ENG 1002G-001: Composition and Literature

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English 1002G: Literature and Composition
Eastern Illinois University, fall 2003, section 001, CH 3170, TR 8-9:15 a.m.

Course goals:
• explore and deepen our writing processes using literature as both a subject and a model
• improve writing practices through attention to traditional rhetorical structures and concepts
• survey and differentiate four basic literary genres: poetry, fiction, drama, and the essay
• build general critical abilities for identifying allusions and themes and applying literary terms
• increase aesthetic appreciation and personal enjoyment of literature in all its variety

Required texts: The Blair Handbook; Meyer, Thinking and Writing about Literature
Strongly suggested: a good desk dictionary (suggestions below)
Grading: three papers and rewrites @ 20%; three in-class writings (i.e. midterms) @ 10%; formal
homework assignments (to be announced), unannounced quizzes, and participation 10%.

Policies:
1. Attendance and punctuality are required beginning from the first day of class. Absences
must be excused ahead of time; sickness or emergencies must be documented for absences to be
excused. (Documentation means a doctor’s note, Polaroids of your accident, a funeral program,
etc.; please show me the original AND provide me with a photocopy for my records.) Lateness and
unexcused absences adversely affect the grade as follows: up to three unexcused absences, one
point off your final average each; for the fourth unexcused absence and beyond, two points off the
final average each. Each instance of lateness (of just a few minutes) counts as one-third a point off
the final average (rounded to the nearest point). Excessive lateness (more than a few minutes late)
will count as an unexcused absence. Leaving class early without being excused also counts as an
unexcused absence, as does sleeping in class. The equivalent of six or more absences—whether
excused or not—is grounds for failure in the course.

2. You are expected to participate with appropriate comments, questions, or attentiveness, as well
as to arrive with all the pertinent materials for the day. Please shut off cell phones and pagers, and
follow the expected norms of classroom etiquette. In the case of absence, you are fully responsible
for all material covered and for any changes to syllabus or assignments. The instructor will NOT
review class work with you; you are expected to get everything you can from other class members.
A voluntary list of class names and contact info will be circulated for this purpose. However, please
email or call me if you have an emergency and need to know what we are covering.

3. NO PAPER EXTENSIONS WILL BE GRANTED. If you choose to turn in a paper late,
the paper will be downgraded one full letter grade (or the equivalent score) for each university
working day that it is late (example: Thursday’s A paper is a C paper by Monday). Depending on
the timeframe, you will also lose any opportunity for rewriting, and instructor comments will be
minimal. Please note that you also must be in class to receive papers back for required rewriting.
In addition, if you are absent and unexcused on the day that papers are returned, your grade will be
lowered by one full letter or the equivalent.

4. THERE ARE NO MAKEUPS FOR IN-CLASS WRITING (I.E., MIDTERMS).
5. Plagiarism is a serious matter and will be referred to the appropriate authorities and can result
in failure. Plagiarism is any unacknowledged, substantial help beyond background discussion.
6. E1002G is a “writing-centered” course. This means that you may be required to submit one
of your papers as part of your Electronic Writing Portfolio. Time for consultation regarding EWP
submissions is reserved toward the end of the semester. For more info, see www.eiu.edu/~assess.
7. A required prerequisite of E1002G is successful completion of E1001G or its equivalent.
You are responsible for verifying that you are eligible to enroll; see me if you have questions.
8. The instructor will strive to be available in various ways for any needs or concerns that you
may have. Take advantage of this earlier rather than later. Please stay in touch if you feel you are
in trouble or just need more help! If you are having any serious difficulties, especially difficulties in attendance, please keep me posted by email. Also see me if you have a disability that needs accommodation.

Schedule (subject to change):

Discovery, Invention, Topics
T 8/26 introduction; syllabus and policies; in-class diagnostic essay
R 8/28 White, "Once More to the Lake" (532-36); Browning, "My Last Duchess" (827-28); Kenyon, "Surprise" (835)
T 9/2 Glaspell, Trifles and response (496-510); Updike, "A & P" and response (981-86, 1088-93)
R 9/4 Sophocles, Oedipus the King (290-334)
T 9/9 rewrite 1.1 due; Frost, poems (to be covered in class)
R 9/11 Minot, "Lust" (796-802); review of rewriting process
T 9/16 rewrite 1.2 due; Dickinson, poems (to be covered in class)
R 9/18 Baker, "Better Be Ready 'Bout Half Past Eight" (1232-46); Hawthorne, "Young Goodman Brown" (1246-55)
T 9/23 Morgan, "Mountain Graveyard" (221), Cummings, "l(a)" (222); Barreca, "Envy" (1073-76); Naylor, "Taking Possession of a Word" (1077); Boyle, "Carnal Knowledge" (1107-21)
R 9/25 in-class writing (first midterm)

Arrangement, Disposition, Organization
T 9/30 Piercy, "The Secretary Chant" (213-14); Hopkins, "God’s Grandeur" (258); Keats, "On First Looking into Chapman’s Homer" (267-68); Cummings, "in Just-" (269); Whitman, from "I Sing the Body Electric" (270-71)
R 10/2 Arnold, "Dover Beach" (235-36); O’Brien, "How to Tell a True War Story" (1149)
T 10/7 Roiphe, "The Independent Woman (And Other Lies)” (907-12); Tannen, “Sex, Lies, and Conversation” (913-16)
R 10/9 Melville, "Bartleby, the Scrivener: A Story of Wall Street” (944-68)
T 10/14 rewrite 2.1 due; poems to be covered in class
R 10/16 Ives, “Sure Thing” (844-50)
T 10/21 rewrite 2.2 due; poems to be covered in class
R 10/23 Burroughs, from Tarzan of the Apes (139-42); Faulkner, “A Rose for Emily” (144-50)
T 10/28 Hacker, "Groves of Academe" (993-94); Halliday, “Graded Paper” (994-95); Hughes, "Theme for English B"
R 10/30 in-class writing (second midterm)

Style, Ornamentation, Figures of Speech
T 11/4 comparison and contrast casebook (175-212)
R 11/6 Francis, “Catch” (218); Hathaway, "Oh, Oh" (217); Larkin, "A Study of Reading Habits" (220); "To a Wasp" (243); Fearing, "AD" (250)
T 11/11 rewrite 3.1 due; poems to be covered in class
R 11/13 Hoaglund, "The Courage of Turtles" (1203-08)
T 11/18 rewrite 3.2 due; poems to be covered in class
R 11/20 Erdrich, "I’m A Mad Dog Biting Myself for Sympathy” (788-92); O’Connor, “Good Country People” (803-816)
T 11/25 THANKSGIVING
R 11/27 BREAK
T 12/2 portfolio due for EWP submissions; poems to be covered in class
R 12/4 EWP consultations
T 12/9 Chavez, “Demystifying Multiculturalism” and response (545-58)
R 12/11 in-class writing (third midterm)