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ENG 1002-059: Composition and Literature

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ENGLISH 1002C--COMPOSITION AND LITERATURE

Dr. Buck, Assistant Professor
Office: Coleman Hall 339E
Telephone: Office: 581-5012 (Please leave voice mail if I'm not there)
Mailbox: English Dept Office, Room 308
Office Hours: MWF 12:50-1:30 and by appointment.
Textbooks: --Griffith, Writing Essays about Literature, 4th ed.
--A good dictionary for you to reference as needed.

Course Objective
This writing workshop is designed to improve your skills in critical thinking and analytical expression based on the reading of literary texts. This course will 1) introduce you to a variety of works of literature, 2) instruct you in the distinction of literary genres, 3) help you to become more sensitive and attentive readers, and 4) guide you in articulating--both in class discussion and in written discourse--a mature, informed reaction to literary works.

Course Requirements
The requirements of this course include three formal papers (4-5 pages), daily folder assignments, one presentation, and two exams. In summary, Unit I will be a reader response paper on short fiction (focus is on the concept of structure and development in academic writing); Unit II will be a close reading explication of a poem of your choice (focus is on developing analytical writing skills); and Unit III will be a critical essay on drama (explanatory writing with focus on rhetorical audience).

Folder Writing Assignments
You will need to purchase a manilla folder for this class. That is where you will be keeping all your materials for each unit. Please always bring your folders to class.

Folder writing assignments (home and in-class) are a large part of this course. You should plan on spending one hour per class time that we meet on writing you will do at home. A folder response is 1-2 pages in length and will be evaluated on how well the question/issue is thought out. You should use your folder writing to record your thinking process on a question. You must write in full sentences and in paragraphs (notes will not be accepted), but you need not worry about thesis or tight organization. Getting your thoughts down on paper is the object of the exercise. I will evaluate what you say and how much you say that's insightful rather than how you say it (although you should always proofread your responses). It will be in your formal papers that you will need to spend time perfecting the writing. It is important that you are timely with each assignment because we will be using them in each class.

Always keep your folder responses and writing in process (drafts, etc.) in your folder. You will turn everything in to me at the end of each unit (see attached sheet for dates).

Folder assignments may be handwritten, but must be legible. If I cannot read them, I have no choice but to give a no-credit grade.

Active Attendance
You are expected to attend every class because teaching/learning requires dialogue and without you we can have no dialogue. Our class work on the analysis of literary works is a crucial part of this course; occasionally, too, you will be doing some group work in class. Come to class ready to articulate your knowledge and formulate your questions for the class.

An absence policy is important 1) so that I can be equitable to all members of the class and 2) so that you will be successful in this class. Please note that more than five unexcused absences in this course is grounds for failing this course.

Definition of an excused absence:
1. University obligation, in which case you will need to present me in advance with a letter explaining the purpose and date of your upcoming absence.
2. Emergency or medical illness, in which case you will need to call my answering machine.
and leave voice mail at 581-5012 before class begins on the day of your absence. When you return to class you will need to give me a note for me to keep which indicates your name, the date of your absence, and the reason.

--A student with more than four occasional excused absences will be required to meet with me in conference to discuss whether dropping the course is recommended or additional work is required.

--If you must miss class, I will expect you to find out from someone in the class what you’ve missed so that you’ll be prepared for the next class meeting. Any worksheets or handouts will only be distributed once; it is your responsibility to photocopy assignments from another student if you are absent.

**Tardiness**
--Please be on time for class; habitual tardiness is disruptive and disrespectful of other class members. I will be taking roll each morning as soon as class begins. If you come in late, it is your responsibility to notify me after class so that I take your name off the absence sheet. If you fail to notify me, you will be recorded as absent.

**Individual Conferences**
You will meet with me individually in my office 3 times this semester. Individual conferences are a crucial part of this course. Failure to show up at a scheduled conference without notifying me before the scheduled time will result in a no-credit grade for the paper for the unit.

**Late assignments**
All written assignments must be submitted when due; no late assignments will be accepted. Papers are due when class begins on the designated dates. Make-up work will be permitted for excused absences only.

**Typing and Presentation**
Formal Papers I, II, and III (all drafts) must be typed (double-spaced) in MLA format. Please bring 2 copies of each draft to class on the day the paper is due.

**Course Grading**
The final course grade will be based on an average of the following grades.
- Unit I = 30% (paper 20%; folder 10%)
- Unit II = 35% (paper 17%; folder 10%; presentation 3%; exam 5%)
- Unit III = 35% (paper 20%; folder 10%; exam 5%)

If you receive a C or better on a first draft of any of the 3 formal papers, you may opt to revise the paper for a maximum of 3 points added to the grade of the first draft.

Please note that in order to receive a C or better for this course, you must do all the work. Failure to complete any component of the course (including the final exam) will result in a no credit for the course.

Scale for the course will always be 100-90% = A; 89-80% = B; 79-70% = C; 69-60% = D; below 60% = F

**Where to Go For Help with this Course**
1. Come to see me in my office in 339E Coleman Hall during my office hours and by appointment.
2. Go to the Writing Center, CH 301, where graduate students can help you with planning, drafting, revising your papers. Their phone number is 581-5929.

**Students with Disabilities**
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.

**Plagiarism**
The English Department requires that instructors quote to all students the university’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 assignments of a grade of F for the assigned essay and a grade of NC for the course, and to report the incident to the Judicial Affairs Office.

1002 CALENDAR

UNIT I: READER RESPONSE TO SHORT FICTION (JAN 13-FEB 5)
Please read the assignment before coming to class on the date given here. Griffith and Bedford are your two major textbooks. All other readings are stories in the Bedford anthology.

Jan 13 Introduction to the course
Jan 15 Hemingway, "Hills Like White Elephants" (handout);
    Bedford, pp. 3-19. Read closely Chopin, "The Story of an Hour"
Jan 17 Atwood, "Death by Landscape," p. 120 (plot/setting);
    Mukherjee, "The Father," p. 83 (character/conflict)
Jan 20 Holiday
Jan 22 Griffith, Chapters 2 and 3 (pp. 19-68);
    Olsen, "I Stand Here Ironing," p. 238 (tone);
    Boyle, "Carnal Knowledge," (p. 244) (tone/irony);
    Marquez, "The Man with the Enormous Wings," (p. 233) (irony/surrealism)
Jan 24 Chekhov, "The Lady with the Pet Dog," p. 160 (realism, point of view);
    Bambara, "The Lesson," p. 153 (character/language/humor/social consciousness);
Jan 27 O'Brien, "How to Tell a True War Story," p. 554
Jan 29 Paper I pre-writing
Jan 31 PAPER I AND FOLDERS DUE
Feb 3-5 Individual conferences scheduled. No formal class.
Feb 10 REVISED PAPER I DUE (OPTIONAL)

UNIT II POETRY EXPLICATION (FEB 7-MARCH 14)
Feb 7 Please read Griffith, Chapter 6, pp. 95-124
I will give you other reading assignments after we finish Unit I. But here are some important dates for Unit II.
Feb 14 Holiday
Feb 21 Be ready with poetry presentations
March 7 PAPER II AND FOLDER DUE
March 10 Poetry Exam
March 12-14 Individual conferences scheduled. No formal class
March 17-21 Spring Break
March 24 REVISED PAPER II DUE (OPTIONAL)

UNIT III INTERPRETATION OF DRAMA (MARCH 24-APRIL 2)
March 24 Please read Griffith, Chapter 5, pp. 69-94
April 4 EIU hosts Illinois Philological Association Conference. Please attend. No class.
April 25 PAPER III AND FOLDER DUE
April 28-30 Individual conferences scheduled. No formal class.
May 2 REVISED PAPER III DUE (OPTIONAL)
Final exam date to be announced.

**This calendar should be used as a guideline. We may change some dates depending on the needs of the class.**