ENG 1001G-050: Composition and Language

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Recommended Citation
Black, Devin, "ENG 1001G-050: Composition and Language" (2009). Fall 2009. 34.
http://thekeep.eiu.edu/english_syllabi_fall2009/34

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English 1001G-050: Authority

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Fall 2009, 3:00-4:15 MW
Coleman 2120

Course Description

English 1001G is a writing course that focuses on your development as a writer both in terms of content and of style/mechanics. This course will facilitate your ability to research responsibly and read critically. To this end, most of the coursework will involve reflection in both oral discussions and written work.

This particular section will deal with the idea of authority in all of its political and cultural significance. Who do we look towards for news? For political views? How does advertising and other media such as television shows and movies affect who we are? This course is an exploration into these questions in an attempt to discover our cultural identity.

Besides its cultural context, authority plays major roles in the writing process. An authoritative voice is necessary in argumentative papers, and even plays a role in writing meant only to inform. Writers express their authority with clear grammar, structure, and a focused argument; additionally, in terms of research, writers need to be able to find and differentiate between what types and modes of qualify as authoritative sources.

Learning Outcomes

1. To write expository and persuasive papers in which paragraphs, sentences, and words develop a central idea.
2. To write focused, adequately developed paragraphs and sentences in standard written English that are direct, economical, free of ambiguity, structurally appropriate for the ideas expressed and suitable to the purpose of the text.
3. To develop the ability to evaluate and criticize their own and their peers’ writing.
4. To develop the ability to understand and evaluate culturally diverse course materials reflecting historically, socially, and culturally relevant issues.

Texts

Ramage, Bean, and Johnson, The Allyn & Bacon Guide to Writing
Hacker, Diana, The Contemporary Reader
Goshgarian, Gary, A Pocket Style Manual

Evaluation*

Participation 20%
Research Paper 30%
Oral Presentation 10%
Other Paper Assignments 40%
  • Introductory Paper 10%
• Analytical Paper 10%
• Journal Article Review 10%
• Position Paper 10%

*All assignments must be completed to pass this course.

Attendance Policy
Plan to attend every class. Missing multiple classes directly relates to how well you do on major assignments in addition to your participation. If you miss six (6) class meetings, constituting three whole weeks of class, you cannot pass this course.

Class Participation
Your participation is necessary for this class to be successful. Each class session will be a mix of informal lecture and discussion along with in-class writing assignments. When readings are assigned, have passages from the text ready to discuss or ask questions about. With group assignments, all group members should contribute substantially to the assigned work.

Late Papers
Papers are due at the beginning of that class period unless otherwise noted. You have up to one week to hand in a late assignment minus one letter grade for each day late. All assignments handed in a week late will receive a zero.

Academic Dishonesty
The English Department’s statement 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 own 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.

We will be discussing what plagiarism means and how you can avoid it. We will go over paraphrasing, quoting, and using citations to give credit to sources.

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.
Class Schedule

Week 1
M (8/24) – Class Introduction

W (8/26) – CR 412-416 “How to Get a College Education”
- CR 417-423 “A’s for Everyone”
- A&B 41-48 Thesis and focus statements

Week 2
M (8/31) – Introductory Assignment DUE Writing Center Presentation

W (9/2) – Analyzing CR 126-130 “Branded World: The Success of the Nike Logo” & Culture Shock Images
Analyzing Youtube Videos and Facebook, MySpace, etc.

Week 3
M (9/7) – Labor Day. No classes.

W (9/9) – Panopticon Handout

Week 4
M (9/14) – Analytical Paper DUE

W (9/16) – Analytical Paper discussion Integrating Quotations

Week 5
M (9/21) – A&B 592-610 Evaluating Sources & Researching ctd.
- Researching on the Web

W (9/23) – Submit Scholarly Article Citation Have your article read, informal discussion/presentation

Week 6
M (9/28) – Article Review DUE Thesis Revisited

W (9/30) – Conferences

Week 7
M (10/5) – Conferences

W (10/7) – A&B 187-190 Annotated Bibliographies. Bring your article from your Article Review assignment in order to write an annotation + Evaluation of Sample Annotated Bibliographies

Week 8
M (10/12) – Annotated Bibliography DUE


Week 9
M (10/19) – Research Proposal DUE
- Plagiarism discussion + Handout w/ Examples
W (10/21) – Research Proposal Discussion

**Week 10**
M (10/26) – Research Paper Samples and evaluation
W (10/28) – In-Class Workshop

**Week 11**
M (11/2) – Research Paper DUE

W (11/4) – Conferences

**Week 12**
M (11/9) – Conferences

W (11/11) – *A&B* 503-505 Critiquing Peer Essays

**Week 13**
M (11/16) – 2nd Draft DUE Peer Review of Research Paper
   - *South Park* and politics

W (11/18) – Research Paper Revision DUE & Topic for Position Paper DUE
   - CR pg 89 “Shop ‘til We Drop?”
   - pg 130 “Lux Populi”

**Week 14**
Thanksgiving Break! No classes.

**Week 15**
   - pg 200 “The Case against Same Sex Marriage”

W (12/2) – CR pg 339 “My Most Attractive Adversary”
   - pg 342 “Male Bashing on TV”

**Week 16**
M (12/7) – Position Essay DUE
   - Presentations

W (12/9) – Presentations

*I reserve the right to make changes to this schedule throughout the semester*