Fall 2004

ENG 1001G-027-062: Composition and Language

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      (Here's How To Write Well, Second ed.)
      a college-level dictionary

Description: English 1001G is a writing course involving the reading, writing, and critiquing of both professional and student essays. These sections are computer assisted, which means that we will be doing some writing and evaluating in the computer lab. No part of a student's grade will be affected by his or her computer savvy; however, computer problems outside the classroom do not serve as valid excuses for late or missing work. Each student needs two formatted 3.5-inch disks by the first lab meeting. This disk will be used to store notes, outlines, drafts, and any in-class writing. NOTE: Students who have ACT scores of 14 or below or have no test scores on file with the university must pass English 1000 before enrolling in 1001G.

Attendance: Each student is allowed two unexcused absences. Every unexcused absence after two will lower the a student's grade by 5% (half a letter grade). Punctuality is a must; lateness will be noted. Students are responsible for all lessons and materials covered in class, including changes to the syllabus, regardless of absences. Quizzes may not be made up; the lowest quiz grades after Quiz #10 will be dropped. Exams may be made up with an excused absence and prior arrangement with the instructor. NOTE: With the exception of Spring Break, no holiday affects Tuesday-Thursday courses.

Readings: Much of what students learn in this course depends on careful, multiple readings of textbook selections, consideration of discussion questions, and participation in class discussions and activities. Students are responsible for introductory sections of the various chapters.

Late Work: Essays are due at the beginning of class on the due dates. The penalty for late essays is one letter grade per day late – including weekends. Again, an excused absence and prior arrangement with the instructor applies.

Essays: All essays must be typed in black, standard fonts, double-spaced, and stapled in the upper left corner (no plastic covers or folders; no paper clips). The student's name, the date, the assignment, and the essay's title should be typed at the upper left corner of the first page (no cover page is necessary). If an essay has five or more major usage errors, it will most likely receive a failing grade. Any essay or grade may be discussed during office hours.
Plagiarism: EIU English Department policy: Any teacher who discovers an act of plagiarism— the appropriation or imitation of language, ideas, and/or thoughts of another author, and representation of them as one’s original work—has the right and responsibility to impose upon the student an appropriate penalty, up to and including immediate assignment of the grade of F for the course, and to report the incident to the Judicial Affairs Office.

Students with Disabilities: If you are a student with a documented disability and wish to receive academic accommodations, please contact the Coordinator of the Office of Disability Services (+6583) as soon as possible.

Cell Phones: Cell phones must be turned off during class.

Assignments and Grading:

- Quizzes (daily, unannounced): 20%
- Grammar & Usage Exam 1: 10%
- Grammar & Usage Exam 2: 10%
- Essay 1 (diagnostic): not graded
- Essay 2: 10%
- Essay 3: 15%
- Essay 4: 15%
- Essay 5: 20%

Grading Scale:

90-100% A  80-89% B  70-79% C  60-69% D  0-59% F

A course grade lower than 70 will appear on the student’s grade report and on EIU records as NC (no credit).

SYLLABUS (subject to change)

8/24   Intro to course, policies, syllabus, and lab; explanation of diagnostic essay
8/26   Essay 1, in-class (bring blue books)
8/31   Discuss Essay 1; TBH: chapters 32 through 42
9/2    MUE Practice Exam 1
9/7    TBR pp. 97-100 Annie Dillard’s “The Chase”; TBR pp. 623-625 John McPhee’s “Silk Parachute”; Discuss Essay 2
9/9    Pre-writing activities for Essay 2
9/14 Pre-writing activities, cont.
9/16 Essay 2, Draft 1 due, 4 pages typed (failure to produce drafts will result in the final essay grade being lowered 5%); in-class evaluation/discussion

9/21 Essay 2, Draft 2 due, 3 pages typed; in-class evaluation/discussion
9/23 Essay 2 due; Grammar & Usage exercises; Pick up MUE practice exam 2

9/28 MUE practice exam 2
9/30 MUE practice exam 2, cont. Review for MUE 1

10/5 MUE 1; Discuss Essay 3
10/7 TBR pp. 92-93 Amy Tan’s “Fish Cheeks”, pp. 144-149 Sarah Vowell’s “Shooting Dad”; Pre-writing activities for Essay 3 (time permitting)

10/12 TBR pp. 670-675 E.B. White’s “Once More to the Lake”; Pre-writing for Essay 3
10/14 Essay 3, Draft 1 due

10/19 Essay 3, Draft 2 due
10/21 Essay 3 due; MUE practice exams 3 - 8

10/26 MUE practice exams 3 - 8; Review for MUE exam 2
10/28 MUE exam 2; Discuss Essay 4

11/2 TBR pp. 223-225 Suzanne Britt’s “neat People vs. Sloppy People”; pp. 229-231 Dave Barry’s “Batting Clean-Up and Striking Out”; pp. 320-322 Judy Brady’s “I Want a Wife”

11/9 Essay 4, Draft 1 due
11/11 Essay 4, in-class

11/16 student conference schedule; Discuss Essay 5
11/18 Pre-writing activities, Essay 5

11/22 - 11/26 THANKSGIVING RECESS

11/30 - 12/2 Student Conferences; Research/Writing Essay 5; Every student will have a conference with the instructor and provide a typed first draft of Essay 5 at the conference

12/7 Essay 5, Draft 2 due; Final peer evaluation and questions
12/9 Essay 5 due

THERE IS NO FINAL EXAM FOR THIS COURSE.