Spring 15-1999

ENG 1002C-027: Literature and Composition

Mary Maddox

Eastern Illinois University

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Office Hours:  
Tuesday/Thursday  
12:30 - 2:00 PM  
5:00 - 6:00 PM  
and by appointment

COMPOSITION AND LITERATURE  
Course Syllabus  
English 1002-027  
Spring 1999

January 12  
CH302  
Reading:  
from Literature:  
Hall, "My Son, My Executioner" p. 959  
Grennan, "Bat" pp. 656-7  
Hardy, "Convergence...Twain" pp. 638-9  
Mukand, "Lullaby" p. 981  
Slavitt, "Titanic" pp. 639-40

Class Activities:  
Review of Syllabus  
Discussion of Poems

January 14  
CH340  
Reading:  
from Writing Essays About Literature:  
Ch 5: Analyzing Poetry pp. 83-112

Class Activities:  
Discussion of Poems  
ASSIGNMENT: RESPONSES TO POEMS (1st set)

January 19  
CH340  
Reading:  
from Literature:  
Ch 23: Writing About Poetry pp. 799-804  
Ch 39: Explication pp. 2060-64

from Writing Essays About Literature:  
Ch 1: Strategies for Reading pp. 7-13  
Ch 2: Analyzing Literature pp. 15-26  
Ch 8: Writing About Literature pp. 151-7  
Ch 9: Choosing Topics pp. 157-73

Class Activities:  
ESSAY ASSIGNMENT: EXPLICATION  
Discussion of Poems

1
January 21
CH302
Reading:
from Literature:
Forche, "The Colonel" p. 792
Frost, "Out, Out--!" pp. 863-4
Kizer, "Food For Love" pp. 667-8
Owen, "Dulce et Decorum Est" pp. 660-1
Perry, "Blue Spruce" pp. 690-1
Plath, "Mirror" p. 683

Class Activities:
DUE: RESPONSES TO POEMS (1st set)
ASSIGNMENT: RESPONSES TO POEMS (2nd set)
Discussion of Poems

January 26
CH302
Class Activities:
Discussion of Poems
Review For Poetry Exam

January 28
CH340
Reading:
from Writing Essays About Literature:
Ch 10: Drafting the Essay pp. 175-91
Ch 12: Revising and Editing pp. 241-54

Class Activities:
Work on Drafting Explication Essay
DUE: RESPONSES TO POEMS (2nd set)

February 2
CH340
Class Activity:
Peer Editing of Essay Drafts
DUE: FIRST DRAFT OF EXPLICATION

February 4
CH302
Class Activities:
POETRY EXAM
Sign-up For Conferences

February 9-
February 17
Classes Suspended:
Conferences in 336 Coleman Hall
DUE IN CONFERENCE: REVISION OF EXPLICATION

February 18
CH302
Reading:
from Literature:
Ellison, "Battle Royal" pp. 196-206
Faulkner, "A Rose for Emily" pp. 54-63
O'Connor, "Good Country People" pp. 368-82
Perspectives on O'Connor pp. 404-07

from Writing Essays About Literature:
Ch 3: Analyzing Fiction pp. 27-55

Class Activities:
ASSIGNMENT: RESPONSES TO STORIES
Discussion of Stories
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<td>from <em>Literature</em>:</td>
<td>ESSAY ASSIGNMENT: ANALYSIS</td>
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<td>Hawthorne, &quot;Young Goodman Brown&quot;</td>
<td>Discussion of Stories</td>
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<td>Updike, &quot;A &amp; P&quot;</td>
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<td>Class Activity:</td>
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<td>Atwood, &quot;Death by Landscape*</td>
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<td>Boyle, &quot;Carnal Knowledge*</td>
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<td>Dubus, &quot;Killings&quot;</td>
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<td>from <em>Writing Essays About Literature</em>:</td>
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<td>Conference in 336 Coleman Hall</td>
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April 6
CH340

Reading:
from Literature:
    Wilson, The Piano Lesson
        Ch 39: Comparison
from Writing Essays About Literature:
    Ch 4: Analyzing Drama
    Ch 12: Sample Essay

Class Activities:
    ESSAY ASSIGNMENT: COMPARISON
    Discussion of The Piano Lesson

April 8
CH302

Class Activity:
    Video of Death and the Maiden
    DUE: RESPONSES TO THE PIANO LESSON

April 13
CH302

Reading:
from Literature:
    Dorfman, Death and the Maiden
        pp. 1836-68
    Dorfman, Afterward
        pp. 1993-96

Class Activities:
    Video and Discussion of Death and the Maiden

April 15
CH340

Class Activities:
    DUE: RESPONSES TO DEATH AND THE MAIDEN
    Review For Drama Exam
    Work on Drafting Comparison Essays

April 20
CH340

Class Activities:
    Peer Editing of Essay Drafts
    DUE: FIRST DRAFT OF COMPARISON ESSAY
    Sign-up for Conferences

April 22-
April 29

Classes Suspended:
    Conferences in 336 Coleman Hall
    DUE: REVISION OF COMPARISON ESSAY

May 3
2:45 PM

DRAMA EXAM
FINAL EXAM ESSAY
READING ASSIGNMENTS

You should have been issued the following texts for this course:

Webster’s New World Dictionary.

Please do all reading by the date assigned and always bring the relevant text(s) to class. Keep The Blair Handbook and the dictionary handy for reference.

WRITING ASSIGNMENTS

The course requires that you submit the following writing:

SIX SETS OF RESPONSES to the assigned reading, typed double-spaced. Although class time may be available to work on these, you will have to complete most of the writing outside class. Responses will come due periodically. They are evaluated on their originality and careful attention to the assigned poem, story, or play. Although graded less stringently than essays, they should be legible, coherent and reasonably free of errors in mechanics and grammar.

THREE ESSAYS in first draft, typed double-spaced, for peer editing and review. You will receive full credit for first drafts if they are substantially complete.

THREE REVISIONS, typed double-spaced, which I will read and evaluate during individual conferences with you. The essay will receive a grade at this time. I may reject work that doesn’t fit the assigned length or topic. Revisions are graded according to the criteria set forth in “Guidelines for Evaluating Writing Assignments in EIU’s English Department,” and according to the consistency and insight of your interpretation of works of literature.

A FINAL EXAM ESSAY, written in class during the time scheduled for your final exam.

Other MISCELLANEOUS WRITING, including unscheduled quizzes and exercises. My criteria for grading these will vary. Please ask if you have a question about the grade on a particular assignment.

Though I hope you work hard, I can only evaluate results; I cannot measure the effort you put into your writing.

PEER EDITING

You will be asked to spend THREE class periods commenting on the drafts of your classmates. The purposes of peer editing are to improve your reading skills and help you develop a constructive, analytical approach to the problems and possibilities of revision in your own writing.
To receive full credit for peer editing, you must bring to class TWO COPIES of a complete typed draft of your essay, and work the entire period reading and commenting on essays by your peers. Your written comments will be graded on their completeness.

CONFERENCES

Three times during the course, classes will be suspended to make time for individual conferences during which I read and evaluate your essay revisions. Essays will receive a grade at this time. You will be given a signup sheet before each set of conferences. It is your responsibility to show up at the time scheduled, and your essay may receive a late penalty if you miss a conference. If you cannot keep the appointment, call me ahead of time to reschedule.

EXAMINATIONS

There will be THREE objective exams, one covering each of the literary genres. Their primary purpose is to test your comprehension of the reading. Questions may appear on any assigned reading as well as on the poems, stories and plays slated for discussion on the syllabus.

MANUSCRIPT REQUIREMENTS

The presentation of written work does affect its grade. Your work should conform to the following rules:

- Work written in class should be neatly handwritten on standard-sized lined paper. For those working in the ETIC, of course it should be typed on the computer and printed.
- Fold all in-class writing assignments lengthways. On the outside write your name, the course number and section, instructor's name, and date.
- FIRST DRAFTS brought for peer editing should be typed double-spaced on standard-sized paper in blue or black ink. Do this out of consideration for your classmates who will be required to read and comment on your work.
- REVISIONS and RESPONSES must be typed double-spaced on standard-sized paper in blue or black ink. Any revision or response that comes to me not typed will be returned unread. I will consider it late unless a typed copy is submitted the same day.
- On the first page type your name, the course number and section, the instructor's name, and the date. Don't forget to title your essay.
- Copy should cover only one side of each page and have adequate margins on all four sides. Pages should be numbered.

You are responsible for all errors whether or not you type the manuscript yourself, so proofread carefully. Though corrections in ink are expected, the copy should not be so riddled with scratched-out errors or squeezed-in insertions that it is difficult to read.

If you have not handed in a draft for peer editing, or if the essay has changed drastically between early drafts and the final version, bring previous drafts to conference along with the revision.
LATE ASSIGNMENTS AND MAKE-UPS

You may make up or be excused from classwork ONLY if your absence is authorized by me or another member of the faculty. I may require documentation of illnesses, emergencies, or other excuses for missed work.

I accept late revisions, but there is a penalty unless you have an excused absence. Your grade loses five (5) points if you miss a conference or come unprepared. It loses an additional ten (10) points if you do not bring me a completed revision when the class next meets. Your grade continues to lose points at the rate of ten (10) for each subsequent class.

I will make every effort to reschedule conferences and may waive or reduce late penalties in exceptional circumstances — such as the writer's extended and incapacitating illness — but not because of fraternity or sorority activities, vacation arrangements, sports events, etc.

You may be excused from handing in a first draft or attending peer editing session only for similar compelling reasons.

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.

PLAGIARISM

The English Department has a 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 assignment 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.

I will impose the severest penalty in a case of deliberate plagiarism.

If you cite outside sources, I do require that you show me the sources before I grade the essay. This is not suspicion of plagiarism; I just want to check whether you know what you're doing.

GRADES

Please don't hesitate to ask questions about your grade. I use a numerical scale that corresponds to letter grades as follows:

- 100 - 90 A
- 89 - 80 B
- 79 - 70 C
- 69 - 60 D
- 59 - 1 F
Your overall grade for the course is determined as follows:

The three REVISIONS brought to conferences count for 12% apiece. Total for revisions: 36%.

Each of the six SETS OF RESPONSES to the reading counts for 5%. Credit is equally divided among the genres of poetry, fiction and drama. Thus, even though you have to write responses to more poems than short stories, your credit for story responses equals your credit for poem responses. Total for responses: 30%.

The three objective EXAMINATIONS count for 5% each. Total for exams: 15%.

The FINAL EXAM ESSAY counts for 5%.

Each FIRST DRAFT brought for peer editing counts for 1% of the final grade, 3% altogether. The written comments from PEER EDITING sessions count for 2% apiece, 6% altogether. Total for first drafts and peer editing: 9%.

MISCELLANEOUS WRITING counts for the remaining 5%.

STUDENTS WHOSE OVERALL GRADE AVERAGES D OR F WILL RECEIVE NC (no credit) ON THEIR FINAL GRADE REPORT. ALTHOUGH THEY MUST REPEAT THE COURSE, THE NC WILL NOT AFFECT THEIR GRADE-POINT AVERAGE.