Eng 1001G-003-009: Composition and Language

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Composition and Language

English 1001G                         Monday, Wednesday, Fridays 9:00-9:50
Email: clbkj@eiu.edu                  Section: 003
Office: Coleman Hall                  Office: 3361
Instructor: Bridget Johnson
Office Hours: MWF-10:00-10:50, 1:00-1:50
Office Phone: 581-6312

Course Description

Welcome to English 1001G, the ETIC (English Technology-Integrated Classrooms). This is a writing-centered course designed for the purpose of helping you become a more effective writer, as well as reader and thinker. Fortunately, we will have the opportunity to spend half of our time in the computer lab and half in a regular setting classroom. Please note which classroom we will be in from week to week in the course outline below.

In this composition class, you will be asked to write a number of informal and formal essays, respond to peer writing, complete a group project, develop a writing portfolio and participate in class discussions. This class, in particular, will focus on increasing your understanding of the role writing has and will play in your life. In other words, you will examine what it means to read, respond, and think critically on subjects relating to the writing task. In approaching these issues, we will write from our personal experiences as well as conduct research on the beliefs held by others. The following is a list of goals/objectives we will work towards throughout the course of the semester.

Course Objectives:

- **Writing** – to go beyond creating the five paragraph essay and yet still write essays in a clear, logical and organized manner, applying all parts of the writing process, including pre-writing, researching, writing, and revising.

- **Responding** – to be able to respond constructively to your peers’ writing, to course assignments, and especially to your own strengths and weaknesses.

- **Critical thinking** – to be able to listen to the opinions and beliefs of others who may hold cultural, ethical and social values much different than your own – and in listening, be able to explore your own thoughts on these particular issues.

Texts and Materials

Colombo, et al. *Rereading America: Cultural Contexts for Critical Thinking and Writing*
Dunbar-Odom. *Working With Ideas: Reading, Writing, and Researching Experience*
Hacker, Diana. *A Writer’s Reference*
Harneck, Andrew and Eugene Kleppinger. *Online! A Reference Guide to using Internet Sources*

Since we will be spending half of our time in the computer classroom, you will need to purchase one formatted 3 ½” floppy disk. You should have your disk by the second class meeting.
**Grading**

Your grade in this course will be based not only on the quantity but also quality of work you do. First, you will be required to write three formal essays, all at varying lengths. You will be allowed to revise these papers and turn them in for a higher grade throughout the course of the semester. All I ask is that you do not turn in all three essays to me during the final weeks. Remember, writing is a process and revision should be approached as part of this overall process.

In addition, you will be required to complete two peer reviews per essay, and complete an interview and group project. To add, you will be asked to hand in a Writing Portfolio at the end of the semester. So make sure you save all of your material for each assignment. We will discuss this further during the first few weeks of class. Finally, you will be asked throughout the semester to conduct in and/or out-of-class writing, take quizzes, and complete additional small writing/reading projects. There will be no final exam in this course. Refer to the following handout, “Guidelines for Evaluating Writing Assignments in EIU’s English Department” to determine how grading will be evaluated in this class. You must earn a “C” or better in order to pass this course. Anything lower than a “C” will earn you an “NC” (No Credit) and you will have to take this course again.

**Grading Scale:**

The following is a breakdown of points for this class.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignment</th>
<th>Points</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Essay #1</td>
<td>100 points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Essay #2</td>
<td>100 points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Essay #3</td>
<td>200 points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interview Project</td>
<td>100 points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Collaborative Group Research Project</td>
<td>150 points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Peer Reviews</td>
<td>100 points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Writing Portfolio</td>
<td>50 points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Misc. (e.g., out-of-class writing which will be assigned)</td>
<td>50 points</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total 850 points

**The Grading Scale:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade Range</th>
<th>Grade</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>765 - 850 Points</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>680 - 764 Points</td>
<td>B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>595 - 679 Points</td>
<td>C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>594 or below</td>
<td>N/C</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Attendance:** Your participation and attendance is critical and needed in order to do well in this course. However, you are allowed to have 3 unexcused absences without them affecting your final grade. For each missed unexcused absence after that, your grade will drop one full letter grade. Unless you have an excused absence, I will not accept late work in this class. You will automatically receive no credit for the assignment due on that particular day. As a result, please try to make an effort to attend every scheduled class date. If you have an excused absence (e.g., illness) you will need to meet with me as soon as you return to class, so that you can make up the work. It is your responsibility to come see me about a missed or late assignment.
Plagiarism

Please note the English Department’s statement on 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 Department of the English Language)—has the right and the responsibility to impose upon the guilty student an appropriate penalty, up to and including immediate assignments, of a grade of F for the assigned essay and a grade of F for the course and to report the incident to the Judicial Affairs Office.

Students with Disabilities

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.

Questions/Concerns

During the course of the semester, you may have questions/concerns regarding assignments or class discussions. If so, please do not hesitate to stop by my office to talk to me or email me your questions. Remember, we are all here to help each other become better at the skill and art of writing.

Course Syllabus

The syllabus below is tentative. We cannot always determine what technical issues will occur in the computer lab, or how far we get in class discussion. So while we will attempt to closely follow this schedule, at times, it may be subject to change.

Week 1 Room 3210

M (1/13) Introduction to Course
    Speaking vs. Writing discussion
    Assignment: Letter to Instructor defining yourself as a writer. Bring hard copy and disk with copy to class.

W (1/15) Discussion on writing samples, Discuss Pre-writing strategies
    Assignment: Revise writing. Bring both first and second draft to class

F (1/17) Looking at both versions of the assignment. Discussion on audience. Turn in reflective assignment

Week 2 Room 3140

M (1/20) No Class for Martin Luther King’s B-Day

W (1/22) Discussion on Narration. What are the characteristics of a narrative? How are they similar/different from a reflective essay? When and where can Narratives be helpful?
    Assignment: Develop a brief narrative to bring to class

F (1/24) Discussion on thesis statements. Develop thesis statements (informative, persuasive etc.)
    Assignment: Compose an introduction, with thesis statement, giving a supporting narrative example.
Week 3 Room 3210

M (1/27) Writing Workshop on Essay #1 - Narration
Assignment: Continue to work on Essay #1

W (1/29) Grammar Workshop –
Assignment: Bring 2 hard copies of Essay #1 to Class

F (1/31) Peer Review Groups
Assignment: Revise essays and turn in polished copies on Monday

Week 4 Room 3140

M (2/3) Essay #1 due – Discuss elements of a persuasive essay
Assignment: Write a letter to parents- roommates etc. persuading him/her to either do or believe something with which you feel strongly about.

W (2/5) Share letters in small group? What elements are clear/missing?
Assignment: Essay #2 – Persuasive essay

F (2/7) Grammar Workshop –
Assignment: Bring 2 copies of Essay #2 to class

Week 5 Room 3210

M (2/10) Peer Review Groups – Revisions
Assignment: Polished Version of Essay #2 due

W (2/12) Discussion on Interviews and characteristics/tactics
Assignment: Write a paragraph describing the field you are interested in. Construct a series of interview questions to help you discover what types of writing is expected of that profession. Conduct on-line research to further help. You may even want to establish an on-line contact. See if your contact will share writing samples with you. You may even want to explore specific positions at a company etc.

F (2/14) No Class – in recognition of Lincoln’s b-day

Week 6 Room 3140

M (2/17) Analysis of findings? Develop a thesis statement. Use quotations as often as possible to help to help illustrate your points.
Assignment: hard copy of draft is due on Wednesday, 2/19

W (2/19) Peer Reviews on Analysis. Determine what else is needed
Assignment: Contact the interviewees if needed or seek additional on-line information. You may want to consult with Career Seeker. Redraft project and hand in polished copy on 2/21

F (2/21) Discussion of Group project internet/ library research project. Divide into groups
Assignment: Determine area for research and work on group proposal. Make a list of sources you need to consult? Interview questions? Library research?

Week 7 Room 3210

M (2/24) Proposals for project due. Discussion on Internet reliability. Determine structure of your project.
Assignment: Collect journal articles/research data from library
**W (2/26)** Examine periodicals/data. Discussion on in-text documentation. Bring *AWR* to class.
Assignment: Continue to work on Project proposal and begin developing itinerary, budget and packing list information. Write as much as you can on subject individually and bring your writing to class on 2/28. Keep individual writing to turn in with project.

**F (2/28)** Group/Writing Workshop- Work with group to develop analysis/itinerary etc..
Assignment: Bring all data to group conferences

**Week 8 – Conferences**

**M (3/3 - 3-7)**
- Bring all data to conference. All members must be present to conference.

**Week 9 – (3/10 – 3/14) Spring Break – No Classes**

**Week 10 Room 3210**

**M (3/17)** Bring a list of sources to construct works cited page. Also bring *AWR* to class.
Assignment: Final Project Due on Friday 3/21

**W (3/19) Oral Presentations**

**F (3/21) Continue Oral Presentations. Final group Projects due**

**Week 11 Room 3140**

**M (3/24)** Complete presentations if necessary. Essay # 3. Distribute a list of possible topics. Free Write on topics.
Assignment: Develop chosen topics for essay. Begin to gather necessary sources from on-line information, periodicals, books, journals, etc. that are helpful to your topic. Bring materials to class.

**W (3/26) Discussion** on Reading Responses – incorporating – quotations, paraphrases, summaries into our research.
Assignment: Continue to take notes/reading responses on each of the periodicals/books you are examining. You will need a minimum of ten sources.

**F (3/28) Developing** Outline for essay – discuss planning, drafting – how to introduce narratives to help support your points etc.
Assignment: Continue to work on gathering research. Bring information and disk to class on Monday.

**Week 12 Room 3210**

**M (3/31)** Writing Workshop – Bring in any individual questions you have regarding research and/or writing project.

**W (4/2)** Grammar Workshop –
Assignment: Continue to draft essay outside of class.

**F (4/4) Small Groups – Identify any missing links. What voices have been omitted that should be heard? Is enough background information provided to establish the purpose? Is there a clear thesis, paragraph development?**
Assignment: Bring in 2 copies of rough draft to class on Monday 4/7.
Week 13 Room 3140

M (4/7) Peer Reviews for Essay #3
    Assignment: Continue to Revise

W (4/9) Complete Peer Reviews for Essay #3
    Assignment: Polish Essay #3 – include pre-writing, rough drafts, reading responses, final draft

F (4/11) Essay #3 due- Develop letter to instructor regarding Essay #3

Week 14 Room 3210

M (4/14) Discussion on Writer’s Autobiography – examining the writing done this semester in your coursework. How do you get started on a writing project? Do you feel more confident as a writer? How do you feel about responding to others’ writing? About others responding to your writing? These questions and more will be addressed in your autobiography? I will give you an outline in class.
    Assignment: Free write for autobiography in class. Bring in notes and disk to class on 4/16

    Assignment: Polish Essay. Bring formatted disk to class

F (4/18) Peer Reviews and Revisions in class.
    Assignment: Gather all material for Writing Portfolio, including all polished versions of essays, and final group projects.

Week 15 Room 3140

M (4/21) Return research projects. What is research? What sources are reliable?
    Assignment: Bring all materials for writing portfolio to class, including table of contents, and quoted page

    Assignment: Assigned Reading assignment

F (4/25) Small response groups – drawing conclusions – what does it mean to be a critical writer, reader and thinker?
    Assignment: Bring in final draft for essay #3, along with disk. Also bring in disk of essay with which you want to submit to your electronic portfolio.

Week 16 Room 3210

M (4/28) Return autobiographies. Work on Revisions for essay #3 and/or essay you choose to submit to electronic portfolio. If you have not already, you will retrieve the necessary submitted form. Bring disk to class on 4/30

W (4/30) Work on Reflective letter and course analysis
    Assignment: Complete Reflective assignment and bring to class

F (5/2) Reflective Assignment due. Small and large group discussion on the role writing plays in our lives.