ENG 1001G-006-021: Composition and Language

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English 1001G--Composition & Language
Kathy Olsen
Fall 2007
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office hours: MWF 8:30-9 a.m. & 10-10:40 a.m. or by appointment

texts:
The Blair Handbook
The Norton Reader
Writing Analytically
Merriam Webster Collegiate Dictionary
Online! A Reference guide to Using Internet Sources

COURSE DESCRIPTION

English 1001G is a writing-centered course in which you will write as well as read expressive, expository, and argumentative essays of varying length. The reading and writing will take place both in and outside of class. During the semester we'll focus on learning how to organize, articulate, and develop your thoughts clearly and effectively; we'll also work with online sources: how to find and use, how to judge quality, etc. Additionally, you will write several papers that will involve use and documentation of outside sources, and you'll also do some collaborative writing.

There will be quizzes given on the reading material. The frequency of these quizzes can, in part, be controlled by you. If, through discussion, writing assignments, etc., it appears that you are reading and thinking about the assigned material, the number of quizzes will decrease. Slack off on the reading, however, and back come the quizzes....

COMPUTER INFO

This particular section of English 1001G is computer-assisted; some of the reading and much of the writing will be performed on the Gateway computers in CH 3210 (for the 12:00 class) or CH 3120 (for the 9:00 class), although of course you'll be working outside of class on assignments too. We will alternate classrooms on a weekly basis: one week in the computer lab (3210 or 3120), aka the "ETIC", followed by one week in the traditional classroom (3140 or 3130). I tried to set it up so that we will be in the computer lab on the days when you are scheduled to work on rough drafts, do peer editing, perform research, etc. Your syllabus tells you where you need to be each day—check it before you come to class!
At the beginning of the semester we'll spend time discussing how to store and access material and information regarding this class (e.g. assignments, drafts, and so on).

Please be aware that we may encounter occasional unavoidable technology-related problems and as a result may have to make sudden changes in the day's plan or in the syllabus.

**GRADING:**

I. NOTE: To pass English 1001G, you must have a grade of A, B, or C at the end of the semester. Anything below constitutes a mark of "NC" ("no credit") and will result in you having to retake the course.

NOTE: An "NC" is not factored into your semester or cumulative GPA. For example, an "A" would count as a 4.0, a "B" as a 3.0, and so on, but an NC would simply show that you took the class but did not pass/did not receive credit.

II. In my class the final grade will be determined like this:

   20% on quizzes, short homework and in-class writing assignments
   10% on class participation
   70% on essays (the first week's diagnostic essay is not graded. The first three essays are worth 10% each. The research paper is worth 20%, as is the final argument essay)

III. You will have the option of revising ONE of your first three essays. I will average the grade from the original with the grade on the revision. This new grade will replace the original or first grade. (e.g. if on Essay # 3 you first receive a C, and on the revision you get an A, the final grade for Essay # 3 is a B.)

IV. I use the Guidelines for Evaluating Writing Assignments in EIU's English Dept., a copy of which will be given to you. We will review and discuss these standards before your first graded essay is due, as well as throughout the semester.

V. You MUST turn in a research paper in order to be considered for a passing or a failing grade. Please understand that simply turning in a research paper does not guarantee a passing grade. Failure to turn in a research paper will automatically result in a grade of NC for the semester.

VI. If you fail to turn in one of the non-research essays and do not have a legitimate excuse, the grade for that assignment will consist of two F's instead of one; I don't think it's fair to give equal grades to someone who at least attempted
the assignment but may have had problems, and someone who didn't even bother to make the effort.

**ATTENDANCE AND LATE WORK**

Attendance and participation are very important; this is not strictly a lecture class. I expect you to be prepared to discuss and question the material covered in class and in your writing and reading. If you are unable to attend class due to illness or other legitimate excuse (e.g. a true emergency, unsafe travel condition for commuters—not those walking from the dorms!—or participation in a recognized University-sponsored activity for which I have been notified in advance), **it is your responsibility to contact me about make-up work.** If you are ill or an emergency arises and you have to leave town, you must contact me ASAP so that I am aware of the situation. (This is something you should also do with your other instructors.) If you miss several consecutive classes and I don't hear from you, I have to assume that a) you have fallen off the face of the earth and therefore will receive a failing grade, or b) that you have dropped the class. In most cases work cannot be made up in situations such as this. It is not realistic to assume that you can miss three, four, five classes in a row with no excused absence and/or contact and still pass the class. I will accept late work (homework and essays) **only if you have an excused absence**—that is, a legitimate illness or situations such as the aforementioned.

Repeated failure to bring appropriate material (e.g. correct textbook, essay draft, etc.) and/or habitual tardiness will get you dismissed from that day's class.

I do give you the option of turning in **ONE** non-research essay of your choice one class day late. For example, if the essay is due on Monday I will accept it at the start of class on Wednesday but no later. **Unless prior arrangements have been made, you must be in class to turn in the paper—no sliding it into my mailbox or office. Other than this one instance, I will not accept late work unless you have an excused absence.** Quizzes are given at the start of class, so be on time, as these cannot be made up unless you have the excused absence.

Please note that oversleeping and rides going home for the weekend are NOT excused absences!

**CLASSROOM ETIQUETTE and CELL PHONES**

A few words about computer etiquette: please show respect and do not turn on/work on the computer unless I have said that the class could do so. Do not rush ahead of everyone; and, most emphatically, pornography, game-playing,
surfing the Net, catching up on your e-mail, etc. will absolutely not be tolerated while class is in session.

Make sure cell phones are turned off while you're in class. No texting, checking messages, etc. during class.

If you need me to return your phone call, please do not leave a long-distance cell phone number. **I cannot make long-distance calls from my office.** Instead, leave me a dorm room number (581-xxxx), an email address, or speak to me during class or office times.

**CONFERENCES**
Twice this semester there will be mandatory individual conferences during which we'll discuss your writing, progress, grade, etc. They will be held near midterm time and during work on the research paper. We will not meet for class on conference days.

NOTE: I encourage you to schedule an appointment or just stop by my office throughout the semester if you have questions or difficulties with an assignment. I can usually meet at times other than my "official" office hours.

**ESSAYS**
Essays are to be done on computer. Final versions must be printed out. Papers need to be double-spaced with one-inch margins. Include name, essay number, date, and a creative title. You also will need to include additional material such as peer editing sheets and audience analysis page. (These will be discussed in class before your begin your first essay.) **Essays are due at the beginning of class. They must be printed out before you come to class.**

**EIJU POLICY 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"--has the right and 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. Respect for the work of others should encompass all formats, including print, electronic, and oral sources."

**FINAL EXAM**
Yahoo! There is no final exam in English 1001! We will not meet for class during finals week.
ELECTRONIC WRITING PORTFOLIO
As an EIU graduation requirement, you are required to submit one essay per year to the electronic writing portfolio. The first EWP document (e.g. during your freshman year) must come from a 1000-level class that's classified as writing-intensive (e.g. English 1001). If you wish to submit an essay that you have written for my class, you must do so during the semester that you are enrolled in the course. You must also discuss it with me, obtain my signature on the appropriate documents, etc. before Thanksgiving break. I will not be able to discuss EWP material during the last week of the semester, as well as during finals week. You will receive more EWP details during the semester, and/or you can check out the website at www.eiu.edu/~access for further information.

WRITING CENTER
Occasionally I may refer you to the Writing Center, located on the third floor of Coleman Hall. The trained English graduate assistants are there to help you--free of charge(who ever said that nothing in life is free?)--with grammar, punctuation, and essay problems. THEY ARE NOT PROOFREADERS.

DOCUMENTED DISABILITIES
If you have a documented disability and wish to receive academic accommodations, please let me know about it; you should also contact the Coordinator of the Office of Student Disability Services (581-6583) as soon as possible.
COURSE SYLLABUS

PLEASE NOTE: Assignments are to be completed by the date on which they appear on the syllabus. This is a tentative syllabus; changes may be made as needed throughout the semester. Bring book(s) to class if requested or if a reading assignment is due that day.

We alternate classrooms on a weekly basis.(3120 = lab; 3130= reg. classroom)

| WA = Writing Analytically          |
| NR = The Norton Reader             |
| Blair = The Blair Handbook         |

WEEK ONE—CH 3120
M(8/20) course introduction, policies
W(8/22) in-class diagnostic writing
F(8/24) audience, purpose. Read Blair pp.

WEEK TWO—3130
W(8/29) thesis. Read WA pp 198-207

WEEK THREE—3120
M(9/3) LABOR DAY—NO SCHOOL
W(9/5) Read & discuss “Laundry”(handed out in class.) Discuss Essay # 1 topic
F(9/7) in-class work on essay # 1 draft. Bring required materials. (TBA)

WEEK FOUR—3130
M(9/10) revising, proofreading. Read Blair pp.
W(9/12) in-class peer editing of Essay # 1 drafts. Bring required materials. TBA
F(9/14) Essay # 1 DUE. Selective detail. Read Blair pp. Discuss essay # 2 topic.

WEEK FIVE—3120
M(9/17) Read and discuss “Soup” and “True Worker” (both handed out in class)
W(9/19) in-class work on essay # 2 draft
F(9/21) better sentences: Read Blair 390-394. Bring WA to class.
WEEK SIX-3130
M(9/24) peer editing. Bring required materials
W(9/26) introduce Essay # 3 topic. Read “Paper or Plastic” (Handed out in class)
F(9/28) ESSAY # 2 DUE. Meet at Booth Library south doors (the side by the clock tower) for day in e-classroom (tentative). DON'T GO TO OUR CLASSROOM!!

WEEK SEVEN-3120
M(10/1) documenting intro. Bring Blair to class. Sign up for midterm conferences
W(10/3) more documenting. Bring Blair
F(10/5) more documenting. Bring Blair.

WEEK EIGHT-
M(10/8) CLASS WILL NOT MEET FOR THE NEXT FEW DAYS; INSTEAD
W(10/10) COME TO MY OFFICE (3055) FOR A MANDATORY
F(10/12) MIDTERM CONFERENCE. BRING DRAFT OF ESSAY # 3.
(REMEMBER NO SCHOOL ON FRI—FALL BREAK!)

WEEK NINE-3120
M(10/15) NO CLASS-CONFERENCES
W(10/17) NO CLASS-CONFERENCES
F(10/19) ESSAY # 3 DUE. Class resumes. Collaborative research discussion.

WEEK TEN-3130
W(10/24) turn in tentative proposal for group research topic. Discuss weird punctuation.
F(10/26) students show class examples of good and bad online sources.

WEEK ELEVEN—3120
M(10/29) 1st progress/notecard check. Requirements TBA.
W(10/31) prog. check/in-class work continues. GROUP CONFERENCE SIGN-UP
F(11/2) LAST DAY TO TURN IN OPTIONAL REVISION. In-class work today.

WEEK TWELVE-3130
M(11/5) NO CLASSES THIS WEEK; INSTEAD, MEET WITH ME FOR GROUP
W(11/7) CONFERENCES R.E. RESEARCH PAPER. REQUIRED MATERIAL
F(11/9) WILL BE ANNOUNCED IN CLASS. (MEET IN 3130)

WEEK THIRTEEN-3120
M(11/12) last day for in-class work, questions, etc.
W(11/14) RESEARCH ESSAY (AND ALL REQUIRED MATERIALS—SOURCES, OUTLINE, ETC.) DUE AT THE START OF CLASS APA doc. review
F(11/16) TBA
WEEK FOURTEEN-
11/19  Thanksgiving Break! Enjoy!
11/21
11/23

WEEK FIFTEEN-3130
W(11/28) more argument. Discuss essay # 5 topic. Read Blair pp 120-129
F(11/30) Read “Why Shouldn’t Society...” and “An Adventure In Equality” (handed out in class.)

WEEK SIXTEEN-3120
M(12/3) in-class work on Essay # 5 draft
W(12/5) Essay # 5 due.
W(12/7) TBA

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M(8/20) course introduction, policies  
W(8/22) in-class diagnostic writing  
F(8/24) audience, purpose. Read Blair pp.

**WEEK TWO—3140**
W(8/29) thesis. Read WA pp. 198-207

**WEEK THREE—3210**
M(9/3) LABOR DAY—NO SCHOOL  
W(9/5) Read & discuss “Laundry”(handed out in class.) Discuss Essay # 1 topic  
F(9/7) in-class work on essay # 1 draft. Bring required materials. (TBA)

**WEEK FOUR—3140**
M(9/10) revising, proofreading. Read Blair pp.  
W(9/12) in-class peer editing of Essay # 1 drafts. Bring required materials. TBA  
F(9/14) Selective detail. Read Blair pp. Discuss essay # 2 topic.

**WEEK FIVE—3210**
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M(9/24) peer editing. Bring required materials
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W(11/7) CONFERENCES R.E. RESEARCH PAPER. REQUIRED MATERIAL
F(11/9) WILL BE ANNOUNCED IN CLASS. (MEET IN 3140)

WEEK THIRTEEN-3210
M(11/12) last day for in-class work, questions, etc.
W(11/14) RESEARCH ESSAY (AND ALL REQUIRED MATERIALS—SOURCES,
OUTLINE, ETC.) DUE AT THE START OF CLASS I APA doc. review
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