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ENG 1002G-056: Composition and Literature

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English 1002G: Literature and Composition
Eastern Illinois University, spring 2004, section 056, CH 3609, TR 5-6:15 p.m.

Course goals:
• explore and deepen our writing process using literature as both a subject and a model
• improve composition practices through attention to traditional rhetorical structures and concepts
• learn to recognize and differentiate four basic literary genres: poetry, fiction, drama, and the essay
• build general critical abilities for analyzing and interpreting the genre of poetry in particular
• solidify basic skills in proofreading and manuscript formatting using MLA style
• 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 (Merriam-Webster’s New Collegiate; American Heritage; Encarta; Webster’s New World). Should claim to include 150-200,000 “words.”

Grading: three papers and rewrites @ 20%; two midterms and final exam @ 10%; quizzes, attendance, 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 will adversely affect the attendance and participation grade. Excessive absenteeism (six absences or more) is grounds for failure in the course. If attendance becomes difficult for you for any reason, please keep me aware of your situation.

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). Instructor comments on late papers will be minimal, AND you may have a downgraded rewrite as well.

4. THERE ARE NO MIDTERM MAKEUPS. Contact me immediately in an emergency.

5. Plagiarism and cheating are serious matters and will be referred to the Office of Judicial Affairs. The standard penalty is failure for the course. Plagiarism implies any unacknowledged, substantial help on assignments beyond background discussion, including cutting and pasting from Internet sources (“patchwriting”). You are expected to understand this and other issues of academic integrity; please see www.eiu.edu/~judicial/code.html.

6. This is a “writing-intensive” course. This means that you may need 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. See www.eiu.edu/~assess.

7. 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. Also see me if you have a disability that needs accommodation.
Schedule (subject to change):

Discovery, Invention, Topics

T 1/13 introduction; syllabus and policies; in-class diagnostic essay
R 1/15 White, "Once More to the Lake" (532-36); Browning, "My Last Duchess" (827-28); Kenyon, "Surprise" (835)
T 1/20 Updike, "A & P" and response (981-86, 1088-93); introduction to Oedipus the King
R 1/22 Sophocles, Oedipus the King (290-334)
T 1/27 REWRITE 1.1 DUE; Frost, poems (to be covered in class)
R 1/29 Minot, "Lust" (796-802); review of rewriting process
T 2/3 REWRITE 1.2 DUE; Dickinson, poems (to be covered in class)
R 2/5 Boyle, "Carnal Knowledge" (1107-21); Baker, "Better Be Ready 'Bout Half Past Eight" (1232-46)
T 2/10 Morgan, "Mountain Graveyard" (221); Cummings, "l(a)" (222); Barreca, "Envy" (1073-76); Naylor, "Taking Possession of a Word" (1077)
R 2/12 MIDTERM 1

Arrangement, Disposition, Organization

T 2/17 Piercy, "The Secretary Chant" (213-14); Keats, "On First Looking into Chapman’s Homer" (267-68); Cummings, "in Just" (269); Whitman, from "I Sing the Body Electric" (270-71)
R 2/19 Arnold, "Dover Beach" (235-36); O’Brien, "How to Tell a True War Story" (1149)
T 2/24 Roiphe, "The Independent Woman (And Other Lies)” (907-12)
R 2/26 Tannen, "Sex, Lies, and Conversation" (913-16)
T 3/2 REWRITE 2.1 DUE; poems to be covered in class
R 3/4 Ives, "Sure Thing” (844-50)
T 3/9 REWRITE 2.2 DUE; poems to be covered in class
R 3/11 Burroughs, from Tarzan of the Apes (139-42); Faulkner, “A Rose for Emily” (144-50)
T 3/16 SPRING
R 3/18 BREAK
T 3/23 Hacker, “Groves of Academe” (993-94); Halliday, “Graded Paper” (994-95); Hughes, “Theme for English B”
R 3/25 MIDTERM 2

Style, Ornamentation, Figures of Speech

T 3/30 comparison and contrast casebook (175-212)
R 4/1 Francis, “Catch” (218); Hathaway, "Oh, Oh" (217); Larkin, "A Study of Reading Habits" (220); "To a Wasp” (243); Fearing, “AD” (250)
T 4/6 REWRITE 3.1 DUE; poems to be covered in class
R 4/8 Hoaglund, “The Courage of Turtles” (1203-08)
T 4/13 REWRITE 3.2 DUE; poems to be covered in class
R 4/15 Erdrich, "I’m A Mad Dog Biting Myself for Sympathy” (788-92); O’Connor, “Good Country People” (803-816)
T 4/20 Chavez, "Demystifying Multiculturalism” and response (545-58)
R 4/22 EWP consultations, by appointment
T 4/27 EWP consultations cont’d.
R 4/29 final review

FINAL EXAM: Tuesday, May 5, 5:15-7:15 p.m.