résumé Search for job ad
<u>Week Thirteen</u>	(3120)
T Nov 18	Due: job ad Writing a letter of application Draft the letter
R Nov 20	Hiring committee exercise First draft due: Job Letter and Résumé; peer review
<u>Fall Break</u>	
TR Nov 25, 27	No classes
<u>Week Fourteen</u>	(3130)
T Dec 2	Final draft due: Job Letter and Résumé Portfolio (assigned); designing a portfolio
R Dec 4	Conferences
<u>Week Fifteen</u>	(3120)
T Dec 9	Portfolio Workshop
R Dec 11	Review for final examination Due: Portfolio; deadline for EWP submissions
<u>Final Exam</u>	Wednesday, December 17, 2:45-4:45 p.m.