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ENG 1002-007-013-022-036: Composition and Literature

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Spring 2002
English 1002G, Sections 07, 013, 022, and 036
Class Hours: MWF 9-9:50, 10-10:50, 12-12:50, and 2-2:50, respectively
Instructor: Ms. Laura Devon Nau
Office: CH 3033
Office Hours: MWF 11:00-12:00, 1:00-2:00 and, as needed, TR by appointment or announcement
Office Phone: 581-6288 Home Phone: 253-9018 E-mail: cldf@ciu.edu

Description: This course introduces students to the major literary genres (poetry, fiction, drama), instructs them in generic distinctions, attempts to make them attentive and sensitive readers, and guides them in articulating—both in class discussion and in written discourse—a mature, informed reaction to literary work.

Guidelines: All students enrolled in 1002G should have passed 1001G or must have fulfilled the requirement through transfer credit or through the CLEP proficiency examination.

Graded Essays/Exams: Although you will be asked to turn in an early writing sample, preliminary drafts of essays and other short research or writing assignments as part of your class participation grade, you are required to produce two 4-6 page essays and one 7-9 page essay, involving research. You will take three exams, the last of which will be weighted most heavily and will include a longer essay component.

Grades:
This semester I am initiating a simple 1,000 point system that will allow you to determine your grade at any time and to stay focused on a semi-tangible goal:

TESTS
- Short story test: 100 points
- Poetry test: 100 points
- Comprehensive final exam (includes drama): 200 points

400 total points

Essays
- Short story paper: 150 points
- Poetry paper: 150 points
- Essay on a novel: 250 points

550 total points

Class Participation
- Writing sample: 5 points
- Library assignment(s): 10 points
- Drafts of essays: 20 points
- Discussion participation: 15 points

50 total points

GRAND TOTAL: 1000!!!!
Note: English 1002C is what is commonly called an “A, B, C, No Credit” class. This means that you must earn a “C” to receive credit for the course. In this class, you must accumulate at least 900 points to earn an “A”, 800 points to earn a “B”, 700 points to earn a “C”, and so on. If you have a question about your grade, and, certainly, if you are performing below the “C” level, make appointments with me and/or the Writing Center for private tutorials.

Late Work: Unless you have made prior arrangements with me, any late work will receive a failing grade. A student will automatically fail the course if he or she neglects to turn in all graded essay assignments and/or take all exams.

Class Attendance: Because the information provided in the classroom is a major part of 1002G, and because much of what you learn here about literature and writing involves analytic discussion, debate and reading aloud, failure to attend class will affect your grade. Any student missing more than five meetings without obtaining my approval will not receive credit for the course.

ENGLISH DEPARTMENT STATEMENT CONCERNING 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 F for the course, and to report the incident to the Judicial Affairs Office.

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

TEXTS:
Griffith, Writing Essays about Literature, 5th ed.
Kennedy, An Introduction to Poetry, 9th ed.
Klaus, Stages of Drama. Bedford/St. Martin’s, 5th ed.
Webster’s New World Dictionary
Also, one novel chosen and acquired by you from the list provided in class

SYLLABUS
(subject to deletion or expansion)
A. FICTION (January 7-February 15)

- Alexie, “The Lone Ranger and Tonto Fistfight in Heaven”
- Poe, “The Tell-Tale Heart”
- Gilman, “The Yellow Wallpaper”
- Carver, “Cathedral”
- Tan, “Two Kinds”
- Lawrence, “The Rocking-Horse Winner”
- Chesnutt, “The Sheriff’s Children”
- Hemingway, “Hills Like White Elephants”

...plus related commentaries and selections to be announced

B. POETRY (February 18-March 29)

Love/Lust
Marvell, “To His Coy Mistress” (451)
Pastan, “Jump Cabling” (247)
Swenson, “Four-Word Lines” (346)

Praise and Exultation
Wilber, “Love Calls Us to the Things of This World” (86)
Burns, “Oh, my love is like a red, red rose” (133)
Blake, “To see a world in a grain of sand” (120)

Loneliness
Collins, “Embrace” (104)
Hughes, “Homecoming” (22)
Frost, “Desert Places” (173)

Elegies
Johnson, “On My First Son” (439)
Justice, “On the Death of Friends in Childhood” (440)
Housman, “To an Athlete Dying Young” (435)

Villanelles
Thomas, “Do no go gentle into that good night” (222)
Cope, “Lonely Hearts” (67)
Bishop, “One Art” (389)

Sonnets
Shakespeare, “When in disgrace with Fortune and men’s eyes” (479)
“My mistress’ eyes are nothing like the sun” (345)
Browning, “How Do I Love Thee? Let me Count the Ways” (396)
Remembering Gwendolyn Brooks, 1917-2000

“We Real Cool” (186)
“The Mother” (394)

C. DRAMA and “your” novel (April 1-April 26)

Cat On A Hot Tin Roof, Tennessee Williams

Exam dates, essay topics and essay due dates will be provided in class. In general, however, prepare to turn in an essay and to take a test at the end of our discussion of each literary genre (see tentative dates above). You will work independently on the 7-9-page essay on a novel throughout the semester. Details, along with a book list, will be provided early in the term.

Note about the Electronic Writing Portfolio: If you did not submit an essay for your Electronic Writing Portfolio in English 1001, you will probably need to fulfill this graduation requirement this semester. Please ask for my assistance.