Spring 1-15-2007

ENG 1002-013-034-052: Composition and Literature

Vicki Curts
Eastern Illinois University

Follow this and additional works at: http://thekeep.eiu.edu/english_syllabi_spring2007

Part of the English Language and Literature Commons

Recommended Citation
http://thekeep.eiu.edu/english_syllabi_spring2007/23

This Article is brought to you for free and open access by the 2007 at The Keep. It has been accepted for inclusion in Spring 2007 by an authorized administrator of The Keep. For more information, please contact tabruns@eiu.edu.
Instructor: Ms. Vicki Curts, Coleman Hall 3820, Office 581-6309
Email vlcurts@eiu.edu

Office Hours: Tuesday and Thursday 11:00 - 12:15 and 2:00 - 3:15.

Classes: English 1002G Sec. 013  CH 2120  9:30 - 10:45.
       English 1002G Sec. 034  CH 3290  12:30 -  1:45.
       English 1002G Sec. 052  CH 3290  3:30 -  4:45.

       The Story and Its Writer  Ann Charters, 6th ed.
       Stages of Drama  Klaus, Gilbert, Bradford 5th ed.
       Writing about Literature  Edgar Roberts, 10th ed.

Nature of the Course:
Students will read short stories, poetry, plays and criticism. Papers of a critical and analytical nature will be written about these works and will include research papers with documented sources. Both a mid-term and a final exam are required for the course.

Department Policy on Plagiarism:
"Any teacher who discovers an act of plagiarism--‘The appropriation or imitation of the language, ideas, and/or thought 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 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 loses points. Much of the work done in class, in-class writing, class participation and short quizzes, earns points that may not be made up. Tests, such as the mid-term and the final, may be made up only if the student has proof of illness. If you have a problem, please see me. Work not turned in due to a documented illness is due within 10 days of your return, and will not be accepted at a later date.

Students missing six classes or more will have their grade lowered. A student who has a “C” grade would then have a No Credit grade (NC) for the course. A student who falls behind should consider withdrawing from the class. Since financial aid and scholarships are often affected by absences, it is the responsibility of the student to understand all such policies.

Office of Disability: If you have a documented disability and wish to receive academic accommodation, please contact the Coordinator of the Office of Disability Services (581-6583). Feel free to come in during office hours, and I will be happy to go over class material with you.

Papers:
A paper that is late one day loses points. Papers over one day late are still required as part of the course work. The paper will be read and evaluated, but for no credit. Since most papers are 100 points, the chance of passing the class will be affected.
A paper that is a day late must be turned in the secretary in CH3136, initialed and dated by her or by another member of the Department of English. Please put the initialed paper in my mailbox. Do not ask the secretary to do this!

Papers may not be emailed! If this has been a practice in past classes, it is not allowed in 1002.

Note that the office closes at 4:30 Monday through Friday, and is not open on Saturday or Sunday. Since I am not in my office on Monday, Wednesday or Friday, this is the only way I have of knowing that your paper met the deadline.

Papers may not be emailed! Please anticipate printer or other computer problems and use any of the labs your college has provided.

Grading: 90 points - three short paper assignments.  
300 points - three essays of five pages. 
150 points - estimate of participation, quizzes and handout questions. 
200 points - mid-term and final exams.

Extra Credit: Five points is given for plays, poetry readings campus lectures related to literature or poetry. Many speakers are invited to our campus and students usually benefit from attending these. Watch the EIU online calendar, the paper and bulletin boards in the various departments. A report (response) on the experience must be turned in immediately following the event, and should be about a page in length.

Selected Readings: Students are responsible for all works listed on the syllabus, as well as the biographical information about the authors. Look up words that are unfamiliar since these may be on your reading quizzes. A good source for additional information on the readings is in journal articles that you can access online from our library.

Quizzes: Short, usually five points, quizzes are given often and may not be made up. Longer tests over poetry, stories and plays may be made up if you have an excused absence due to illness.

Handouts on the readings are due on the day of class discussion, and may not be turned in later for credit. Some are turned in for points, and others are guides for class discussion points and will not be turned in.

Text abbreviations: WL (Writing about Literature) and SW (The Story and Its Writer). In the event that a page number is inaccurate, please use your text’s index to find the work.

January 9th -- Introduction to the class. Short in-class writing.

Jan. 11 - WL “The Necklace (1884)” deMaupassant 5-12. 
“Writing a First Draft” 30-44.

“The Lone Ranger and Tonto Fistfight in Heaven” 9-14. Look up an article or two that discusses Tonto’s role in the movie or TV series. Why are Native Americans so displeased with the role of Tonto?
Jan. 18 - SW “A Brief History of the Short Story” 995-1015. 
“The Cask of Amontillado” 688.

“The Red Convertible” 160. Find out what percent of minorities served in Viet Nam, and why. How does this compare to our current conflict?


Feb. 1 - “The Widow’s Son” 472. “Tiny Smiling Daddy” 289. Write a comparison of the two parents. (15 pts.) What are the flaws in their characters that lead to or contribute to the outcome?

Feb. 6 - “The Ultimate Safari” 320. Bring articles (or notes) to class relating to Darfur, Somalia, Sierra Leone or other African countries that relate to the subject of this story.

Feb. 8 - “Blood Burning Moon” 773 and the Johnson Commentary 891. 
“The Widow’s Son” 357.

Feb. 13 - “Sonny’s Blues” 25. Turn in a two page analysis of the setting in this story with special emphasis on the use of light and dark throughout the work. How is it relevant in the final scene? Use examples from the story and don’t forget to properly quote! (30 pts.) Read Chap. 6 in WL before you write!

Readings in Writing about Literature for use in your papers.

Chap. 3 Character 56-67
Chap. 4 Point of View 68-83
Chap. 5 Plot and Structure 84-97
Chap. 6 Setting 98-106
Chap. 7 Idea or Theme 107-116
Chap. 8 Metaphors and Similes 117-126
Chap. 9 Symbolism and Allusions 127-137
Chap.10 Comparison and Contrast 129-152

Short story paper: 100 pts. 5+ pages. You may choose any story that was not assigned reading.


Do together “The Lottery” 381 with “The Ones Who Walk Away from Omelas” 494.

Terms to know for the test (1004+): Allusion, autofiction, antagonist & protagonist, climax and anticlimax, static and dynamic character, denouement, epiphany, falling action, satire (which story we read is the closest to satire?)

Omniscience—limited, etc., point of view and voice. See WL 72+ for ways to determine pov.

Story structure (chronological, achronological, backflash, stream of consciousness etc.)
Feb. 15 - **Test** over the short stories.

Poetry that really is accessible! Get ready for a new experience. *Poetry: an Introduction*

Feb. 20 - Short story paper is due. 

"Introduction to Poetry" by Billy Collins, "Catch" 29, "Titanic" 91, "Oh, Oh" 28.


Feb. 27 - Write your own imitations of the following poetry styles: anagram, "Mountain Graveyard" 39, a limerick and a haiku on 255-258. These will be turned in for points.


Using one of the poems you most relate to, write a response of 2+ pages. Use lines from the work when discussing, and be very clear how the poem relates to you. Did you ever get a toy that a parent disapproved of? Felt bored helping a family member? Miss someone in the family as you see them through "adult eyes"? Response: 30 pts.

Mar. 6 - "The Red Hat" 229, "After Making Love" 274, "Home Baked Bread" 125, "The White Porch" 130, "Sex without Love" 93, "A Late Aubade" 107. Look up the word "aubade." Think about the meanings of "sensual," "erotic," and "sexual" as they apply or relate to some of these poems.


March 12 - 16th Spring Break!

Mar. 20 - "Execution" 146, "The Pitcher" 214, "First Practice" 277, "Marks" 151, "Recipe" 163, "What It's Like to be a Black Girl" 122.

Read all of Gary Soto's poems and choose one to write a response discussing the persona in one of his works (Pages 168, 186, 289, 525) OR Wole Soyinka's "Telephone Conversation" 34. One page 15 pts. Don't forget examples to prove your points.


Mar. 27 - Langston Hughes 388--394 and "I, Too" "Negro" 396, "Justice" 399, "Rent-Party..." 404, "Ballad of Rosevelt" 405, "Ballad of the
Landlord” 407, “Ku Klux” 408, “Harlem” 409 through 415 “The Backlash Blues.”


Note: March 30 is the deadline to withdraw from a course or from the university with W.

April 3 - Poet laureates and their poetry. Review for the test.

April 5 - Test

April 10 - Poetry paper due. Some poems to peruse that might work for a paper.


April 10  Stages of Drama

April 12 - “Analyzing a Play” 1701. Art by Yasmina Reza 1565.

April 17 - Film.

April 19 - Film.

April 24 - Film. Theater discussion continued.

April 26 - Review for final exam. Study the terms on the handout. Play paper is due.

April 30 - May 4th Final exam week.

Exam schedule: 9:30 class exam is at 8:00 on Thursday, May 3rd.

12:30 class exam is at 12:30 on Monday, April 1.

3:30 class exam is at 12:30 on Wednesday, May 2nd.