SYLLABUS
English 1001 Section 064, Fall 2008
TR 9:30-10:45AM, Coleman 3691

Professor: Megan Holt
Office: Coleman Hall room 2110
Office Hours: Wed. 12:00-1:00, Tuesdays 12:30-2:30, and by appointment
Email: mholt@eiu.edu

Materials: The Blair Handbook
The World Is A Text
*outside sources will be provided throughout the semester

Objectives

As this is a writing intensive course, it is important to note that writing means to
"express" or to "communicate." With each assignment, I encourage you to display your
knowledge and individuality. Outside sources will be integrated into the classroom, and
there will be many opportunities to try your hand at new writing techniques. While your
technical and structural writing skills continue to grow, you should also be open to new
material. Ultimately, the goal of this course is to help you become a well-rounded writer
and to prepare you for future endeavors.

Attendance

Enrollment in this course means that you must be committed to your work. You are
allowed four absences, no questions asked, before your grade is negatively effected.
After your fourth absence, your final grade in the course will be lowered by one full letter
grade per class you miss. THIS IS NONNEGOTIABLE.

If you had an "A" but missed five classes, your grade will become a "B."
If you had an "A" but missed six classes, your grade will become a "C."
If you had a "C" but missed six classes, your grade will become an "F."

If an emergency arises that requires an extensive, excused leave of absence, contact me
as soon as possible and keep me informed. The situation will determine the necessary
arrangements. On a final note, keep track of scheduled conference times. Failure to
arrive at an appointment will count as an absence!

Participation

Mandatory. Class discussions and activities shape the dynamics of this class, and
everyone is expected to participate. Be prepared to ask questions, offer insight, and
interact (respectfully) with your peers. While listening is a valuable skill, this is not an
excuse to sit in silence. I strongly encourage you to get to know your classmates and to
contribute to the conversations held each class period.

**Grading**

The following is a break down of what your final grade will consist of:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Essay</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1st Essay</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd Essay</td>
<td>20%</td>
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<tr>
<td>3rd Essay</td>
<td>20%</td>
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<tr>
<td>4th Essay</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Class Participation</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Activities</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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**Late Work**

Late assignments are a hassle, and they will only put you behind schedule. Your papers are always due at the beginning of class. Please don’t tell me that your printer ran out of ink or that your flash drive was stolen. You have until the following class period to turn in your paper. Though I will grade your assignment, it will automatically be lowered one third of a letter grade. If I do not receive your paper by the following class period, your assignment will result as a “0” in the grade book. I DO NOT ACCEPT ANY ASSIGNMENTS VIA EMAIL.

*If your paper was late, an “A” will become an “A-”*
*If your paper was late, an “A-” will become a “B+”*
*If your paper was late, a “C-” will become a “D+”*

On a similar note, if you are absent on the day an assignment is handed out, you can try and contact me through email. I do want you to have the material, but as I’m not always near a computer, I cannot promise that you will get a prompt reply. Make it a point to get to know your peers!

**Plagiarism**

Plagiarism means word-for-word unacknowledged copying of another writer’s work or unacknowledged paraphrasing of another writer’s ideas. If you document something that is not your own original thought, take the time to insert the appropriate quotation marks and/or citations! If this definition is unclear to you, be sure to ask questions before a paper is due!! The minimum penalty for plagiarism is an “F” on the assignment. A report will also be filed with judicial affairs, and anyone found guilty of plagiarizing may face expulsion from the university.

**Other Matters**

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.
*This schedule is subject to change throughout the semester*

**WEEK ONE: Getting Started**

Aug. 26- Syllabus and introductions

Aug. 28- Reading: *When is it OK to invite a student to dinner?* Pg. 624-626
   In class exercise

**WEEK TWO: Writing About Yourself**

Sept. 2- Personal Essay DUE!!
   Handouts

Sept. 4- Second activity due

**WEEK THREE: It’s In The Details**

Sept. 9- Blair Handbook
   Pet peeve list

Sept. 11- Rough draft of analytical essay due!

**WEEK FOUR: Speak Your Mind**

Sept. 16- Thesis statement exercises

Sept. 18- In class exercise

**WEEK FIVE: What’s The Right Answer?**

Sept. 23- Analytical Essay DUE!!
   Class discussion

Sept. 25- Documentary Day!

**WEEK SIX: Political Controversy**

Sept. 30- Documentary Day!

Oct. 2- Conferences- bring your rough draft!!

**WEEK SEVEN: Taking A Breather**

Oct. 7- Conferences- bring your rough draft!!

Oct. 9- Papers are returned
WEEK EIGHT: Get Creative

Oct: 14- Argumentative Essay DUE!!

Oct. 16- Creative Writing