COMPOSITION AND LITERATURE
Course Syllabus
English 1002-010
Fall 2009

August 25
CH 3140
Introduction to the Course
Read: from An Introduction to Poetry:
Hall, “Names of Horses”

ASSIGNMENT: Reading Journal

August 27
CH 3140
Read: from Short Fiction:
“Introduction to Short Fiction”
Hawthorne, “The Birthmark”
Abrahamson, “Imperfection”
“The Reader-Response Approach”

ESSAY ASSIGNMENT: Personal Response Essay

September 1
CH 3210
Read: from Short Fiction:
Boyle, “Greasy Lake”
Joyce, “Where Are You Going...?”

IN-CLASS WRITING: Response to Stories

September 3
CH 3210
Read: from Short Fiction:
Mishima, “Patriotism”
Walker, “The Welcome Table”
Cortázar, “Axoloti”

September 8-10
CH 3140
View in Class: The Company of Wolves
Read: from Short Fiction:
Carter, “Werewolf”
From Handout
Carter, “The Company of Wolves”

September 15
DUE: Statement of Topic for the Personal Response Essay

September 15-17
CH 3210
View in Class: Jesus’ Son, dir. Alison Maclean
Read: from Short Fiction:
Johnson, Car Crash While Hitchhiking

September 17
Sign Up for Conferences

September 22-24
CH 3721
DUE IN CONFERENCE: First Draft of the Personal Response Essay
Scheduled Time in my Office, CH 3721
Class Suspended
September 29
CH 3210
Peer Editing of Essay Drafts
DUE: Second Draft of Personal Response Essay

October 1
DUE: Revision of Personal Response Essay

October 1
CH 3210
Read: from *An Introduction to Poetry*:
- "Reading a Poem"
- "Listening to a Voice"
- Frost, "Out, Out -"
- "Writing About a Poem"
- "How to Quote a Poem"
- Jasper, "An Unfolding of . . . "Design"
Read: from *Short Fiction*
- "The Formalist, New Critical Approach" Dennis, "The Drifter's Conscience"
ASSIGNMENT: Explication Exercise
ESSAY ASSIGNMENT: Explication Essay

October 6
CH 3140
Read: from *An Introduction to Poetry*:
- "Words"
- "Saying and Suggesting"
- Browning, "My Last Duchess"
- Lovelace, "To Lucasta"
- Owen, "Dulce et Decorum Est"
ASSIGNMENT: Word Study Exercise

October 8
CH 3140
Read: from *An Introduction to Poetry*:
- "Imagery"
- "Figures of Speech"
- Bishop, "The Fish"
- Cofer: "Qunceanera"
- Simic, "My Shoes"
- Shakespeare, "That time of year . . ." pp. 507

October 13
DUE: Explication Exercise

October 13
CH 3210
Read: from *An Introduction to Poetry*:
- "Closed Form"
- "Open Form"
- Millay, "Recuerdo"
- Brooks, "We Real Cool"
- Auden, "Musee des Beaux Arts"
- Forche, "The Colonel"

October 15
CH 3210
Read: from *An Introduction to Poetry*:
- "Symbol"
- "Myth and Narrative"
- Hughes, "Mother to Son"
- Keats, "La Belle Dame Sans Merci"
- Sexton, "Cinderella"

October 15
Sign Up for Conferences
DUE: Reading Journal (first half)
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>October 20-22</td>
<td><strong>DUE IN CONFERENCE:</strong> First Draft of the Explication Essay</td>
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<td>Scheduled Time in my Office, CH 3721</td>
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<td>Class Suspended</td>
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<tr>
<td>October 27</td>
<td>Peer Editing of Essay Drafts</td>
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<td>CH 3210</td>
<td><strong>DUE:</strong> Second Draft of Explication Essay</td>
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<td>October 29</td>
<td><strong>DUE:</strong> Revision of Explication Essay</td>
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<td>October 29</td>
<td>Read: from <em>Short Fiction:</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>CH 3210</td>
<td>&quot;Approaching Short Fiction Through Film&quot;</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Curtis, &quot;Bunnies Squashed . . .&quot;</td>
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<td>Gray, &quot;Without Regret&quot;</td>
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<td><strong>ESSAY ASSIGNMENT:</strong> Research Essay</td>
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<td>November 3-5</td>
<td>View in Class: <em>The Importance of Being Earnest</em>, dir. Anthony Asquith</td>
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<td>CH 3140</td>
<td><strong>ASSIGNMENT:</strong> Comparison of Asquith and Parker Films</td>
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<tr>
<td>November 10</td>
<td><strong>DUE:</strong> Plan for Research Essay</td>
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<tr>
<td>November 10</td>
<td>Read: from <em>Writing Essays about Literature:</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>CH 3210</td>
<td>&quot;Documentation and Research&quot;</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>pp. 279-332</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>November 12-17</td>
<td>View in Class: <em>The Importance of Being Earnest</em>, dir. Oliver Parker</td>
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<tr>
<td>CH 3210</td>
<td>CH 3140</td>
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<td>November 19</td>
<td>Read: from <em>Stages of Drama:</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>CH 3140</td>
<td>Oscar Wilde</td>
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<td>Wilde, <em>The Importance of Being Earnest</em></td>
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<td>Billington, &quot;Review of the NT Production, 1982&quot;</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>p. 645</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>November 19</td>
<td><strong>DUE:</strong> Comparison of Asquith and Parker Films</td>
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<td>Sign Up for Conferences</td>
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<tr>
<td>December 1-3</td>
<td><strong>DUE IN CONFERENCE:</strong> First Draft of the Research Essay</td>
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<td>CH 3721</td>
<td>Scheduled Time in my Office, CH 3721</td>
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<td>Class Suspended</td>
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<td>December 8</td>
<td>Peer Editing of Essay Drafts</td>
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<td>CH 3140</td>
<td><strong>DUE:</strong> Second Draft of Research Essay</td>
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<tr>
<td>December 10</td>
<td>Conclusion of the Course</td>
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<td>CH 3140</td>
<td><strong>DUE:</strong> Revision of Research Essay</td>
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<td>December 14</td>
<td><strong>FINAL EXAM</strong> 2:45 – 4:45 PM</td>
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<tr>
<td>CH 3210</td>
<td><strong>DUE AT FINAL EXAM:</strong> Reading Journal (complete journal, including material submitted at Midterm)</td>
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READING ASSIGNMENTS

You should have been issued the following texts for this course:


Reading should be done before the beginning of class on the assigned date and the relevant book(s) should be brought to class. If you come to class without a book, it is not my responsibility to find a copy for you.

WRITING ASSIGNMENTS

This writing-centered course requires that you submit the following writing:

A JOURNAL of your responses to the reading assigned for the course. Half of the journal (six entries) is due at mid-term; the journal in its entirety (12 entries) is due at the end of the semester. Journal entries are evaluated on originality and relevance to the works of literature discussed. Although graded less stringently than essays, journals should be coherent and reasonably free of errors in mechanics and grammar. All entries must be typed double-spaced.

Drafts of THREE ESSAYS, typed double-spaced, in conference with me. These are due at the time of your conference. You will receive full credit if they are substantially complete.

Drafts of THREE ESSAYS, typed double-spaced, for peer editing and review. To receive credit, you must circulate a substantially complete draft for peer review and turn in all peer comment sheets with the revision.

THREE REVISIONS, typed double-spaced. I may reject work that doesn't fit the assigned length or topic. Revisions are graded according to the criteria set forth in "Guidelines for Evaluating Writing Assignments in EIU's English Department," and according to the consistency and insight of your interpretation of works of literature.

TWO EXAMINATION ESSAYS, written at your final exam.

MISCELLANEOUS WORK, including in-class writing, unscheduled quizzes and exercises. My criteria for grading these assignments vary. Please ask if you have a question about a particular grade.

Though I hope you work hard, I can only evaluate results; I cannot measure the effort you put into your writing.

CONFERENCES

Classes will be suspended to make time for individual conferences focusing on strategies for completing and/or improving each major essay. You receive full credit for your conference draft if it is typed double-spaced and near completion. There is sign-up in class for each set of conferences. It is your responsibility to arrive promptly at the time for which you signed up. Given the number of my students and time limitations, I cannot always reschedule missed conferences. If you cannot keep the appointment, call or e-mail me well ahead of time to reschedule. If you do not sign up in class, contact me within a day or two to be assigned a time.
PEER EDITING

You are asked to spend THREE class periods commenting on the drafts of your classmates. The purposes of peer editing are to improve your reading skills and help you develop a constructive, analytical approach to the problems and possibilities of revision in your own writing.

To receive full credit for peer editing, you must work the entire period reading and commenting on essays by your peers. Your comments are graded on their completeness and specificity. Your final revision must be accompanied by all the written comments made by your classmates during peer editing; otherwise you forfeit credit for your peer-editing draft.

MANUSCRIPT REQUIREMENTS

The presentation of written work does affect its grade. Your work should conform to the following rules:

IN-CLASS WRITING should be neatly handwritten on standard-sized lined paper. When in the computer lab, of course, it should be typed and printed out.

DRAFTS brought for conferences and peer editing should be typed double-spaced on standard-sized paper in blue or black ink. Typing is required to receive full credit for the draft, but do it out of consideration for your classmates and me, who will be reading and commenting on your work.

REVISIONS and the JOURNAL must be typed double-spaced on standard-sized paper in black ink. Any revision or journal that comes to me not typed will be returned unread. I will consider it late unless a typed copy is submitted the same day. On the first page type your name, the course number and section, the instructor's name, and the date. Conference and peer-editing drafts and peer critiques of the essay should accompany the revision. If the assignment entailed research, copies of all sources not in the course texts should also be included. Place the work in a letter-sized folder with your name and course section written on the tab.

Don't forget to title your REVISIONS and JOURNAL.

Copy should have adequate margins on all four sides. Pages should be numbered.

You are responsible for all errors whether or not you type the manuscript yourself, so proofread carefully. Though corrections in ink are expected, the copy should not be so riddled with scratched-out errors or squeezed-in insertions that it is difficult to read.

LATE ASSIGNMENTS AND MAKE-UPS

You may make up or be excused from class work ONLY if I or another member of the faculty authorizes your absence. I may require documentation of illnesses, emergencies, or other excuses for missed work.

I accept late revisions, but there is a penalty unless you have an excused absence. Your grade loses five (5) points for every class day the essay is late. That's 10 points (or one letter grade) per week. Late make-ups for peer editing are not possible although peer editing may be done outside class in special circumstances with my prior permission. Miscellaneous exercises receive half credit if handed in late.

I will make every effort to reschedule conferences and may waive or reduce late penalties in exceptional circumstances -- such as the writer's extended and incapacitating illness -- but not because of fraternity or sorority activities, vacation arrangements, sports events, etc. You may be excused from attending peer-editing session only for similar compelling reasons.
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 has a 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 assignment of a grade of F for the assigned essay and a grade of F for the course, and to report the incident to the Judicial Affairs Office.

I will impose the severest penalty in a case of deliberate plagiarism.

I routinely check sources before assigning grades to essays. This is not an indication that I suspect plagiarism; I just want to check whether you know what you're doing.

GRADES

Please don't hesitate to ask questions about your grade. I use a numerical scale that corresponds to letter grades as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Score Range</th>
<th>Grade</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>100 - 90</td>
<td>A</td>
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<tr>
<td>89 - 80</td>
<td>B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>79 - 70</td>
<td>C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>69 - 60</td>
<td>D</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>59 - 1</td>
<td>F</td>
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Your overall grade for the course is determined as follows:

- REVISIONS of the first two major essays count for 15% apiece. The REVISION of the third major essay counts for 20%. Total: 50%.
- The JOURNAL counts for 5% at midterm and 5% at the end of the course, 10% altogether.
- The FINAL EXAM ESSAYS count for 15%.
- Each CONFERENCE DRAFT counts for 1% of the final grade, 3% altogether.
- Each PEER EDITING DRAFT also counts for 1% of the final grade, 3% altogether.
- The written comments from PEER EDITING sessions also count for 3% apiece, 9% altogether.
- MISCELLANEOUS WRITING counts for the remaining 10%.

STUDENTS WHOSE OVERALL GRADE AVERAGES D OR F WILL RECEIVE NC (no credit) ON THEIR FINAL GRADE REPORT. ALTHOUGH THEY MUST REPEAT THE COURSE, THE NC WILL NOT AFFECT THEIR GRADE-POINT AVERAGE.