Fall 2009

ENG 1002G-002: Composition and Literature

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Eastern Illinois University

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English 1002G, Section .002
9:30—10:45 a.m., TR, CH 3140 (classroom) and CH 3210 (lab)

Instructor: Ms. Debra Valentino
Office: CH 3836
Campus Phone: 581-6987
E-mail: davalentino@eiu.edu

Office Hours: Tuesday and Thursday
11:00—12:15 p.m.
1:45 — 3:00 p.m.
and M-F by appointment

Texts:
Poetry: A Pocket Anthology, 5th ed., R. S. Gwynn
The Compact Bedford Intro to Drama, 5th ed., Jacobus
Doubt by John Patrick Shanley
Short Fiction: Classic & Contemporary, 6th ed., Bohner and Grant
Johnny Got His Gun by Dalton Trumbo
Writing Essays About Literature, 7th ed., Griffith

Course Objectives: ENG 1002G is a writing-centered course designed to improve skills in critical thinking and analytical expression based on the reading of literary texts. Our central focus will include the genres of short fiction, drama, and poetry. Students will also advance their critical thinking and documentation skills by writing a research paper. Our objective throughout the course will be to improve your writing skills.

Class Participation: All outside readings should be completed by the start of the class period for which they were assigned. Since this is a course that depends heavily on student participation, students will be expected to contribute relevant and insightful questions and comments to class discussions. Student performance in this category will be factored into final grades by being awarded a point value (see “Grade Distribution” below).

Classroom Conduct: Students are expected to conduct themselves in a respectful manner at all times. If you need to speak personally to the instructor, please do so after class (or during office hours). Do not be disruptive. Use the restrooms before class begins, and remain seated until dismissed. Before entering the classroom, turn your cell phones and iPods off. Also, the Department asks that you not consume food or beverages in the classrooms.

Homework: You will have a reading assignment for all class periods (unless otherwise announced). Typically, each reading is expected to be completed by the start of the following class period. In addition, you will be given several writing assignments to be completed both inside and outside of class. Our goal will be to spend a minimum of five (5) hours working outside of class per week, as established by the Department of English.

Quizzes and Exercises: Several quizzes may be given throughout the semester to encourage students to stay current with the reading, and to reward comprehension of the assigned text. Quizzes may be frequent, and generally unannounced. Though some students may be exempt due to excused absences, no make-ups for in-class quizzes will be granted. Students wishing to make-up missed take-home exercises should see the instructor.

Written Assignments: Follow directions given in class and on accompanying assignment sheets. It is each student's responsibility to ask questions and to communicate to the instructor any difficulty or delay in completing any assignment.

Note: Assignment submission presumes that you understand the objectives, and that your work represents your best effort.

Note also: You are required to keep all coursework (especially essays and drafts), and to bring all work with you to student conferences. In addition, be sure to bring all drafts on current essays to all class meetings (including both electronic and hard copies). Failure to do so will result in a deduction of Class Participation points.
Due Dates: All out-of-class essays will be due at the beginning of the class period on the date specified. In-class essays will be due at the end of the class period, unless otherwise announced by the instructor.

Late Work: Essays are expected to be completed in a timely fashion and turned in on the due date. If no extension has been granted, late papers will be marked down ten (10) points for each missed class period.

Note: All final drafts must be submitted to complete this course. Failure to submit any essay will result in a grade of N/C (No Credit) for the course.

Attendance: Regular attendance is expected. An excused absence generally occurs only when the student has a documented illness. Events such as funerals (other than immediate family), vacations, weddings, and other appointments are generally considered to be unexcused. Other examples of excused absence include participation in official University activities, such as sports.

Note: Students with more than three (3) unexcused absences will have their course grade lowered one letter grade.

Absences/Missed Work: Students who anticipate an absence in advance should notify the instructor in person or by phone. Students who are ill should telephone the instructor, preferably on the day of the absence. Report Health Service visits and provide documentation upon your return to class, or sign a release form so that the instructor may call for verification. When an absence does occur, it is the absent student’s responsibility to get all class information (including schedule/assignment modifications) from another class member.

Students should use the class phone list to consult classmates regarding missed material and assignments. Once informed, students may then e-mail, visit, or telephone the instructor with specific questions. Failure to comply with this policy may result in lowered Class Participation points.

Note: Any student needing a prolonged absence for any reason should inform the instructor immediately. Do not wait until the end of the semester to express concern over attendance problems, since then it will be too late to compensate for missed work.

Note Also: E-mail is not always a reliable source of communication. When it comes to attendance, use e-mail only as a supplemental means of communication. Do not assume that all reported absences are excused.

Make-up Work: Missed exercises due to absence are due upon the student’s return to class. Missed essays due to an excused absence may be made up within two weeks of the student’s return to class, but only with instructor permission. If the absence is unexcused (no note, no phone call, or without approval) make-ups are not allowed. Make-up privileges will be granted to only to those with verified absences.

Grades: All essay grades will be evaluated using the “Guidelines for Evaluating Writing Assignments in EIU’s English Department” (attached) and averaged using the following scale:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Points</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>91-100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>81-90</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>70-80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>60-69</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>below 59</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: If a student fails to follow instructions, or writes an essay in the wrong mode (e.g., expressive vs. expository, as defined in class), an “N/C” (No Credit) may be given for the paper. Note also, that no “Ds” or “Fs” will be given for the final course grade. Students averaging points below 70% will receive a grade of N/C as defined by the core curriculum standards of the Department.
Grade Distribution – Grades will be added and averaged, with assignments counting for the following values:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignment</th>
<th>Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Essay I</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Essay II</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Research Essay III</td>
<td>200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Writing Exercises</td>
<td>10—100 pts.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reading Quizzes</td>
<td>10—100 pts.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mid-term Exam</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final Exam</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Class Participation</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Plagiarism: Students must familiarize themselves with the English Department’s statement on plagiarism. If the student has clearly plagiarized, the instructor reserves the right to award the essay in question a grade of N/C. According to the standards set by the Eastern Illinois University Department of English, the policy for plagiarism is as follows:

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’ (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.

Respect for the work of others should encompass all formats, including print, electronic, and oral sources.

~ DO NOT JEOPARDIZE YOUR GRADE WITH AN ACT OF ACADEMIC DISHONESTY ~
IF YOU ARE HAVING DIFFICULTY INTEGRATING YOUR RESEARCH, SET UP A CONFERENCE.

Conferences: Feel free to see me throughout the semester whenever questions or concerns arise. One conference per semester is mandatory. Failure to attend at your scheduled conference time will result in a deduction of ten (10) pts. from your Class Participation score.

Electronic Writing Portfolios (EWP): Students wishing to submit an essay from this course to fulfill the university requirement, must do so by Thursday, November 19, 2009. Forms may be downloaded off the internet from the following address: http://www.eiu.edu/~assess/. For instructions on how to submit an essay, see the attached document, “To Submit to the Electronic Writing Portfolio,” or follow the instructions online.

Writing Center: The writing center is at the end of the northeast corridor on the third floor of Coleman Hall in Room 3110. Students of English 1002G are encouraged to take their writing concerns to this center at any time throughout the semester. This is not a proofreading or editing service, but rather, a place where confusion and uncertainty about composition can be remedied. Also, if you are having particular problems with grammar and the mechanics of writing, this is the place (other than your handbook) to turn to for help.

Hours for Fall 2009 are: Monday—Thursday 9 a.m. – 3 p.m., and 6 – 9 p.m.
Friday 9 a.m. – 1 p.m.

In addition, you may receive free tutorial help by calling 581-5929.

The writing center web address is: http://www.eiu.edu/~writing/

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

The Final Exam for this Course is scheduled for
Wednesday, December 16, 2009
8:00–10:00 a.m.