Spring 1-15-2001

ENG 1002-006: Composition and Literature

Debra A. Valentino
Eastern Illinois University

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Eastern Illinois University, Spring 2001
English 1002G.06, Composition and Literature
Policy Statement and Course Description
CH 318, 8-9:15, T, Th

Instructor: Debra A. Valentino
Office: Coleman Hall 315E
Phone: 581-6987
E-mail: cfdav@eiu.edu
Office Hours:
T, Th 9:15—10:45 a.m.
12:15—12:45 p.m.
M, W, F by appointment

Texts:  Fictions, Trimmer & Jennings, 4th edition
An Introduction to Poetry, Kennedy, 9th edition
The Harcourt Brace Anthology of Drama, Worthen, 3rd edition
Writing Essays About Literature, Griffith, 5th edition
The Blair Handbook, 2nd edition, Fulwiler and Hayakawa
Webster's New World Compact Dictionary, 3rd edition
Writing Online, Crump and Carbone, 2nd edition

Course Description: A writing course designed to improve skills in critical thinking and analytical expression based on the reading of literary texts, as well as a survey in the reading of literary genres including short fiction, drama, and poetry. We will also take a brief look at the film genre. Prerequisite: successful completion of English 1001G.

Course Objectives: To improve students' abilities to

- read and understand literary texts
- discuss and analyze literary texts
- write about literary texts
- demonstrate a close familiarity with a text
- write in standard edited English

Reading Assignments: All outside readings must be completed by the start of the class period for which they were assigned. Since this is a course that depends heavily on student participation, students will be expected to contribute relevant and insightful questions and comments to all class discussions. Students should come prepared to answer questions pertaining to all assigned readings in both written and oral responses. Reading quizzes can be expected throughout the semester, and may not be announced in advance.

Homework: Students can expect a reading or a writing assignment given every class period, to be due the following class period. Roughly speaking, this will work out to be a minimum of five hours of work outside of class per week, as prescribed by the English Department.
Attendance: Because this is a course where reading, writing, and analytical skills are engaged and developed, student attendance, attention, and participation are of utmost importance. Regular attendance is expected -- two or more absences may adversely affect one's grade.

When an absence does occur, the student is responsible for the material covered during the absence. Use the class phone list to consult classmates regarding missed material and assignments. (You may wish to check with more than one classmate.) Then, if you have specific questions regarding the assignment, visit, e-mail, or telephone the instructor. Also, if you are sick, you should telephone the instructor before class to say that you will be absent.

Note: E-mail is not always a reliable source of communication. Sometimes the server is down, or your instructor may not always be near a terminal. When it comes to attendance, use e-mail only as a supplemental form of communication. Also, do not assume that absences reported via voice mail are excused.

Make-up Work: No make-ups will be given for missed in-class quizzes or exercises, unless otherwise specified by the instructor. It is the absent student's responsibility to get all class information, including schedule modifications, from another class member. Missed essays due to excused absence(s) may be made up only at the instructor's discretion, but within two weeks of the student's return to class.

Essays / Deadlines: All out-of-class essays will be due at the beginning of the class period on the date specified, and must be submitted in order to receive credit for the course. In-class essays will be due at the end of the class period. Essays are expected to be completed in a timely fashion and turned in on the date due. Late work will be penalized.

Grading: This course is graded on a scale of A, B, C, N/C (No Credit.) In order to pass the course and receive credit, you must receive a C or better. Students receiving points totaling a D, F, or N/C must retake the course. Grades will be evaluated in accordance with the English Department's handout "Guidelines for Evaluating Writing Assignments in EIU's English Department" (attached), and averaged as follows:

Grading Scale:

90—100% = A
80—89.9% = B
70—79.9% = C
below 70% = N/C

Grade Distribution: We will write short expository papers in and out of class in response to our reading of short stories, drama, and verse. These papers will be evaluated on the basis of: 1) the degree to which they display a close familiarity with the literature, and 2) the degree to which the language in which they are written approaches standard, edited English. We will have a mid-term and a final exam, and daily objective quizzes over the reading material. In-class essays will be open-book and open-notes. Essays will account for 50% of the course grade; mid-term and final examinations for 25%; and quizzes, attendance and participation for 25%.
Conferences: **One conference per semester is mandatory.** It is a good idea, however, to come to talk with me about your work periodically throughout the semester.

Plagiarism: Students must familiarize themselves with the English Department's statement on plagiarism. If the student has clearly plagiarized and not given appropriate credit to his/her source(s), the instructor reserves the right to award the essay in question a grade of N/C (No Credit).

According to the standards set by the Eastern Illinois University Department of English, the policy for plagiarism is as follows:

"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' (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 assignment of a grade of F for the course, and to report the incident to the Judicial Affairs Office."

**DO NOT JEOPARDIZE YOUR GRADE WITH AN ACT OF ACADEMIC DISHONESTY!**
If you are having difficulty integrating your research, **set up a conference.**

Writing Center: The writing center is across from the computer room (CH340) in CH 301. Students of Comp 1002C should feel free to take their writing concerns and problems to this center at any time during the semester. This is not a proofreading or editing service, but rather, a place where confusion and uncertainty can be remedied. Also, if you are having particular problems with grammar and the mechanics of writing, this is the place (other than your handbook) to turn to for help.

Hours for Spring 2001 are:

- **Monday – Thursday**
  - 9 a.m. — 3 p.m. and 6 p.m. — 9 p.m.
- **Friday**
  - 9 a.m. — 1 p.m.

In addition, you may receive Free Tutorial Help at **581-5929.**

The Writing Center web address is:

http://www.eiu.edu/~writing/

Students with disabilities: Any student who has a documented disability and wishes to receive academic accommodations should contact the Coordinator of the Office of Disability Services (581-6583) as soon as possible.
Short Stories

"Paul's Case," by Willa Cather, pp. 78-92
"The Yellow Wallpaper," by Charlotte Perkins Gilman, pp. 117-128
"Sonny's Blues," by James Baldwin, pp. 215-238
"A Small, Good Thing," by Raymond Carver, pp. 350-367
"Where Are You Going, Where Have You Been?" Joyce Carol Oates, pp. 935-948
"Young Goodman Brown," by Nathaniel Hawthorne, pp. 641-650
"The Lottery," by Shirley Jackson, pp. 680-687
"A Good Man is Hard to Find," by Flannery O'Connor, pp. 967-979
"Gimpel the Fool," by Isaac Bashevis Singer, pp. 1070-1080
"The Death of Ivan Ilych," by Leo Tolstoy, pp. 1096-1135

"Among the Mourners," Ellen Gilchrist, p. 92-99
"Separating," by John Updike, pp. 1142-1150
"A Woman on a Roof," Doris Lessing, pp. 804-811
"Sarah Cole: A Type of Love Story" Russell Banks, pp. 245-61
"The Chrysanthemums," by John Steinbeck, pp. 1081-1090

Poetry

Selected Readings to be announced.

Drama

Sophocle's Oedipus The King, pp. 72-91
Another selection to be announced.

The final exam for this course is scheduled for