ENG 1002G-009-021-038: Composition and Literature

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ENGLISH 1002-G COURSE GUIDELINES

English 1002-G, Spring 2008  
Instructor: Tammy Veach  
Office: Coleman Hall 3055  
Office Phone: 581-6295  
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Office Hours: 8:30 – 9 MW; 10 – 11 MWF; and by appt.

Texts:  
- Kennedy, An Introduction to Poetry  
- Pickering, Fiction 100  
- Jacobus, The Bedford Introduction to Drama  
- Griffith, Writing Essays About Literature  
- Fulwiler and Hayakawa, The Blair Handbook  
- Webster’s Universal Collegiate Dictionary

COURSE DESCRIPTION & OBJECTIVES: This course is designed to make you better readers, writers, and critical thinkers, but I hope it also encourages you to enjoy literature. We’ll examine works of poetry, fiction, and drama written by men and women from culturally-diverse backgrounds, exploring them within historical, social, cultural, and aesthetic contexts. Because this is a composition course, we’ll write quite a bit about this literature (at least 5,000 words). Expect to spend 1 - 2 hours reading, analyzing, and writing about each day’s assignment before class.

SPECIAL INFORMATION ABOUT THIS CLASS: ENG 1002-G is a writing-centered course. You must submit an essay from this class or ENG 1001 to your Electronic Writing Portfolio, an EIU graduation requirement. In order to be enrolled in this class, you must have passed ENG 1001-G with a grade of C or higher, or must have received credit through transfer credit or through the CLEP proficiency examination.

ATTENDANCE, MAKE-UP, AND LATE WORK: Much of our class content is generated by student-led discussions, which are impossible to replicate, even if your absence is excused. If you miss class, it is your responsibility to find out what you missed and to see if changes were made to our tentative syllabus. Attendance is recorded at the start of every class, and absences will substantially hurt your grade, particularly in the following ways:

- In-class work (exams, quizzes, writing responses, etc.) can be made up only if your absence is excused.
- Work turned in late (except due to an excused absence) is graded down one letter grade for each day it’s late.
- Your “daily” grade – worth 100 points – is based almost entirely upon your contributions to class discussions and your performance on in-class writing activities. If you’re not here, you can’t possibly participate!

Other important policies and information regarding attendance/make-up work/late work:

- Excused absences are granted only for serious and verifiable reasons (e.g. illnesses documented with a doctor’s note, inclement weather for commuters, documented death in the family, etc.) – NOT for matters of personal convenience such as travel arrangements, appointments with advisors, oversleeping, and so forth, nor for illnesses or emergencies that I’m unable to verify. A slip from Health Services does not provide you with an automatic excuse for missing class; I may also ask you to sign a waiver to allow the release of information that will help me decide if an excused absence is warranted.

- Work to be missed due to participation in an Official University function must be completed before your absence. Be sure to notify me in advance to allow time to complete assignments before you leave. (Please note: I need more than a list of anticipated absence dates at the start of the semester – please remind me.)

- Absences on assignment due dates, test dates, or conference dates will require strong verification before make-up privileges will be granted or before late penalties will be waived.

- In the event of a catastrophic situation that causes you to miss class for an extended period (such as a serious illness or a family emergency that causes you to return home) contact the office of the Vice President for Student Affairs at 581-3221, who will notify me and assist in the verification process.

- No assignments will be accepted more than one week after the due date; a zero will be recorded.

A NOTE ON CLASSROOM ETIQUETTE: Demonstrating courtesy to others is important in this classroom. This means listening while another person is talking, saving private conversations for before or after class, doing your homework at home, turning off your cell phone, staying awake and alert in class (no iPods, headphones or earbuds, etc., please), respectfully handling points of view that differ from your own, and so forth. Problems in this area will adversely affect your daily participation grade. If you repeatedly violate these principles or cause a distraction to me or your classmates, you will be asked to leave.
INFO FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES: Contact the Coordinator of the Office of Disability Services (581-6583) as early in the term as possible if you have a documented disability and wish to receive academic accommodations.

GRADING: English department standards will be used to determine grades on all written work, guidelines that evaluate not only the quality and development of your ideas and the effectiveness of your literary analysis, but also scrutinize your style, organization, grammatical proficiency, etc. You will be graded on a variety of activities, but the quality of your writing will be the main determinant of your grade in this class. In calculating your semester grade, I will use a 90-80-70 scale. I anticipate assigning activities totaling 1,000 points for the semester, thus 900-1,000 for an A, 800 – 899 for a B, and 700 – 799 for a C. For a variety of reasons (including the fact that you will have the opportunity to earn extra credit through a service learning project and accompanying essay), I do not round off grades; for example, 799 points or 79.9% still equals a C. If I make any changes to the point totals (such as adding extra writing assignments if needed, deleting an assignment if we fall behind, etc.), you will be forewarned, but such changes will add to or subtract from the point totals listed above; however, I will still grade on a 90-80-70 scale. English 1002-G is graded on an A, B, C, and NC (no credit) basis, so you must earn 70% (tentatively 700 points) to pass this class.

RETURN OF ESSAYS/TEACHER COMMENTS: On all major writing assignments, you will received detailed comments from me that not only explain the grade you received, but which are intended to help you improve as a writer and literary analyst by pointing out what worked well and what didn’t. These comments are of no value, however, if you don’t read them or ask for clarification if you don’t understand! You should also be aware that I will not correct your grammatical errors for you, nor will I point out every possible weakness or error in your essay but only the first, most serious, and most obvious ones. I expect you to identify other occurrences of the problem elsewhere in your essay and to learn to correct it by studying your Blair Handbook, consulting me, or working with tutors in the Writing Center. Because of the length of the time I devote to reading, rereading, reviewing, and commenting upon your essays, you can expect them to be returned no sooner than 1 week after I receive them, and usually within 1-2 weeks. I will never take more time to grade your essay than you were given to write it, and you’ll always have your essay returned before the next one is due (exception: final project, which is due before Essay 3 will be returned).

TENTATIVE REQUIREMENTS AND THEIR POINT TOTALS:

- **Essays, 500 points** – You are required to submit all work on your essays, from beginning to end – notes, brainstorming, rough drafts (save/print a copy of each rough draft, before new revisions), and final draft: Essay 1, poetry, minimum length of 750 words, mandatory conferences, worth 100 points; Essay 2, fiction, minimum length of 1,000 words, worth 200 points; Essay 3, drama, minimum length of 1,250 words, worth 200 points. All essays, rough drafts, etc. must be printed before you come to class – you will not be allowed to use class time or resources to print your work.

- **Exams, 300 points total** – Both are primarily essay in nature; be prepared to write! Exam 1, poetry, 100 points; Exam 2, fiction and drama, 200 points (given on final exam date)

- **Group Project/Presentation, 100 points**: More details on this later, but near the end of the semester you will select a group to work with and will be asked to develop a project related to poetry, fiction, or drama, presenting this project to the class during our last regular class session. Grades will have individual and group components.

- **Daily Grade – participation, discussion, in-class writing, and quizzes – 100 points**: Due to the interactive nature of this class, your attendance and participation are essential. Discussion is the heart and soul of this class, and if you’re not here, obviously you cannot participate or contribute your thoughts. Participation also means more than just showing up and sitting silently – you are expected to **contribute actively** to class discussions. If we are to have a class based on lively discussion rather than tedious lecture, you must show up and you must speak out in our discussions – BOTH factors will weigh heavily in determining your daily grade. Other factors that go along with a solid daily grade will include successfully completing all in-class writing and activities; being punctual, prepared for, and attentive during class and conferences; having a positive attitude; and treating your classmates and teacher with respect. You can control the frequency (or infrequency) of unannounced quizzes over the day’s reading by contributing to class discussion; expect a quiz if the day’s discussion is weak.
CONFERENCES, FEEDBACK ON ROUGH DRAFTS, ETC.: We'll have mandatory conferences on Essay 1, during which I will offer suggestions about your rough draft, but I encourage you to come by my office any time you have questions. The sooner I know of difficulties you're having, the greater the help I can provide - waiting until right before an assignment is due or until the end of the semester won't allow yourself time to improve. If my office hours don't fit your schedule, we can arrange a conference at a mutually-convenient time. However, I do expect you to be an active participant in this process. I WILL NOT read/ comment on essays simply emailed to me or dropped off in my mailbox unless they are accompanied by SPECIFIC questions (not, for example, "Would you look over this for me?"); "How can I improve my essay?", or "Is my conclusion weak?" but "Did my evidence related to the erratic stitching on the quilt, the untidy appearance of the kitchen, and the bird/bird cage convince you that Mrs. Wright murdered her husband?" or "Do I need to use another strategy in my conclusion besides just listing my main ideas?"). Do not expect me to serve as your personal editor, either; I will use conferences - face-to-face or electronic - to answer your questions and to point out global issues in your work rather than cleaning up your grammatical errors, misspellings, typos, etc. Please do not wait till the last minute to ask for my advice; I cannot guarantee a response if you're contacting me just a few days before your essay is due; I will answer as many questions as possible on a first-come, first-served basis but may not be able to respond to everyone due to time constraints. Consider the Writing Center as another option.

E-MAIL/ VOICE MAIL/LONG-DISTANCE NUMBERS: While I don't give out my unlisted home phone number, I do encourage you to contact me, even at times that I'm not on campus. Email works best for me. Please be sure to include your name in the subject heading or to sign your message so that I know who you are! I will respond to your message as soon as I receive it, so if you haven't gotten a response within 24 hours of emailing me, I probably didn't receive it (exception: weekends, when I may not always be available to respond). You may also call me at my office number, even at times other than my posted office hours. If I'm not in, leave a voice-mail message INCLUDING YOUR PHONE NUMBER, and I'll get back to you as soon as possible - though I caution you that I do pick up voice mail less frequently than email and rarely check it when I'm off campus (after 2 p.m. on MWF; all day on TR, holidays, and weekends). If my officemate answers when I'm out, just ask to leave me a voice-mail; otherwise, she'll dutifully take your message, but I won't receive it until I return to the office. Please note: I am not permitted to call cell phone numbers or long-distance numbers from my office (my department gets charged for such calls and does not have the budget for this expense), so please leave a local number (581, 345, or 348 prefix) so I can return the call, or contact me via email instead.

IF CLASS IS EVER CANCELLED: Be sure to read the note on the classroom door yourself - don't just rely on someone else telling you that class has been cancelled. Be sure to check for TODAY'S date, my name, and our section number to be sure that it's OUR class that has been cancelled rather than someone else's (and it is possible for one of my morning classes to be cancelled, for example, but a class later in the day to be in session). Read the entire notice to see if it includes special information, such as changes to assignments or due dates. Check your EIU email account for a message with additional information and instructions.

SPECIAL INFORMATION FOR ETIC SECTIONS (those meeting in rooms 3120, 3130, 3140, or 3210): To maximize access to the computer lab for English classes, we will alternate our time between the lab and a regular classroom (paired as either 3210/3140 or 3120/3130) - consult your syllabus for each day's room assignment. The technology will enhance our class - making it easier for us to write and revise our work, to share our writing with others, to locate information using the Internet, etc., but the technology is only a tool: we'll emphasize developing your writing skills and analyzing the assigned literature, assisted by technology when appropriate, rather than focusing on computer skills.
A NOTE ON COMPUTER ETIQUETTE: The computers and printers in the ETIC are to be used only for your work in this class and only when I've instructed you to do so. You will be asked to leave if you use the computer or printer at unauthorized times, for purposes other than our work in this class (e-mail, surfing the Internet, doing an assignment for another class, etc.), or for offensive purposes (e.g. visiting racist, sexist, or pornographic sites). And because of the English department's limited budget, I must ask that you refrain from printing documents (other than in-class writing) in the lab; please use your own printer for essay assignments, Internet research, etc.

ENGLISH DEPARTMENT'S 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 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.

MORE ON PLAGIARISM, ACADEMIC DISHONESTY, AND SEEKING APPROPRIATE HELP WITH YOUR WRITING: Plagiarism means taking the words or ideas of another person and passing them off as your own. Avoid it by taking special care when using outside sources, including Internet sites; if you incorporate such material, follow MLA documentation guidelines to cite in parentheses each author and page # after sentences that include this material (and include a Works Cited page with complete bibliographic information). If you use both ideas and wording from a source it’s not enough just to cite author and page #: you must also use quotation marks around words, phrases or sentences taken from this source; failure to both cite and use quotation marks around “borrowed” language is plagiarism! If you have any questions about incorporating/citing source material, please see me BEFORE the assignment is due.

Even if you’re not using outside sources, you must still be sure that all of the work is your own. If you have problems with your writing or with analyzing the literature, you need to develop the skills necessary to overcome those problems, and I’m here to help you do that, but it won’t happen effortlessly or overnight. Even though it takes hard work and is often a slow process, it’s a far better choice than cheating. Please do not submit work that you’ve written for another class; if you have a previous assignment that you would like to modify for this class, you must get my permission and must make significant changes to the work – no recycled papers from high school or other college courses!!! Please note that the F gained through academic dishonesty has a disastrous impact on your grade point average, but an NC gained honestly has no harmful effects upon your GPA. And by working hard, you might find yourself raising your skill level and grade to the C level – or even higher! – the honest way!

Acceptable help with your writing: consulting with me; working with your peer evaluation group, who will respond to your work following a set of guidelines and restrictions explained in class; seeking tutoring from the English dept. graduate assistants in the Writing Center (Coleman Hall 3110), who will help you with your writing, but without doing the work for you (tutoring, not proofreading).

Unacceptable help with your writing: the obvious shortcuts – having someone mark your mistakes or edit or polish your work for you; having anyone else write, rewrite, or correct any portion of your essay; taking anyone else’s ideas and/or words and/or efforts and passing them off as your own; submitting an essay in which all or any portion thereof has come from a fraternity or sorority file or anyone else’s essay, from an Internet site, term paper company, Cliff’s Notes, Masterplots, Versity.com, Pinkmonkey.com, or any other “cheater” source, or submitting without permission an essay you wrote for another class. Remember: I enforce my department’s plagiarism policy to the fullest.

I wish each of you the best of luck this semester – and am happy to point out that only the few of you who refuse to do the necessary work for this class will be affected by most of these policies. For the rest of you – together we will work hard, but here we’ll also have fun along the way. I hope not only to challenge you this semester, but also to encourage you, to inspire you, and to delight in your success. Welcome to my class – and I hope you'll soon feel that it’s our class. I'm looking forward to a great semester!
SPRING 2008 TENTATIVE SYLLABUS

Instr. Tammy Veach, Ofc. 3055 (Ofc. hrs. 8:30-9 Mon. and Wed.; 10-11 Mon., Wed., and Fri., and by appt.), Office ph. 581-6295; email tfveach@eiu.edu

P = poetry book, F = fiction book; D = drama book; H = handout

January
- Intro to course and policies; writing sample
- Poetry terms and tips; "Those Winter Sundays" (P 461)
- Speaker: "A Blessing" (P 530) and "Snapping Beans" (H)
- Speaker: "Home Burial" (H)
- Speaker: "The Mother" (P 433-34) and "Weather Stripping" (H)
- Imagery: "Traveling Through the Dark" (P 335) and "Aunt Jennifer's Tigers" (P 8-9).
- Martin Luther King's Birthday Observance – No Class
- Imagery: "Dulce Et Decorum Est" (P 42-43) and "Patterns" (H)
- Diction: "The Elder Sister," "A Work of Artifice," and "Barbie Doll" (all H); Essay # 1 Assigned
- Diction: "Ex-Basketball Player" (521-22), "Execution" and "Fast Break" (both H)
- Tone: "Still I Rise" (H) and "We Real Cool" (P 177-78)

February
- Theme: "Sestina" (P 212-13) and "My Grandmother's Love Letters" (P 442); Study guide for poetry exam
- An Author's Work – Anne Sexton: "Her Kind" (P31), "Cinderella" (P 267-69), and "All My Pretty Ones," "The Lost Ingredient," "The Truth The Dead Know," "The Starry Night," "Self in 1958," "For My Lover, Returning to His Wife," and "To A Friend Whose Work Has Come to Triumph" (all H)
- Finish Sexton; Maxine Kumin's "How It Is" (H)
- Exam # 1 on Poetry -- bring your own paper, pen/pencil
- No Class – Conferences over Essay #1 in my office, CH 3055. Be sure to show up on the day/time you signed up for!! (Contact me IMMEDIATELY if you haven't signed up for a conference!!!!!)

March
- "The Red Convertible:" (F 1124 - 1135)
- Theme: "The Shawl" (H)
- Foreshadowing: "A Good Man is Hard to Find" (F 485 - 491)

Spring Break: No Classes

- Introduction to Drama (D 1 - 20); Trifles (D 912 - 918)
- Hamlet. Act I (D 354 – 365)
- Finish Hamlet. Act I
March, Cont’d.
M 24, CH 3130  *Hamlet*, Act II (D 356 – 375); begin Act III (D 375 – 389)
W 26, CH 3130  *Hamlet*, Act III
F 28, CH 3130  Finish *Hamlet*, Act III, discuss Act IV (D 390 – 398)
M 31, CH 3120  *Hamlet*, Act V (D 398 – 407)

April
W 2, CH 3120  Finish *Hamlet*
F 4, CH 3120  *Death of A Salesman*, Act 1 (D 1130 – 1147)

M 7, CH 3130  *Death of A Salesman*, Act 2 and Requiem (D 1147 - 1167)
W 9, CH 3130  DVD of  *Death of A Salesman*
F 11, CH 3130  DVD of  *Death of A Salesman*

M 14, CH 3120  Finish DVD of  *Death of A Salesman*
W 16, CH 3120  Group project explained and groups assigned; Peer evaluation of Essay #3.
F 18, CH 3120  Essay # 3 Due!!! In-class work on project; review sheet for final exam given

M 21, CH 3130  In-class work on project
W 23, CH 3130  In-class work on project
F 25, CH 3130  Project presentations. Last regular class day

Final Exam Sessions – All are in CH 3120. Any requests to reschedule your final must be made in person (not by phone or email, no later than Friday, April 25). If you’re requesting a change because you have 3 finals on the same day, you must present me with a copy of your official EIU class schedule AND course syllabi for verification. Final exams will ONLY be rescheduled for catastrophic reasons and with impeccable verification, and you must contact me no later than 2:45 Wed. 4/30 (the start time of my last final examination) to be considered for rescheduling. Make-up exams for those who have made the arrangements and provided proper verification will be given on Friday, May 2 from 8 – 10 a.m.

Sect. 009 (9:00 Class): Wednesday, April 30, 8 – 10:00 (a.m.)
Sect. 021 (11:00 Class): Tuesday, April 29, 10:15 – 12:15
Sect. 038 (1:00 Class): Wednesday, April 30, 2:45 – 4:45.

Test covers fiction and drama. Bring your own pen/pencil, paper, and textbooks/printed copies of literature for fiction and drama.
SPRING 2008 REVISED SYLLABUS

Instr. Tammy Veach, Ofc. 3055 (Ofc. hrs. 8:30 - 9 Mon. and Wed.; 10 - 11 Mon., Wed., and Fri., and by appt.),
Office ph. 581-6295; email tvveach@eiu.edu

F = fiction book; D = drama book; H = handout

February
W 27, CH 3120  Introduction to Fiction; sign-up for discussion leader for fiction unit
F 29, CH 3120  Essay #1 Due; Plot Structure: "The Story of an Hour" (F 273 - 75)

March
M 3, CH 3130  Style: "Hills Like White Elephants" (F 670 - 673)
W 5, CH 3130  Narrative Point-of-View: "A Rose for Emily" (F 505 - 511)
F 7, CH 3130  Tone, Narrative Point-of-View: "The Things They Carried" (F 1096 - 1108); Essay #2 assigned
M 10, W 12, F 14  Spring Break: No Classes
M 17, CH 3120  Symbol: "The Red Convertible" (F 1124 - 1135)
W 19, CH 3120  Theme: "The Shawl" (H)
F 21, CH 3120  Foreshadowing: "A Good Man is Hard to Find" (F 485 - 491)
M 24, CH 3130  Introduction to Drama (D 1 - 20); Trifles (D 912 - 918)
W 26, CH 3130  Death of A Salesman, Act 1 (D 1130 - 1147)
F 28, CH 3130  Essay #2 Due; Death of A Salesman, Act 2 and Requiem (D 1147 - 1167)
M 31, CH 3120  DVD of Death of A Salesman

April
W 2, CH 3120  DVD of Death of A Salesman
F 4, CH 3120  Finish DVD of Death of A Salesman
M 7, CH 3130  A Raisin in the Sun (D 1234 - 70) - Act I (and video excerpts)
W 9, CH 3130  * * Act II (and video excerpts)
F 11, CH 3130  * * Act III (and video excerpts)
M 14, CH 3120  Group project explained and groups assigned; Peer evaluation of Essay #3.
W 16, CH 3120  In-class work on project
F 18, CH 3120  Essay #3 Due!!! In-class work on project; review sheet for final exam given
M 21, CH 3130  In-class work on project
W 23, CH 3130  In-class work on project; Some presentations may be given in last half of class.
F 25, CH 3130  Project presentations. Last regular class day

Final Exam Sessions - All are in CH 3120. Any requests to reschedule your final must be made in person (not by phone
or email) no later than Friday, April 25. If you’re requesting a change because you have 3 finals on
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