ENG 1001C-054: Composition and Language

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Fall 1998
Instructor: Robert A. Zordani
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ENG 1001C -- 054 -- 5:00-6:15 TR -- CH302 T, CH340 R

General Guidelines and Information

Course Description

English 1001C is a writing course which involves the reading and writing and critiquing of both professional and student essays. This particular section of 1001C is computer assisted, which simply means that students will become familiar with and do much writing and peer evaluating on the computers in the classroom. No part of any grade will be affected in any way by a student's performance on the computers in the classroom. Every Tuesday, we will meet in CH302; every Thursday, we will meet in CH340. Each student needs at least two formatted 3.5 inch computer disks. The disks will be used to store notes, outlines, and drafts of essays, as well as any in-class writing.

In this class, you will write four 1,000 word essays worth 100 points each and one 1,500 word research paper worth 200 points. All papers MUST be typed according to standard MLA form. I will not accept papers that are not typed. If your papers are late, I will deduct ten percent (one full letter grade) for each day the paper is late unless, of course, special arrangements are made ahead of time. I will also give reading quizzes worth 10 points each. There will be no make-up quizzes.

My grading policy is very simple. At the end of the semester, I will total your points and divide that sum by the total number of points possible in the course. My grading scale is as follows:

- 90% - 100% A
- 80% - 89.9% B
- 70% - 79.9% C
- 0% - 69.9% NC

Please note that you must earn a grade of C or higher to pass English 1001C at EIU. If you earn lower than a C, I will issue you a grade of NC (no credit). This will not count against your grade point average, but it will result in your having to retake the course.

Attendance

Attendance to this class is REQUIRED. I expect you to come to class and to be there on time. Tardiness disrupts the flow of the class, and I hate it when that happens. If you have four to seven unexcused absences, I will lower your final grade by one full letter grade. If you have eight or more unexcused absences, I will issue you a grade of NC.
Conferences and Office Visits

I will schedule one mandatory individual conference per student during week eight (October 12-16) of the semester. If you miss this conference, I will count it as an unexcused absence. I also urge you to visit my office if you have any questions about assignments or need help with the course work.

Classroom Expectations

I expect you to read the assigned work and to be ready to participate in class discussions. It's no fun for an English instructor to talk to a silent class, and it's no fun for students to listen to an English instructor drone on endlessly. Simply stated, college is a forum for ideas. If you want to get something useful out of college, you have to let your ideas fly.

Eastern Illinois University 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) has the right and responsibility to impose on 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."

Documented Disabilities

If you have a documented disability and want academic accommodations, let me know about it as soon as possible. You must also contact the Coordinator of the Office of Student Disability Services (581-6583) immediately.

Texts

Stanford, Connections, 2nd Edition
Crump and Carbone, Writing Online, 2nd Edition
A standard college-level dictionary

Syllabus

Week 1:
Tuesday 8/25 -- introduction
Thursday 8/27 -- in-class essay (counts as first draft, essay 1)

Week 2:
Tuesday 9/1 -- Emily Prager's "Our Barbies, Ourselves," Connections, 307
Thursday 9/3 -- essay 1 second draft due, peer editing
Week 3:
Tuesday 9/8 -- essay 1 due, Diane Ackerman's "The Face of Beauty," Connections, 252
Thursday 9/10 -- introduce essay 2, in-class writing

Week 4:
Tuesday 9/15 -- Vo Thi Tam's "A Boat Person's Story," Connections, 87
Thursday 9/17 -- essay 2 first draft due, peer editing

Week 5:
Tuesday 9/22 -- Grace Ming-Yee Wai's "Chinese Puzzle," Connections, 131
Thursday 9/24 -- essay 2 second draft due, peer editing

Week 6:
Tuesday 9/29 -- essay 2 due, Maxine Hong Kingston's "The Misery of Silence," Connections, 208
Thursday 10/1 -- introduce essay 3, in-class writing

Week 7:
Tuesday 10/6 -- Brent Staples' "Just Walk on By: A Black Man Ponders His Power to Alter Public Space," Connections, 227
Thursday 10/8 -- essay 3 first draft due, peer editing

Week 8:
Monday 10/12 -- midterm conferences
Tuesday 10/13 -- Zora Neale Hurston's "How It Feels to Be Colored Me," Connections, 99
Wednesday 10/14 -- midterm conferences
Thursday 10/15 -- essay 3 second draft due, peer editing
Friday 10/16 -- midterm conferences

Week 9:
Tuesday 10/20 -- essay 3 due, introduce essay 4, in-class writing
Thursday 10/22 -- essay 4 first draft due, peer editing

Week 10:
Tuesday 10/27 -- assignments forthcoming
Thursday 10/29 -- assignments forthcoming

Week 11:
Thursday 11/5 -- essay 4 second draft due, peer editing
Week 12:
Tuesday 11/10 -- essay 4 due, Marianna De Marco Torgovnick's "On Being White, Female, and Born in Bensonhurst," Connections, 363
Thursday 11/12 -- introduce essay 5 (research paper), generate topics w/peers

Week 13:
Tuesday 11/17 -- Chapters 15, 17, and 18, Fulwiler and Hayakawa
Thursday 11/19 -- essay 5 first draft due, peer editing

Week 14:
Tuesday 12/1 -- review MLA citation
Thursday 12/3 -- essay 5 second draft due, peer editing

Week 15:
Tuesday 12/8 -- essay 5 third draft due (in hard copy), peer editing
Thursday 12/10 -- essay 5 due, closing remarks

THERE WILL BE NO FINAL EXAM IN THIS COURSE!