ENG 1001G-028-051-059: Composition and Language

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Instructor: Ms. Vicki Curts, Coleman Hall 3820
Office 581-6309  Home (812) 238-2826  Email (cfvlc@eiu.edu) office

Office Hours: Tuesday and Thursday 9:00-10:45 and 12:30-1:45. Also by appointment.

Classes: English 1001-028  11:00 – 12:15  CH 3290
         English 1001-051  2:00 – 3:15  CH 3290
         English 1001-059  3:30 – 4:45  CH 2120

Texts.  American Voices: Culture and Community, LaGuardia & Guth eds. 5th ed.
Here’s How to Write Well, McMahan & Funk, eds. 2nd ed.
Online! Andrew Harnack & Eugene Kleppinger, eds.

Nature of the Course:
Students are required to write three papers. The essays and in-class writings should total at least
5,000 words by the end of the semester. Emphasis is placed on writing well-crafted papers and
participating in class discussions that reflect a critical analysis of assigned readings and topics.

The final paper will require research and MLA style documentation. The first or second essay
must be submitted for inclusion in the Electronic Writing Portfolio. The deadline is October 16.

Department 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.”
(Randome 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 NC for the course, and to report the incident to the Judicial Affairs
Office.

Attendance:
A student who misses class misses points that may not be made up. Exercises, in-class writing
assignments, and participation all earn points! See me if you have a problem. Leaving class early is
considered an absence.

NOTE: If you are ill or have an emergency, an in-class essay that is to be graded and receive
points (as opposed to in-class writing exercises) may be made up.

Late Papers:
A paper that is late one day loses points (half a letter grade). Since I am only on campus Tuesday
and Thursday, you may give your one-day-late paper to the English Department secretary in CH 3155 to
initial before you put it in my mailbox. Papers that are over one day late must be turned in as part of the
course requirements, but will not receive a grade. The paper will be read and evaluated, however.

Grading:
200 points  – Three essays, including final research paper.
   Essay # 1 – 75 points
   Essay # 2 – 100 points
   Essay # 3 – 125 points
   EWP       – 25 points

100 points  – Short papers and in-class essays.
100 points – Estimate of rough drafts, quizzes, in-class exercises, participation and general assignments.
*Class participation is expected of all students.

Final grades of A, B, C and NC (No Credit) are given. You must be writing at a C level to pass the course. The University’s “Standards for Evaluating Themes” will be used to determine essay grades.

Students experiencing any difficulty are encouraged to see me, and also to go to the Writing Center in Coleman Hall for additional help. Students will have a minimum of three conferences with me during the semester. Sign-up sheets for appointments are on the office door.

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.

Assignments
Note: Short quizzes may be given over the reading assignments. Assignments may be changed with material added or deleted. Any changes will be announced in class.

Papers
All work done outside of class is to be typed. MLA format is the style used for short papers and essays. Margins should be 1”. See American Voices, 735+ for an essay example. See Here’s How to Write Well, 150+ for a paper that has an outline. Research papers are required to have source material that is current, and all topics must be approved in advance. Papers must be delivered hard copy, not on disc.

Portfolio
All writings/essays are to be kept in a pocket folder and are to be brought conferences.

Electronic Writing Portfolio
Follow handout guidelines at www.eiu.edu/~assess. Read the directions marked “student” then complete the student and course information. Print out the form, sign it and give it to me to sign before taking it and your disc to the CASA office in Ninth Street Hall, Room 3001.
Paper deadline is November 15th.
The EWP is part of your required course work.

Text Abbreviations: AV (American Voices)
HH (Here’s How to Write Well)
Online

Here’s How to Write Well and American Voices are the texts you should bring to class. The Online text is helpful for research when you are in a computer lab.

Aug. 23 Introduction to the class.
In-class writing: short diagnostic “get acquainted” essay.

“Drawing on Your Experience,” 68-74.
“Mericans,” 51

Aug. 30 HH Chap. 1, 3-17. Note the Prewriting Checklist on 13.
For peer evaluation, bring two pages about a personal experience.
Handout: Evaluation Guidelines for essays.

Sept. 1
Experience paper due. Should have lots of description! 2 to 3 pages—20 points.
Note: a page means a full page to the bottom 1" margin.
HH Chap. 2. Do all the exercises.
AV read Rose 81 and Sandel 86.

Sept. 6
AV Bernstein 94, Chin 103, Erdrich 109 (poem).
Writing Workshop 123-137. Group assignments for topic chosen from list on 136.
Do some outside reading using tips/helps from this section.

Sept. 8
HH Chap. 3, 30-50.
Page 38 choose one of the six ideas for Process writing.
Page 41 choose one of the six for Classification and Analysis.
Do not write an essay, just four or five paragraphs. Try to make your topic interesting.
AV read Lara, 246. How does the author compare and contrast?

Sept. 13
HH Chap. 3, 30-50 continued.
Choose a topic for Cause and Effect on 49. Do a sample outline focusing on causes and another outline focusing on effects. Combine your efforts in several paragraphs.
AV read Ivins, 636 and Krauthammer, 638.

Sept. 15
HH Chap. 4, 51-70.
Do Ex. 4.2, 4.3, 4.8 and 4.9.
AV read Bly, 347. Think about 10 on page 351. What do you know about the “fifties woman”? Today’s vision of “manhood”? Answer 1-9 on 351.
AV read Kenworthy, 374 and Comparing and Contrasting 378.

Sept. 20
HH do Ex. 5.2 on 75, and read 80-95.
Bring AV to class also.

Sept. 22
AV read Hwang, Louie and Joseph, 57-67.
Answer questions 1-6 after each of the essays.
AV read “Drawing on your Reading,” 192. Use one of the suggested topics on 197-8 for your narrative paper.

Sept. 27
Bring your completed narrative paper to class. 2-3 pages—25 points.

AV Writing Workshop 2. Internet Sources. Read 123-137 and choose from one of the ten suggestions on 136-7 for research. Use helps from this section as well as your Online text to gather articles that could work for a paper. Are the sources reliable? Biased? Write a brief summary of your search efforts. Did you encounter any problems? Read some of the articles and write a thesis statement you might use for a paper. This is to be turned in.

Sept. 29
Workshop 8: “Arguing from Principle,” 481.
Choose three of the topics on 487-8 and write a paragraph that reflects your stance on each subject. Study the fallacies of argument before you write!

Oct. 4 Workshop on persuasion paper
(Choose from any of the suggested topics in Chapter 10 “Living at Risk.” Great suggestions follow all the essays in the text.)

Oct. 6 Bring completed paper (Essay #1 – 100 points) to class. Paper must be related to one of the topics in chapter 10 in American Voices.

Oct. 7 Fall Break

Sign-up sheets for conferences will be passed around during class, and posted on the office door. PLEASE note your time since it is difficult to reschedule missed appointments.

Oct. 11 Essay #1 is due (75 points). Paper length 4-5 pages.
Conferences
Topics for the research papers (the 100 and 125 point papers) are due and must be approved. You may submit more than one choice but the topic must be connected to one in the text. Essays in the text may be used in your paper as part of your sources

October 13th is Mid-Term

Oct. 13 Conferences.
(Outside of class read Loewenstein 407)

Oct. 18 Conferences.
The 2:00 class will meet in the Computer Lab to work on the next paper.

Oct. 20 AV Dunbar “The Ingrate” (short story) 172 & questions 1-4 on 178
Mirikitani “For My Father” (poem) 179
Downey 201, Cohen 308, and Tucker 316 & questions 1-6.

Oct. 25 AV “Comparing and Contrasting” 378+
Write two pages on your choice of the topics on 383-4.

Oct. 27 AV “Weighing Alternatives” 431-435. Write a page or so on one of the topics on 435-6 after you have read several articles on the subject. Have an “informed” opinion.
(Choose any essay/story/poem from Media Watch section to read.)

Note: Bring the Online text to class.

Nov. 1 Paper workshop.
Read AV “Arguing from Principle” 481-487. Write on one of the topics on 487.

Nov. 3 Paper workshop.
AV: Writing to Persuade 600-606. Choose one of the topics that interest you, and find several articles on the subject. We will work in class, share articles, brainstorm ideas.

Nov. 4
Deadline to withdraw with WP/WF.

Nov. 8
Essay # 2 is due (100 points).
Film.
AV read Pinkerton, 189.

Nov. 10
Conferences.
Review of film is due. One page (20 points)
(On your own, choose readings from the text that may be useful for your paper.)

Nov. 15
Conferences.

Nov. 17
Conferences.

Nov. 21 - 25
Thanksgiving Break. Save a Turkey Day!

Nov. 29
Paper workshop.
AV Workshop 11 The Investigative paper 647+ and
The Documented paper 702+
(Read Blum 624 and Sullivan 677)

Dec. 1
Final draft of research paper is due.

Dec. 6
Final research paper is due. Essay # 3 (125 points).

Dec. 8
Last class meeting.

Dec 12th is final exam week. No final exam is given in English 1001. Research papers will be available for pickup in my office on Wednesday, December 14th. Final grades are available online Monday the 19th.

Happy Holidays!