ENG 1001G-001-014-020: Composition and Language

Carol Dudley
Eastern Illinois University

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ENGLISH 1001G—FALL 2002

Carol Jean Dudley
Office: 3037 Coleman Hall
Office Phone: 581-6307
Office Hours: Monday, Wednesday, Friday – 9:00-9:50 a.m.
(or by appointment)

The Blair Handbook, 2e. Prentice Hall.
Online: A Reference Guide to Using Internet Sources.

Course Objectives:

English 1002G is a writing centered course in the the reading and writing of expressive, expository, and persuasive essays. Attention is given to effective expression, clear structure, adequate development, and source documentation. Prerequisite = English 1000 or proficiency in basic skills as determined by the English Department. Students who have ACT scores in English of 14 or below, or who have no test scores on file with the university, must pass English 1000 before enrolling in English 1001G. During the semester you will be expected to write and revise often in and out of class, to complete readings as assigned, to participate in class discussions and peer groups, and to complete all assignments on time.

The minimum writing requirement for the course is 5000 words and will include work done both in and out of class. Essays will be evaluated according to “Guidelines for Evaluating Writing Assignments in EIU’s English Department.

Note: As part of EIU’s Core Curriculum, 1001G will be graded A, B, C, NC (no credit). A grade of NC is not figured into a student’s GPA, but a student who receives a grade of NC must re-take the course.

Required Materials:

Since all essays must be typed, you will need multiple disks to save and back up your work. You will also need two folders/organizers—one in which to keep handouts, returned work, etc., and one in the designated color in which to keep your Journal/Responses.

Class Policy:

You will contract for the grade you want to receive in this course. Since our focus will be on revising/rewriting, not just fixing errors, each letter grade has a different set of requirements. Your essays will receive written and verbal evaluation from me at all stages of development, but your letter grade will already have been determined by your signed contract. If you do not fulfill the specifications of the letter grade for which you have contracted, you will drop to the grade for which requirements have been fulfilled.

Contract Terms:

For an A, you must:
1. meet course attendance requirements (see attached policy).
2. make sure that all drafts and rewrites meet with the specifications of the assignment and conform to the basic writing requirements.
3. rewrite three out of four essays.
4. submit ALL Journal/Responses (10).
5. attend one session of each of three writing workshops.
6. complete all requirements of the research project on time.
For a B, you must:
1. do the same as for an A.
2. do the same as for an A.
3. rewrite two out of four essays.
4. submit eight (8) Journal/Responses.
5. attend one session in two of the three workshops
6. complete all requirements of the research project on time.

For a C, you must:
1. do the same as for A and B.
2. do the same as for A and B.
3. rewrite one out of four essays.
4. submit six (6) Journal/Responses.
5. attend one session in one of the three workshops
6. complete all requirements of the research project on time.

For any contracted grade, each essay must have a cover letter which reflects the points that I ask you to revise and the process you used. It must also reflect the most difficult part of the revision.

I will keep records of your rewrites, attendance in class, and completed Journal/Responses. Attached to this syllabus, you will find a form for keeping track of your progress—please keep accurate records.

As your instructor, I have the right to decide if a rewrite is complete and in compliance with the assignment. You may rewrite a total of two times to fulfill your contract. If you have contracted for an A but your revisions contain serious errors, I have the right not to accept those revisions as sufficient and subsequently drop you down to the next contracted grade. At such time, we will discuss your options. We will spend considerable time discussing just what a rewrite or revision is. As we go through the semester, the process will become clearer to you as you move toward your contracted goal.

This is an A, B, C, NC course. If you do not fulfill the minimum requirements for a C contract, you will receive an NC and have to retake the course.

**Attendance**

Regular attendance is essential. You will have four personal days for the semester. If you miss a day, it is your responsibility to contact a classmate to find out what you missed and/or what changes might have been made in our schedule. A missed day does not give you permission to turn work in late. A scheduled EIU function – i.e. sports or academic club-sponsored event – is not counted as a personal day, but I must be notified about such situations one class period before they occur. Serious or prolonged illness or personal problems will be considered on an individual basis. If you miss more than four personal days, you will receive an NC for the course.

**Plagiarism**

Note: The English department’s statement concerning plagiarism.

Any teacher who discovers an act of plagiarism – “The appropriation or imitation of 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 immediate assignment of a grade of F for the course, and to report the incident to the Judicial Affairs Office.

**Special Needs**

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. Also, discuss the matter with me; I will be more than willing to work with you.
GRADE CONTRACTED

PAPERS

PAPER #1- REVISED NOT REVISED

PAPER #2- REVISED NOT REVISED

PAPER #3- REVISED NOT REVISED

PAPER #4- REVISED NOT REVISED

JOURNAL/ RESPONSES

1.  2.  3.  4.  5.  6.  7.  8.  9.  10.

RESEARCH PROJECT DEADLINES

10/16 (#1)  10/28 (Conferences, #2)  11/6 (#3,4,5)
11/20 (Paper Due)

WORKSHOPS

Session #1  Session #2  Session #3
Guidelines for Evaluating Writing Assignments in EIU's English Department

Grades on written work range from A to F. The categories listed below are based on rhetorical principles and assume intellectual responsibility and honesty. Strengths and weaknesses in each area will influence the grade, though individual teachers may emphasize some categories over others and all categories are deeply interrelated.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Focus</th>
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<th>B</th>
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<td>Strengths and weaknesses in each area will influence the grade, though individual teachers may emphasize some categories over others and all categories are deeply interrelated.</td>
<td>Has clearly stated purpose or main idea/thesis quite thoughtfully and/or originally developed within the guidelines of the assignment</td>
<td>Has clearly stated purpose or main idea/thesis developed with some thoughtfulness and/or originality within the guidelines of the assignment</td>
<td>Has a discernible purpose or main idea/thesis which is not very clearly stated and is developed with limited originality and/or thoughtfulness; may have missed or failed to conform to some element of the assignment's guidelines</td>
<td>Has no apparent purpose or main idea/thesis and/or shows little thoughtfulness and/or originality; may not conform to significant elements of the assignment's guidelines</td>
<td>Has no purpose or main idea/thesis; shows little or no thoughtfulness and/or originality; may not conform to the guidelines of the assignment</td>
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| Organization | Supports purpose or main idea with abundant, fresh details; details are specific and appropriate; uses sources well when sources are called for in the assignment | Supports purpose or main idea with sufficient details; details are fairly specific and appropriate; uses sources adequately | Supports purpose or main idea with details, but some parts of the paper are inadequately/ineffectively developed or vague | Makes an attempt to use details to develop purpose or main idea but is, for the most part, inadequately/inappropriately developed | Does not develop main idea; may use sources inadequately/inappropriately |

| Development | Word choices show consideration of purpose and audience; shows thoughtfully and imaginatively constructed sentences; incorporates sources well | Word choices are appropriate to purpose and audience; sentences often constructed thoughtfully and imaginatively; incorporates sources adequately | Word choices are mostly appropriate to purpose and audience; sentences aren't particularly thoughtful or imaginatively constructed; sources may sometimes be awkwardly incorporated | Word choices may be inappropriate to purpose or audience; sources incorporated poorly | Word choices are generally poor; sources are incorrectly or very awkwardly incorporated |

| Style & Awareness of Audience | Has very few grammatical, spelling and punctuation errors; uses appropriate documentation style correctly when necessary for assignment | Has minor grammatical, punctuation or spelling errors that do not interfere with reading of essay; uses appropriate documentation style correctly | Has some grammatical, punctuation and/or spelling errors that occasionally interfere with reading of essay; uses appropriate documentation style but may have some errors | Has grammatical, punctuation and/or spelling errors that make reading difficult; documentation style may be poorly used | Has grammatical, punctuation and/or spelling errors that make reading very difficult; documentation style poorly used |

| Mechanics | Shows abundant evidence of careful planning and drafting and attention to peer and teacher comments | Shows evidence of careful planning and drafting and some attention to peer and teacher comments | Shows some evidence of planning and drafting, though some drafts may be less considered, and some attention to peer and teacher feedback | Shows only a little evidence of planning and drafting and attention to peer and teacher feedback | Shows little or no evidence of planning, drafting, or attention to peer and teacher feedback |
PRIMARY ELEMENTS OF WRITING A GOOD PAPER

THESIS (FOCUS) / ORGANIZATION

DEVELOPMENT (DETAILS / EXAMPLES)

AUDIENCE AWARENESS

STYLE (SYNTAX)

MECHANICS (GRAMMAR, DICTION)

PROCESS

I. Introductory Paragraph—includes formula thesis which provides a preview

II. Body Paragraph #1—consists of a topic sentence and 7-9 additional sentences

III. Body Paragraph #2—consists of a topic sentence and 7-9 additional sentences

IV. Body Paragraph #3—consists of a topic sentence and 7-9 additional sentences

V. Concluding Paragraphs—restates concept of the original thesis in DIFFERENT words and actually draws a conclusion—DOES NOT INCLUDE THE WORD “CONCLUSION”
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CONTRACT

I, ____________________________ (Print), am contracting for a letter grade of _______ for University Foundations-1111, Fall 2002. I have read the contract requirements and understand them and the syllabus.

Signed,

________________________________________

PAPERS

PAPER #1- REVISED _______ NOT REVISED _______

PAPER #2- REVISED _______ NOT REVISED _______

PAPER #3- REVISED _______ NOT REVISED _______

PAPER #4- REVISED _______ NOT REVISED _______

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