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ENG 1001G-015-033-058: Composition and Language

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EN1001 Comp and Rhetoric

Instructor: Lucinda Berry
Office: Coleman 3820 Hours: Tues/Thurs 11:00 - 12:15 Tues 2:00 - 3:15
Ext. 6309

(Don’t forget to leave your number if you want to hear back from me. Messages left after 3:00 on Thursday will not be retrieved until the following Tuesday.)
E-Mail: cflab@eiu.edu

(E-mail is not a substitute for class attendance, nor is it a means by which to send your assignments. Although I check between Thurs & Tues, I do not monitor my e-mail 24/7.)

Course Objectives
To improve writing and critical thinking skills
To practice and study all steps of the writing process
To analyze some aspect of American culture and write elucidating essays about it
To conduct field and academic research and be able to properly attribute to sources
To work collaboratively on a writing project and oral presentation

You will have to write, edit and revise, participate in class discussions, do assigned readings and homework, interview and conduct surveys. All work must be completed in order to pass the course. Work must be completed by the deadline given in order to receive full credit.

Course Policies
If you miss your deadline for unit essays by a day, you lose 10% of the possible points for the assignment. Deduct an additional 2% for each subsequent day your work is late. I am counting calendar days here. So an essay due on Thursday which doesn’t come in until the following Tuesday will have a 16% penalty. Assignments should be handed in at the beginning of class. If you drop them off in my mailbox or leave them under my door, I will mark them late and deduct 10%.

Student athletes must provide me, at the beginning of the semester, with a list of dates you will miss class for sports events. If you will be absent because of participating in a school field trip, you should provide a note of explanation from the sponsoring teacher. In most cases, major assignments due on these dates should be turned in early to avoid penalty.

Excused absences are granted in accordance with university policy: for cases of severe illness with a doctor’s excuse, and for attending the funeral of a family member.

Bring the text with you every class. Keep a folder with all of your work in hard copy.

Grade Determination:
Narrative essay 15%
Two drafts and a short essay describing and analyzing the changes made

Definition/comparison 20%
Two drafts and a short essay describing and analyzing the changes made
Analysis/argument 25%
Two drafts and a short essay describing and analyzing the changes made, MLA documentation

Research Project 30%
Two drafts and a short essay describing and analyzing the changes made, MLA documentation, Report on doing the project, Oral presentation, Response to comments

Miscellaneous 10%
Classwork, homework, participation, quizzes
   You will receive a check worth 7 pts, or a plus worth 10 pts, or a minus worth 3 pts (if you come late, leave early or if you are unprepared for discussion), a zero worth 0 (if you are absent). Points will be averaged at the end of the semester.

Your grade will be determined on a 90 = A, 80 = B, 70= C scale.

Consideration will be given to both content and mechanics. You will be assessed by
   - how well you answer the question or stick to the topic given
   - the perceptiveness of your analysis/discussion
   - clarity of expression
   - effectiveness of organization and transitions
   - correct word usage, grammar, sentence structure and spelling

Research papers will be judged by the same criteria as well as
   - how well the ideas of others are integrated with your own
   - the care with which sources are acknowledged
   - correct use of MLA style in citing sources and preparing your manuscript

Policy on Plagiarism
Random House Dictionary of the English Language defines plagiarism as “the appropriation or imitation of the language, ideas, and/or thoughts of another author, and representation of them as one’s own original work.” Plagiarism is cheating. If evidence of plagiarism is discovered in your work, you will receive an F for the assignment. In cases of blatant and intentional plagiarism (ie. you turn in work downloaded from the Internet or copied from another student), you will receive an F for the course. Plagiarism cases will be reported to the appropriate administrative offices, and will become a part of your academic record at EIU.

Disabilities
If you have a documented disability and wish to receive academic accommodations, please contact the Office of Disability Services at 581-6583 as soon as possible.

Textbook

Assignment for Thursday: Read pp. 3-17 and be prepared to discuss what good writing is and the importance of considering audience and purpose. Choose three topics from: food, pets, religion, sports, weddings, shopping, education, soap operas, politics, tattoos/piercing.