Fall 8-15-2002

ENG 1001G-068-069-070: Composition and Language

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Fall 2002

ENGLISH 1001G, sections 086 (TR 2:00-3:15), 092 (TR 3:30-4:45) and 067 (TR 6:30-7:45)

Instructor: Dan Tessitore
Office: CH329 e-mail: [coming soon]
Office Hours: TR 4:45 - 6:30, 7:45-8:30, and by appointment

Texts: Axelrod and Cooper. The St. Martin's Guide to Writing, 6th ed. (StM)
Fulwiler and Hayakawa. The Blair Handbook, 2nd ed. (TBH)
a standard college-level dictionary

Description and Guidelines: English 1001G is a writing course that involves the reading and writing and critiquing of both professional and student essays. These sections of 1001G are computer-assisted, which simply means that students will become familiar with and do some 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 classroom computers; however, computer problems outside the classroom do not serve as valid excuses for late or missing assignments. Every other week we meet in the computer lab (3140 or 3130). Each student needs two formatted 3.5-inch computer disks on the third day of class. The disks are used to store notes, outlines, and drafts of essays, as well as any other in-class writing. NOTE: Students who have ACT scores in English of 14 or below, or who have no test scores on file with the university, must pass English 1000 before enrolling in English 1001G.

Attendance: Each student is allowed three unexcused absences; every unexcused absence after three will lower the student’s final grade 5%. Students are responsible for all material covered in class, which includes but is not limited to all lectures and any changes made in the syllabus. Quizzes may not be made up; the three lowest quiz grades will be dropped. Exams may be made up with an excused absence and prior arrangement with the instructor.

Late Work: The essays are due at the beginning of class on the assigned dates. Any essay passed in late will be penalized one full grade every day—including Saturday and Sunday—that the essay is late. With an excused absence and prior arrangement with the instructor, an essay may be handed in late without penalty.

Essay Manuscripts: All essays must be typed, double-spaced; pages should be numbered and held together with a paper clip. The student’s name, the date, the essay assignment, the instructor’s name, and the title of the essay should appear single-spaced at the top left of the first page of the essay. All essays will be given a number grade, a letter grade, critical comments, and an explanation of the grade. If a student has five or more major usage errors on any essay, the essay will most likely receive a failing grade. Any essay and essay’s grade may be discussed at length during office hours or a scheduled appointment.

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 guilty 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.

Students with Disabilities: If you are a student who has a documented disability and wishes to receive academic accommodations, please contact the Coordinator of the Office of Disability Services (581-6583) as soon as possible.

Cell Phones: Cell phones must be turned off during class. If your cell phone rings, you will have five points deducted from your next essay or exam.
Assignments and Grading System:

Quizzes (daily and rarely announced) 20%
Grammar/Usage Exam #1 10%
Grammar/Usage Exam #2 10%
Essay #1 (diagnostic) not graded
Essay #2 10%
Essay #3 and #4 30% (15% each)
Essay #5 (research) 20%

Grading Scale:

90-100% = A
80-89% = B
70-79% = C
60-69% = D
0-59% = F

A course grade lower than 70/C- will appear on the student’s report card and on E.I.U. records as an NC (no credit). Extra Credit (an essay based on the reading of a novel or book of creative non-fiction) is offered; see the instructor for details.

Syllabus (subject to deletion and expansion):

Aug27 Intro to course/Examine syllabus/Explanation of diagnostic essay
Aug29 Essay #1: Diagnostic in-class essay
Sep 3 Discuss Essay #1 results/ TBH: review chapters 33,34, 36, 38-42, 44-46
Pick up Major Usage Error practice exam #1
Sep 5 Major Usage Error practice exam #1
Sep10 Finish M.U.E. practice exam #1/ StM: pp25-28/ Discuss Essay #2
Sep12 StM pp28-33 Annie Dillard’s “Handed My Own Life” and pp33-37 Tobias Wolff’s “On Being A Real Westerner”
Sep17 StM pp37-42 Rick Bragg’s “100 Miles per Hour, Upside Down and Sideways” and pp42-47 Jean Brandt’s “Calling Home”
Free-writing exercise: Finding a Topic
Sep19 Rough Draft for Essay #2 due, 4-6 pages typed minimum (Any student not producing a typed Rough Draft will be downgraded five (5) points on the final essay grade: this will be the policy for all Rough Drafts for the rest of the semester) Peer Evaluation/In-class Writing
Sep24 Working Draft for Essay #2 due, 3-5 pages typed minimum (Any student not producing a typed Working Draft much advanced from the rough draft will be downgraded five (5) points on the final essay grade: this will be the policy for all Working Drafts for the rest of the semester) / Peer Evaluation/In-class writing
Sep26 Essay #2 due, 3-5 pages typed minimum/ Grammar/usage exercises
Pick up M. U. E. practice exam #2
Oct 1 M. U. E. practice exam #2
Oct 3 Finish M. U. E. practice exam #2/ Review for M. U. E. Exam #1
Oct 8  Major Usage Exam #1/ Discuss Essay #3

Oct 10  StM: pp79-81 Remembering a Person and pp82-85 Maya Angelou’s “Uncle Willie”
Free Writing Exercise/Topic Development

Oct 15  StM: pp93-97 Amy Wu’s “A Different Kind of Mother” and pp97-103 Jan Gray’s “Father”

Oct 17  Rough Draft of Essay #3 due, 4-6 page typed minimum/In-class writing: Introductions
and Conclusions

Oct 22  Working Draft of Essay #3 due, 3-5 page typed minimum/Intro’s and Conclusions

Oct 24  Essay #3 due, 3-5 page typed minimum/ pick up M.U.E. practice exams #’s 3-7


Oct 31  M. U. E. Exam #2/ Discuss Essay #4: Writing Profiles’ newly acquired knowledge

Nov 5  StM: pp129-135 “Soup” from The New Yorker and pp135-140 Peggy Orenstein’s “The
Daily Grind: Lessons in the Hidden Curriculum”

Nov 7  StM: pp140-146 David Noonan’s “Inside the Brain” and pp146-153 Brian Cable “The Last
Stop”

Nov 12  Discuss weekend field research results: observing, interviewing, and notetaking

Nov 14  Rough Draft of Essay #4

Nov 19  Essay #4: In-class essay

Nov 21  TBH: Conducting Library Research, pp197-224/TBH: Documenting Sources: MLA Style,
pp249-278/ Discuss Essay #5, the Research Paper

THANKSGIVING BREAK NOVEMBER 25-29

Dec 2-Dec 6  Student Conferences and Research/Writing of Essay #5
Every student will have a conference with the instructor sometime during the week;
every student will show up to his or her conference with a typed Rough Draft of the
Research Paper/Essay #5

Dec 10  Working Draft of Essay #5 due/ In-class writing
Final analysis and questions

Dec 12  Essay #5 due

THE END

THERE IS NO FINAL EXAM IN ENGLISH 1001G