ENG 1002G-002: Composition and Literature

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Fall 2008 – English 1002G-Composition and Literature

ENG 1002G – 02 – 8-9:15 a.m. TTH CH 2120
Three Credit Hours

Instructor Bill Feltt
Office: CH 3734
Phone: 581-7011
E-mail: wefeltt@eiu.edu

Office hours: TTh 9:30-11:30 a.m.; 2-4:45 p.m.
Office Hours are also posted on door of office (CH3734) and by appointment

The plan

The texts

- Pickering, *Fiction 100.*
- Gwynn, Poetry: A Pocket Anthology
- Jacobus, *Bedford Introduction to Drama.*

The course

In English 1002G (Composition and Literature) you will take the next step from 1001G toward developing your writing, reading and analytical skills. We’ll read works of literature—poetry, fiction, drama, some essays, perhaps—then, after studying different ways to analyze them, we’ll dig deeper, learn how to talk and write intelligibly about them.

*** In this course you must take a final exam ***

The requirements

- First things first, though. You need to know what I expect from you. **We will rely on electronic (email) format to submit essays.** You must establish an e-mail account, preferably through EIU or commercial site such as Yahoo or Hot Mail.

So everyone establish an email and use that same email each time so that I have your e-mail on file in my system. Email me at wefeltt@eiu.edu the first week of class if you don’t already have an EIU account. Include your NAME AND COURSE/SECTION in the subject box, and it would be helpful, though not required, to include your phone number in the text message. We’ll use e-mail extensively to monitor the progress of your essays.

- Use Microsoft Word exclusively as your word processing program, and it is possible because the library and Triad have computers available with MSWord installed. **BUT! DO NOT USE MS WORD 2007 TO SUBMIT YOUR ESSAYS UNLESS YOU CONVERT YOUR FILE TO WORD 2003-4.** I do not have the ability to convert the .docx format. If you have Word 2007, that’s fine. Simply do a “save as” to a Word 2003 or 4. Then save your files in either Word’s default format (.doc) or in Rich Text Format (.rtf) if you must use another WP program, which you shouldn’t need to. If you question
the format, look at the suffix of the file. It should read xxxx.rtf or xxxx.doc. I prefer .doc because sometimes .rtf blows the format of the document. ☑ I will no longer accept essays pasted into the message window of the e-mail. Doing so wrecks the format of your essay, making it difficult to read. ☑ After you’ve saved your paper in the appropriate format, ATTACH it to the e-mail. We’ll discuss this further, but it’s very easy.

Read read read read read write write write write. We will do both. Perhaps not your favorite activities, not what you wanted but perhaps expected to hear. You must do both to become a competent writer. And in this class those who flex their creative muscle, do the work, and participate in class discussions will be rewarded with good grades.

The grades
You will write five response papers of no more than 300 words each (which equals a typed, double-spaced, 12 point, Times New Roman typeface, page with one-inch margins all round) on selected readings, a four-page midterm paper (may take the form of an essay exam), and a final eight-page research paper. You will also take a final exam, date to be announced. And, if you have not already done so, you will required to enter one of your papers into the University’s Electronic Writing Portfolio. More on that later.

Point totals: Grades will computed as follows:
- Five response papers = 10 points each for 50 points possible.
- (At least) two team presentations = 30 points each for 60 points possible.
- Midterm paper (may take the form of an essay exam) = 50 points
- Final exam—Multiple choice, short answer, true/false, essay = 100 points
- Final paper = four to five page research paper with at least four sources = 100 points
- 360 points possible

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course grade %</th>
<th>Assignment grade %</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>90-100% (of 500)=A</td>
<td>98-100% =A+</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>80-89=B</td>
<td>95-97=A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>70-79=C</td>
<td>90-94=A-</td>
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<tr>
<td>Below 70=NC ☑</td>
<td>87-89=B+</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>84-86=B</td>
<td>80-83=B-</td>
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<tr>
<td>77-79=C+</td>
<td>74-76=C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>70-73=C-</td>
<td>67-69=D+</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>64-66=D</td>
<td>60-63=D-</td>
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<tr>
<td>☑ Below 59=F</td>
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</table>

If you receive an NC, you must retake the course!

If you come to class, do the writing and reading, paying attention to the concepts of good writing, attend conferences, participate in discussions, utilize all resources available to
you (e.g., The Writing Center), you should have no problem passing this course with at least a C.

**Tracking grades:** You must keep track of your grades on the table provided on this syllabus. Occasionally, I will check the table to make sure you are in-sync with mine. Between my records and yours, we should avoid any mistakes. Use the table below to keep track of your grades:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignment</th>
<th>Points</th>
<th>Grade</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>First Response</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Second Response</td>
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<td>Third Response</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fourth Response</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fifth Response</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>First Team Presentation</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Second Team Presentation</td>
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<tr>
<td>Midterm</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Final Paper</td>
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<tr>
<td>Final Exam</td>
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<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**The essays**

All essays **MUST conform to the MLA format.** This means they should be formatted on the page correctly and all conventions must be followed. For example, find out when it's appropriate to use numerals for numbers and when to spell them out. Know how to format the first page and subsequent pages and how to set up the Works Cited page, and know **NOT** to use a cover page. I'LL DEDUCT UP TO FIVE POINTS FOR FORMATTING ERRORS.

**The conferences**

You will be required to meet with your classmates and with me. BE THERE.

**The class attendance policy**

If you miss three classes (unexcused), you cannot earn an A, four classes, you cannot earn a B, five classes will earn you an automatic C or lower, more than five will give you non-credit and you must retake the course.

If you miss an in-class assignment or fail to turn in an assignment on time, the only way you can make it up is to present to me an excuse from the university's Health Service, a physician, or proof that you will or have attended a university-sanctioned event.

**The team presentations**

You will do two team presentations. Each will require teams to meet at least once outside class. They will be on short fiction or drama. I'll have you form teams of three to five members. Each member will be equally responsible for content and presentation. Details to come.
The worst thing

Plagiarism. Don’t do it. Why? Because you could get hit with sanctions ranging from a failing grade to expulsion from the university, whose policy reads as follows:

Any teacher who discovers an act of plagiarism—"The appropriation or imitation of 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. Respect for the work of others should encompass all formats, including print, electronic, and oral sources.

Don’t do this. Please don’t do this. If you even suspect that you may be on the verge of plagiarism, see me.

On disabilities:

If you have a documented disability and wish to receive academic accommodations, please contact the Office of Disability Services (581-6583) as soon as possible.

Should you be in this class?

If you received an NC in 1001G, you must see me after IMMEDIATELY. You must successfully pass 1001G before you enroll in 1002G.

The Electronic Writing Portfolio

You must submit an essay from this course or from the previous 1001G class for inclusion into your EWP. This is mandatory. More on this later. I'll schedule a time to look closer at it later on in the semester.

The structure and function

Loose. That’s how I’ll describe the structure. The function will be to help you learn how to be a better writer. How much you improve will totally depend on how seriously you take the course assignments. If I spot any emerging Hemignways or Kings, I’ll let you know. Most of us—including me—can only hope to become competent scribblers. With the exception of the necessity to schedule enough assignments on which to base your midterm grades, the semester will unfold by the somewhat flexible schedule that follows:

August 25 through December 19 (Finals Dec. 15-19)

- To include an overview of the stuff mentioned above and other pressing matters. Shorter paper and probably at least two of the response papers due. Overview of elements of poetry, short fiction and drama.

  o Most importantly during this period, we’ll read and DISCUSS works of short fiction, poetry and drama on various themes (specific assignments to come).
Schedule (subject to change)

Week of: August 26 – First class
  September 9 – FIRST RESPONSE DUE
  September 25 – FIRST TEAM PRESENTATION
  September 30 – SECOND RESPONSE DUE
  October 14 – MIDTERM PROJECT (test or paper TBA) due
  October 15 – MIDTERM
  October 28 – THIRD RESPONSE
  November 6 – FINAL TEAM PRESENTATION DUE
  November 11 – FOURTH RESPONSE PAPER DUE
  November 20 – LAST RESPONSE PAPER DUE
  November 24-28 – Thanksgiving Break
  December 2 – FINAL PAPER DUE and EWP submissions due.
  December 4, 9, & 11: Final Exam review ... Friday, LAST CLASS DAY
  December 15 – December 19: FINALS WEEK (TIME & DAY OF FINAL EXAM TBA)

If you survived 1001G, you should be able to claim the same for this course. Do the assignments, hand them in on time, attend class regularly, listen closely, participate in discussions and you will succeed. Oh yeah. READ THIS SYLLABUS!