English 1001G—Composition & Language
Fall 2012
sec 007 9-9:50 MWF CH 3140/3210
sec 024 12:00-12:50 MWF CH3140/3210

office hours: MWF 10-10:50 a.m. and 1-2. Fridays also 11-12 or by appointment.

texts:
Faigley’s Writing: A Guide For College and Beyond, 3rd ed.
Graff and Birkinstein’s They Say, I Say
The Little, Brown Handbook
The Norton Reader, 13th ed.

* You will also need one simple 2-pocket folder.

COURSE DESCRIPTION
English 1001G is a writing-centered course for which you will also spend, both in and outside of class, quite a bit of time reading material of varying lengths. Reading assignments will come from professional writers, essayists, and journalists; you will also be exposed to student essays found in textbooks as well as work written by your peers in this class. Knowing how to read critically will assist you when it comes to your own writing, both in and in addition to this course.

Your writing will take place both in and outside of class and will include shorter in-class assignments as well as the various stages of work that lead up to finished essays. During the semester we’ll focus on learning how to organize, articulate, and develop your thoughts clearly and effectively in expository, expressive, and argumentative prose; we’ll also work with online sources: how to find appropriate ones, how to judge quality, how best to use information from them, etc. Additionally, you will write several papers that will involve research and documentation of outside sources. Finally, some in-class writing as well as one research project will be done collaboratively.

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....

This section of English 1001G is computer-assisted; some of the reading, writing, and research will be performed on the computers in CH 3210, 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 traditional classroom (CH 3140), followed by the next week in the aforementioned computer lab (3210). Your syllabus tells you where you need to be each day—check it before you come to class!

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
20% on class participation, preparation, attitude
60% on essays (the first week's diagnostic essay is not graded. The first two 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 two 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 # 2 you first receive a C, and on the revision you get an A, the final grade for
Essay # 2 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.

VII. Please do not hesitate to ask if you have questions about a grade on an assignment; I do ask,
however, that you wait one full day before coming to my office or setting up an appointment for
this. This will give you time to fully read and think about the comments I have written throughout
the essay that are meant to give you an understanding of an assignment's strengths and/or
weaknesses.

ATTENDANCE AND PREPARATION

Much of what you will learn from this class will come from daily discussion, collaborative work,
lecture, and, as time permits, individualized attention to your writing questions. Therefore,
attendance, preparation, and participation are very important. You are expected to be on time to
each class, bring the appropriate material (textbook, rough draft, homework, etc.) listed on your
syllabus for that day, and be prepared to discuss and question the material for that day.

Being physically present but not bringing required material, not participating, routinely coming in
late, sleeping, etc. will not help you when it comes to your grade for
participation/preparation/attitude. Use of phones/texting/headphones is prohibited unless you are
adding a date to an electronic calendar. It is up to my discretion what constitutes acceptable and
unacceptable behavior. Actions such as the aforementioned may get you dismissed from that
day's class, especially if the behavior becomes a pattern.

The classroom door will be shut at five minutes after the hour, so make sure to be on time. If you
are late the door will not be opened for you. Exceptions may include the following: if you know that
you have an exam in the class immediately preceding ours, if you have an advising appointment,
etc. and may be late, please inform me before class if possible.

LATE WORK AND ABSENCES

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 have been ill, have had to travel
for softball, football, etc., I am certainly willing to work with you in terms of class assignments as long as you contact me and show documentation. I am not inclined to work with or be lenient toward someone who has missed several days (and/or weeks) worth of class and has not been in contact and/or does not have an excuse approved by me.

I will accept late work (homework and essays) only if you have an excused absence—that is, a legitimate illness or situations such as those mentioned earlier.

For this class, you have a total of three personal days which may be used at your discretion without penalty. HOWEVER, YOU MAY NOT USE YOUR PERSONAL DAYS ON DATES WHEN AN ESSAY OR ROUGH DRAFT IS DUE (meaning, you cannot miss on an in-class work day), WHEN YOU HAVE A CONFERENCE SCHEDULED, OR DAYS WHEN YOU ARE WORKING ON YOUR GROUP RESEARCH PROJECT. If your ride is leaving early, if you have a wedding to attend or a non-school-related trip, etc., these are times when it may be wise to use one of your personal days. Please note that you are responsible for getting class notes, handouts, etc. from the day you missed. Quizzes given on a personal day may not be made up.

If you use all three personal days and have additional absences that are not excused (that is, if you "blow off" class), you automatically fail the class.

I do give you the option of turning in either your first or second essay 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. Other than this one instance, I will not accept late work unless you have an excused absence. Unless prior arrangements have been made, you must be in class to turn in the paper—no having a friend turn it in, no putting it into my mailbox or under my office door.

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!

EMAIL contact

Please try to use your EIU email account when corresponding with me electronically; sometimes student email sent from other accounts (hotmail, yahoo, etc.) is blocked or sent to my spam folder.

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 and DEADLINES

Papers need to be double-spaced with one-inch margins and a size 10-12 font. Include name, essay number, date, and a creative title. You also will need to include additional material such as peer editing sheets and essay description/purpose page. (These will be discussed in class before you begin your first essay.) Essays are due at the beginning of class. They must be printed out before you come to class. If you are late to class on the day an essay is due, the first time it will count as your one “free” late essay. After that, if you are late again on the day an essay is due, it will not be accepted unless I consider it a valid excuse. Waiting until the last minute to finish writing or printing your essay, running out of printer ink, a jammed printer, waking up late, not being able to open your document, etc. are not considered valid excuses. Give yourself plenty of time to get this stuff done early!
EUI 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."

We will spend time discussing how to avoid inadvertent plagiarism and how to properly document sources using MLA guidelines.

Please, please be careful when having a friend or relative help you with and/or proofread your paper or other writing assignments. While of course it’s helpful to have someone point out problem areas, it can be considered plagiarism if that person (instead of you) is the one who actually makes the changes. Actions such as this take away your “ownership” of the paper, especially when much of the wording is no longer yours. Work on making suggested changes yourself, ask questions during class or my office hours, look in your textbook (e.g. check out the Little, Brown Handbook if you’re not sure about a punctuation situation) and/or visit the Writing Center.

FINA L 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, and it must be a traditional-style essay (e.g. no collaborative work, no creative writing, etc.). 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. Essays submitted from my class for the EWP must be turned in to the EWP site by the deadline I announce in class and/or on the syllabus. I cannot accept or score any essays turned in after this date. This will allow all of us to be able to focus on final English 1001 assignments/essays, etc. for the last couple of weeks of the semester. 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.

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.

I look forward to working with and getting to know you this semester! Please feel free to make an appointment or just stop by during my office hours if you have any questions.
PLEASE NOTE: This is a tentative syllabus; changes may be made as needed and will be announced in class. Assignments are due at the start of class time on the date on which they appear on the syllabus. Remember to bring appropriate materials listed for each day—a particular textbook, a rough draft, etc.—and, finally, don’t forget that we switch classrooms on a weekly basis.

*PLEASE ALSO OBTAIN A SIMPLE 2-POCKET FOLDER IN WHICH YOU WILL TURN IN EACH ESSAY AND REQUIRED MATERIALS.

**TEXTBOOKS FOR THE COURSE:**

TSIS = They Say, I Say
LB = The Little, Brown Handbook
WAG = Faigley’s Writing: A Guide For College and Beyond
Norton = The Norton Reader

**WEEK ONE—CH3140**
M(8/20) course introduction, policies
W(8/22) in-class diagnostic writing
F(8/24) views on writing. Read in Norton pp 443-445 Stephen King’s “On Writing”. (Remember to bring book to class!)

**WEEK TWO—CH3210**
M(8/27) Read WAG pp 5-17. Genre, purpose, audience.
F(8/31) Read WAG pp 138-139. Observation and angle of vision. Discuss Essay # 1 topic.

**WEEK THREE—CH3140**
M(9/3) LABOR DAY—no school
W(9/5) Read WAG pp 74-75“My Hips, My Caderas.” Sensory details. Discuss essay grading standards.
F(9/7) Read WAG ch. 3 pp 33-39. Discuss in-class work requirements for next week. Also discuss thesis, outline, point of view.

**WEEK FOUR—CH3210**
M(9/10) in-class work day on rough draft. Bring required materials.
W(9/12) in-class peer editing. Bring two print copies of your draft to share.
F(9/14) ESSAY #1 DUE for 9:00 CLASS. Read WAG pp. 61-63 & 92-98. Also review comma splices, colons, semicolons.

**WEEK FIVE—CH3140**
M(9/17) ESSAY # 1 DUE for 12:00 CLASS. Read LB pp 50-61. Revising, editing.
W(9/19) Read WAG pp 85-91 “Mother Tongue.” Discuss Essay # 2 topic.
F(9/21) Read Norton pp 405-410 “Aria”. Also Bring WAG to class. Discuss MLA citations. Sign up for midterm conferences.
WEEK SIX—CH3210
M(9/24) More discussion of MLA citations. Bring WAG to class.
W(9/26) CLASS WILL NOT MEET THE REST OF THIS WEEK. INSTEAD, MEET IN MY OFFICE—3055
F(9/28) COLEMAN—FOR MANDATORY MIDTERM CONFERENCES. BRING REQUIRED MATERIALS.
(REQUIREMENTS WILL BE ANNOUNCED IN CLASS.)

WEEK SEVEN
M(10/1) CLASS WILL NOT MEET THIS WEEK.
W(10/3) MEET IN MY OFFICE WHEN YOUR MANDATORY CONFERENCE IS SCHEDULED.
F(10/5) FALL BREAK—no school

NOTE: DUE DATES FOR ESSAY # 2 WILL BE STAGGERED. HERE IS THE SCHEDULE:

- If you had a conference on or between Tues. 9/26 – Friday 9/28, your essay is due WED. 10/3.
- If you had a conference on or between Mon. 10/1 —Thurs. 10/4, your essay is due MON. 10/8.
- If you had a conference on or between Mon. 10/8—Wed. 10/10, your essay is due FRI 10/12 IN CLASS.
- **TO TURN IN ESSAYS, PLEASE PUT IN MY MAILBOX IN COLEMAN HALL or BRING IT TO MY OFFICE AND PUT IT ON MY DESK, UNDER MY DOOR, OR IN BOX OUTSIDE OFFICE BY 1:00 p.m. on DUE DATE. (*If essay is due Friday, 10/12, turn it in at start of class.)

WEEK EIGHT—CH3210
M(10/8) NO CLASS TODAY. CONFERENCES.
W(10/10) NO CLASS TODAY. LAST DAY OF CONFERENCES.
F(10/12) Return to class! Read WAG ch. 18 pp 552-555. Introduce collaborative research project (aka Essay # 3).

WEEK NINE—CH3140
M(10/15) Continue research discussion: notecards, sources, etc. Bring LB textbook to class.
W(10/17) Do not meet in classroom today; instead, meet at south lobby of Booth Library (the doors near the clock tower) for session in the e-classroom.* Read WAG ch 20 pp 567-577 for today.
F(10/19) Class will not meet today. At your chosen location, work on research/topic selection with your group members.

WEEK TEN—CH3210
M(10/22) Each group must turn in one copy of their research topic proposal at the start of class. Read WAG ch 21 pp 578-583. Credibility of sources.
W(10/24) in-class work researching, note taking. Bring appropriate materials. Review source credibility.
F(10/26) Notecard check. Bring required amount as previously announced in class. Also bring appropriate project materials to work on.
WEEK ELEVEN—CH3140
M(10/29) Second day of notecard checks. Same as for Friday 10/26.
W(10/31) Discuss annotated bibliography. Read WAG pp 584-585. Also, each group presents to the class one “good”/credible source and one “bad”/untrustworthy/inappropriate source.
F(11/2) Continue group presentations of good/bad sources. Also turn in copy of your group’s meeting schedule. SIGN UP FOR GROUP CONFERENCES.

WEEK TWELVE—CH3210
M(11/5) *OPTIONAL REVISIONS DUE. (REMEMBER TO ALSO TURN IN ORIGINAL VERSION.) CLASS WILL W(11/7) NOT MEET THIS WEEK. INSTEAD MEET IN CH 3210 FOR MANDATORY GROUP CONFERENCES.
F(11/9) BRING REQUIRED MATERIALS WITH YOU. (REQUIREMENTS WILL BE ANNOUNCED IN CLASS.)

WEEK THIRTEEN—CH3140
M(11/12) Return to class. Annotated bibliography due. Last day for in-class work/progress check.
W(11/14) ESSAY # 3 (and all supporting materials—sources, evaluation sheets, etc.—DUE AT START OF CLASS. APA citation review.
F(11/16) TBA

WEEK FOURTEEN
Thanksgiving break!!!!!!!

WEEK FIFTEEN—CH3210
W(11/28) Read TS/S chapter 6 pp 74-87. ALSO, TODAY IS DEADLINE FOR SUBMITTING AN ESSAY FROM THIS CLASS TO THE EWP. IT MUST BE SUBMITTED TO THE EWP WEBSITE BY 2:00 p.m. TODAY.
F(11/30) In-class work day on rough draft of Essay # 4. Bring required materials.

WEEK SIXTEEN—CH3140
M(12/3) In-class peer editing of Essay # 4 rough draft. Bring two print copies of your draft to share.
W(12/5) ESSAY # 4 DUE AT START OF CLASS.
F(12/7) wrap-up, miscellaneous. TBA

*Remember that there is no final exam in English 1001. We will not meet during finals week.