Spring 15-1997

ENG 1002-054: Composition and Literature

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Course Goals: English 1002 is a writing course designed to improve your skills in critical thinking and analytical expression based on the reading of literary texts. It is created to build upon your writing skills from 1001 and to further enhance your analytical abilities, especially in regard to reading a text. As a subsidiary goal, the course also offers insight into figuring out how texts work, how they create meaning, and should help you to learn more about the three genres of poetry, fiction, and drama in order better to understand and enjoy them.


Requirements: Class Attendance and participation
- Journal writings and Quizzes
- Final exam
- Two 3-4 page papers
- One 5-6 page research paper

Each reading assignment must be read in entirety before the first class meeting devoted to that assignment so that you may come to class prepared for discussion. The weekly writing assignments should help you to prepare for class discussion, as well as give you practice in writing to help with the three formal papers.

Attendance policy: You are allowed 4 (four) unexcused absences. However, excused absences must be cleared with me before they occur, or (if due to sudden illness or emergency) as soon after as is reasonably possible. I will not retroactively cancel my record of absences if you have not taken the responsibility to promptly inform me of their cause. After 6 (six) absences, your final grade drops a letter. After 12 absences (which constitutes six weeks of the course), you will receive an F for the course. Why? This course is not an independent study, so your attendance and participation are required in order for you to earn a passing grade. In addition, missing class usually puts you at a disadvantage, often resulting in confusion for you and leading to poor performance on tests and on papers.

Note: My "allowing" up to 4 unexcused absences with no penalty does not mean I condone absences. Missing 4 class meetings equals missing TWENTY WEEKS of the course!!! I expect that you will use your absences sparingly and wisely. Keep in mind that regardless of absences, you are responsible for keeping up with due dates, and any changes that I may announce in the syllabus.

Further note: Arriving late and/or leaving early, in addition to interrupting class time for your classmates, will lead to your being marked absent. Attend class on time, in entirety, or not at all.

Policies regarding writing assignments: The writings compiled in your journal and the formal papers must be handed in at the beginning of class on the dates due. Late work is severely
frowned upon and will result in a lowered grade. Regarding the formal papers, I generally will
not accept them at all if they are over a week late, unless prior arrangements have been made with
me for just cause. The two shorter papers will each be worth 20% of your final grade. The
research paper is worth 30%.

The journal writings will be assigned in class--another reason why attendance is of great
importance. These writings will be assigned most weeks of the semester, and are informal, 1-2
pages of response to a question that will be given you in class. I will evaluate them mainly on
content. You will keep all of these responses in a folder which you will hand in for evaluation
twice during the course of the semester (see the schedule for exact due dates). The purpose of
these writings is to get you to think through some ideas about the literature you are reading
BEFORE class discussion, so that you can bring to class some ideas and questions that interest
you. It is imperative that you complete these writings each week, otherwise they will not serve
their purpose in helping you to explore your ideas about the readings. Keep in mind that these are
short assignments if done each week as intended, but will become a chore of little use to either
you or me if put off until the night before the journal is to be handed in.

These writings will be scored each time I take them up, and, in combination with your quiz scores,
will constitute one letter grade worth 15% of your total grade.

The final exam, which will be an essay exam, is worth 15% of your final grade.

Other Policies: The English Department issues the following statement regarding 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 F for the assigned essay and a grade of NC for the course, and to report the incident to the
Judicial Affairs Office.

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.

Schedule of Assignments
January
14: Introduction to the course
16: Symbols, Images, and Meaning

21: Intro. to Poetry. Read Moore's "Poetry" (980); MacLeish's "Ars Poetica" (1055); Hughes'
"Formula" (894).

Poetry about Love
23: Yeats's "Adam's Curse" (1015); Auden's "Lay Your Sleeping Head, My Love" (937);

28: Nims' "Love Poem" (611); cummings' "since feeling is first" (953); Kinnal's "After making
Love We Hear Footsteps" (1042)
30: Olds' "Sex Without Love" (1046); Rich's "Living in Sin" (989)

February
4: Love Sonnets: Shakespeare's "My Mistress' Eyes Are Nothing Like the Sun" (767); "When in Disgrace with Fortune and men's eyes" (995); Sidney's "Loving in Truth and Fain in Verse My Love to Show" (996); Millay's "What Lips My Lips Have Kissed" (978);
6: Eliot's "The Love Song of J. Alfred Prufrock" (922)

Poetry about Death and Mortality
11: Owen's "Dulce et Decorum Est" (660); Stafford's "Traveling Through the Dark" (706);
Thomas' "Do Not Go Gentle Into that Good Night" (770)
13: Drafts due for in-class work
18: Thomas' "Fern Hill" (1003); Hopkins "Spring and Fall" (965); Plath's "Mirror" (683)
20: Hall's "My Son, My Executioner" (959); Frost's "Out--Out--" (863)---Paper 1 due; Paper 2 assigned

Drama
25: Shakespeare's Hamlet
27: Hamlet

March
4: Shakespeare's Hamlet
6: Hamlet

11: Pinter's The Dumbwaiter
13: Paper 2 due; research paper assigned

18: Spring Break
20: Spring Break

25: Hansberry's A Raisin in the Sun
27: Raisin

April
1: Wilson's The Piano Lesson
3: Piano Lesson

8: In-class work on the research paper
10: In-class work on the research paper

Short Stories
15: Chopin's "The Story of an Hour" (12); de Maupassant's "The Necklace" (48)
17: Faulkner's "A Rose for Emily" (54)
22: Hemingway's "Soldier's Home" (132)
24: O'Connor's "A Good Man Is Hard to Find" (358)

29: Updike's "A & P" (487)  **Research paper due**
**May 1**: Prep for final exam

Final Exam: Monday, May 5, 8:00-10:00