ENG 1002-045: Composition and Literature

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Course Description: Objectives: In this course, you will engage in analytical discourse regarding short fiction, poetry, and drama. Throughout this semester, you will become more familiar with not only different genres of multi-cultural literature, but different voices within those genres. Also, you will be able to experiment with your own writing voice by reacting to various perspectives and experiences of your own, your classmates, and the writers we encounter within the texts.

We will read numerous short stories, poems, and time permitting, a play. Students will write 2 formal research essays and 1 collaborative paper. In addition, regular written responses are required almost weekly. The extended objective of this class is that the students develop a greater appreciation for diverse literature via class discussion and shared writing experiences. While this class will be demanding, it can be engaging, active, and perhaps enlightening.

Requirements:

A) 2 Critical papers (3-4 pages each) 200
B) 1 panel presentation collaborative paper 200
C) 10 Reading responses 100
D) Quizzes 50 (may be more or less)
E) Participation Attendance
F) Comprehensive Final extra credit TBA 200

Grading Policy: My grading policy is easy to understand and allows you to keep track of your own points. I divide your total points by the total number of points possible. This results in a percentage. As for essays, I grade them according to the following criteria: focus, organization, support and elaboration, process, style, and mechanics. (See EIU’s English Department Guidelines). Letter grades for assigned essays are: A=90-100; B=89-80; C=79-70; D=69-60. NOTE: Any student who receives less than a C for the class will be issued an “NC”. While this is not figured...
into the student's GPA, a student who receives a grade of "NC" must retake the course.

**Attendance:** This class revolves around class discussion and writing, not lecture. Also, changes in the course outline may occur throughout the semester. As a result, regular attendance is crucial to your grade and success in the class. If you are absent, you are still responsible for assignments due that day, syllabus changes, and handouts. If you miss more than five classes, your overall letter grade will be lowered. If you miss eight or more, I will drop you from the class with a "W" before mid-term or a "WF" after mid-term.

**Being late to class:** All quizzes are given at the beginning of class. If you are late, you may not make-up the quiz or the points. If you have problems making it to class on time, speak with me and maybe we can hammer out a solution together.

**Late Work:** Written work is due at the beginning of class. If you turn in a paper after class or for every day a paper is late, it loses 10 points off the final grade, regardless. I will not accept papers a week after they are due, unless you have an excused absence. **NOTE:** Anyone who misses the final exam or who fails to turn in formal papers will not pass.

**Make-up Work:** A student who has an excused absence (meaning documentation) or who participates in a university-sanctioned activity may be given a "make-up" assignment. A student with an unexcused absence may not.

**ADA POLICY:** If you are a student who has a documented disability and who wishes to receive academic accommodations, please contact the coordinator of the office of disabilities (6583) as soon as possible.

**Plagiarism:** Eastern Illinois University English Department's 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 student an appropriate penalty up to and including immediate assignment of a grade of F for the course, and to report the Incident to the Judicial Affairs Office."

**Manuscripts:** All essays must be typed and double-spaced. Your name, date, the essay assignment, my last name, and the title of the essay should appear on a separate title page, not at the top of the first page of the essay. Avoid quadruple spacing between paragraphs; it is unnecessary and distracting. All essays will be given a number grade, a letter grade, critical comments, and an explanation of the grade. You may discuss any and all work at length during my office hours or a scheduled conference.
Written Responses: All informal responses to the literature should be typed and double-spaced. They should be 1 page in length. Responses are not plot summaries or jotted down in five minutes. The responses are graded on thoughtfulness and careful articulation of ideas. Occasionally, I will ask you to read or discuss your responses with the class.

Reading: The reading for this course will be intensive. You should interact closely with the work, not just skim it a few minutes before class. Do yourself a favor and employ the reading process.

Conferences: Throughout the semester I will hold at least one writing conference with each student, maybe more, time permitting. While at this time we will discuss successes, problem areas, and other facets of your performance, I encourage all of you to approach me with any difficulties at any time this semester. Note my e-mail address: cf$sjb$@eiu.edu

Comp II: Spr. 02

Course Outline: Subject to expansion, deletion, and updates

Week 1:
Mon. Jan. 7th: Introductions & syllabus review
Wed. Jan. 9th: Introduction to the short story
   Reading: The Story and Its Writer, pp. 1683-1695; 1696-1699;
   “Managing Grief” Mukherjee, pp. 1022-1034.

Week 2:
Mon. Jan. 14th: Review Fiction Notes: Discuss Mukherjee
   Reading: Writing Essays, pp. 7-13
Wed. Jan. 16th: Discuss Writing Responses
   Reading: “Doe Season” David Kaplan, handout

Week 3:
Mon. Jan. 21st: MLK observance
Wed. Jan. 23rd: 1st Reading Response Due: Discuss “Doe Season”
   Reading: “Where Are You Going, Where Have You Been”
   Oates
   p. 1052 in The Story and Its Writer.

Week 4:
Mon. Jan. 28th: Discussion: Introduce Panel Presentations
   Reading: “Connie’s Tambourine Man: A New Reading of Arnold Friend” by Mike Tierce and John Michael Crafton. h.o.
Wed. Jan. 30th: 2nd Reading Response Due/Film: “Smooth Talk”
Week 5:
Mon. Feb. 4th:  Film: “Smooth Talk” Discussion
reading: “What We Talk About When We...,” Carver, p. 256.

Wed. Feb. 6th:  3rd Reading Response Due  First Panel Presentation: “What We Talk About...”

Week 6:
Mon. Feb. 11th: Discussion
Note: see also, “A Feminist Reading of Gilman’s “The Yellow Wallpaper,” p. 1465.


Week 7:
Mon. Feb. 18th: 4th Reading Response Due  Panel Presentation 3: Discussion

Wed. Feb. 20th: Discussion

Week 8:
Mon. Feb. 25th: Panel Presentation 4: Discussion

Wed. Feb. 27th:  5th Reading Response Due/Prepare for 1st Critical Essay
Thurs. Feb. 28th: Good Grief, it’s Mid-term already!

Week 9:
Mon. March 4th: First Critical Essay Due  Introduction to Poetry
reading: Writing Essays About Literature, pp. 83-87
Handouts: “Carnies” Allbery; “Assembler” Allbery;
“In Line At the Supermarket” Pape.

Wed. March 6th: Discussion
Reading: pp. 563-581 in An Introduction to Poetry

Week 10: Spring Break!
Mon. March 11th
Wed. March 13th

Week 11:

Mon. March 18th: 6th Reading response due

Wed. March 20th: Panel Presentation 5: Hayden, Heany, Plath

Week 12:

Mon. March 25th: 7th Reading Response Due Discussion
    reading: "Do Not Go Gentle..." Thomas, p. 222;
           "To His Coy Mistress," Marvel, p. 451
           "To the Virgins..." Herrick, p. 431

Wed. March 27th: Panel Presentation 6: Thomas, Marvel, Herrick
    reading: "The One Girl at the Boy's Party" Olds, p. 461
           "The Cadence of Silk" Hongo, p. 431
           "Zimmer's Head Thudding Against the Blackboard" h.o.
           "As Children Together," Forche, h.o.

Week 13:
Mon. April 1st: 8th Reading Response Due/Discussion
    Writing about Poetry pp. 547-555 in an Intro to Poetry

Wed. April 3rd: Discussion/ Russell Simmon's Poetry Jam
    pp. 563-583; 87-112 in Writing Essays about Lit.

Week 14:

Mon. April 8th: 2nd Critical Essay due Introduction to Drama & Film
    reading: Harcourt Brace, pp. 3-10
           "Trifles"

Wed. April 10th: Discussion

Week 15:
Mon. April 15th: 9th Reading Response Due/Film

Wed. April 17th: Discussion Film
Week 16:

Mon. April 22: **Final Reading Response due/Film**

Wed. April 24th: Last Class Day  Review for Final Exam  Revisions Due

Week 17:
Final Exam TBA

Commencement May 4th.