ENG 1001G-013-027-050: Composition and Language

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Instructor: Ms. Vicki Curts, Coleman Hall 315B
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Office Hours: Tuesday and Thursday 12:30 - 1:45 and 3:30-4:30. Also by appointment.

Classes:
- English 1001-013 9:30 - 10:45 CH302/303 (3120/3130)
- English 1001-027 11:00-12:15 CH302/303 (3120/3130)
- English 1001-050 2:00 - 3:15 CH 313 (3609)

Texts:
- Online! Andrew Harnack & Eugene Kleppinger
- Rereading America, Gary Colombo, R. Cullen, B. Lisle, 5th ed.

Nature of the Course:
Students are required to write four papers. The essays and in-class writings should total at least 5,000 words by the end of the semester. Emphasis is placed on writing well-crafted papers and participating in class discussions that reflect a critical analysis of assigned readings and topics.

The final paper will require research and MLA style documentation. One paper must be selected for inclusion in the Electronic Writing Portfolio.

Department 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:"
(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 assignments of a grade of F for the assigned essay and a grade of NC for the course, and to report the incident to the Judicial Affairs Office.

Attendance:
A student who misses class misses points that may not be made up. Exercises, in-class writing assignments, and participation all earn points! See me if you have a problem. If you cannot see me then call or e-mail me at home (vlcurts@aol.com).

NOTE: If you are ill or have an emergency, an in-class essay that is to be graded and receive points (as opposed to in-class writing exercises) may be made up.

Late Papers:
A paper that is late one day loses points (half a letter grade). Since I am only on campus Tuesday and Thursday, you may give your one-day-late paper to the English Department secretary in CH 308 to initial before you put it in my mailbox. Papers that are over one day late must be turned in as part of the course requirements, but will not receive a grade. The paper will be read and evaluated, however.

Grading:
310 points — Three essays, including final research paper.
90 points — Short papers and in-class essays.
200 points — Estimate of rough drafts, quizzes, in-class exercises, participation and general assignments.
***Class participation is expected of all students.
Final grades of A, B, C and NC (No Credit) are given. You must be writing at a C level to pass the course. The University’s “Standards for Evaluating Themes” will be used to determine essay grades.

Students experiencing any difficulty are encouraged to see me, and also to go to the Writing Center in Coleman Hall for additional help. Students will have a minimum of two conferences with me during the semester.

Students with disabilities:
If you have a documented disability and wish to receive academic accomodations, please contact the Coordinator of the Office of Disability Services (581-6583) as soon as possible.

Assignments
Note: Short quizzes may be given over the reading assignments. Assignments may be changed with material added or deleted as time dictates. The following is a guide that will be followed for the most part.

Text Abbreviations:
- Rereading America—RA
- A Writer’s Reference—AWR
- St. Martin’s Guide to Writing—St.M
- Online

Aug. 21
Introduction.

Harmony at Home: The Myth of the Model Family
Aug. 23
Read “An Indian Story” by Roger Jack, p. 89 in Rereading America.
Diagnostic in-class essay. See 9 on p. 98.

Aug. 28
Evaluation guidelines for essays (handout). Invention strategies and helps on pages 2-20 in A Writer’s Reference. (Note St.M. chapter 11 also for invention helps.)
Pages 17-24 in Rereading America. Study the pictures and be thinking about your image of a “typical family tree” and assumptions associated with the concept of “family” in our culture. In what ways are you defined by family?

Aug. 30
RA p. 39, “Looking for Work.” Answer questions 1-5 on p. 44. Write a paragraph or more describing your work experience and how it compares to Soto’s experience.

Sept. 4
RA p. 98, “Envy.” Answer questions 1-5 on p. 110. Write at least a page on question 8. Revise and turn in on Sept. 6th.

Sept. 6
RA p.45, “Growing Pains...” and questions 6, 9, & 10 on p. 51. These are not short answer questions, and points will not be given for brief answers that reflect little critical analysis.

Sept. 11
RA p.81, “The Military-Nintendo Complex.” What do you feel is the impact of modern technologies such as phones, TVs, computers, video, etc. on the family. Describe what you think constitutes the “good” or “close” family. Is this necessarily the “happy” family? Why, or why not? Find one current article or essay on video games and kids.

Sept. 13
RA p. 52, “What We Really Miss About the 1950s.” Answer 4,5, & 6. Try to answer 7 if you have previously seen any of the shows mentioned.

Sept. 18
Film. Class discussion.