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ENG 1092G-099: Composition and Literature, Honors

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Course Description, Design, and Goals: English 1092G is a writing centered course designed to improve skills in critical thinking and analytical expression based on the reading of literary texts. Since this is an honors course, we will read challenging works at an accelerated pace and write two longer research papers, as well as a variety of shorter in-class essays.

This semester our theme is the making of Chicago, and we will read non-fictional prose, fiction and poetry that is set in and responds to the city. Research writing assignments will focus on some aspect of the city as well.

Generally, in the computer lab (CH3120), where we will meet every other week, your time will be spent composing, doing research, revising essays, or helping classmates in your work group with their writing projects. When we are in the regular classroom (CH3130), we will discuss the assigned reading and issues related to the current writing assignment.

The goal throughout the semester is for you to produce writing that develops purposefully and economically. This is not an easy task for anyone. Consistent effort in revision – and in helping members of your work group to revise – is the best guarantee of success.

Texts: Dreiser, *Sister Carrie*  
Markelis, *White Field, Black Sheep*  
Paretsky, *Indemnity Only*  
Sandberg, *Chicago Poems*

Requirements and Grading:
- completion of two essays (minimum 1250 words each), both of which will require use of secondary sources – 60%
- two exams – 20%
- completion of several shorter written responses to assigned readings – 10%
- participation in class discussions of the assigned readings – 10%
- participation in your assigned work group
- attendance at all scheduled conferences

(You must complete successfully all the work listed above to pass the course.)

Course Policies: I do not accept late papers without a valid excuse. If you have a problem completing an assignment, speak to me before it is due. Sometimes even a brief conversation can clear up difficulties.
*We will meet in the computer classroom alternating weeks.*

You cannot make up missed in-class writing assignments.

Conferences and classroom workshops are required. Though I do not have an attendance policy, I will mark down essays one full letter grade if you do not participate in workshops, or if you miss a scheduled conference with me. You cannot earn the 10% for class participation if you do not attend class on a regular basis.

I will collect and read hard copy only, though you should have a thumb drive on which to save your work electronically and move it from your home workstation to the computer classroom. Always double space and leave one-inch margins on all sides. Do not use a font larger than 12 for hard copy submissions.

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.

English Department Statement 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 own original work' (Random House Dictionary) – 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."

**Tentative Schedule**

Jan. 11: introduction to course; in-class writing

Jan. 13: Preface to *City of the Century* (handout)

*Jan. 18: "A Fortress of Oppression" from *City of the Century* (handout)

*Jan. 20: "Factories in the Sky" from *City of the Century* (handout)

Jan. 25: Dreiser, *Sister Carrie* 1-12

Jan. 27: *Carrie* 13-24

*Feb. 1: *Carrie* 25-36

*Feb. 3: *Carrie* 37-47; essay #1 topic statement due

Feb. 8: essay #1 bibliography due

Feb. 10: Sandburg, *Chicago Poems* 1-67
*Feb. 15: *Chicago Poems* 1-67

*Feb. 17: essay #1 draft due

Feb. 22: scheduled conferences; no class meeting

Feb. 24: scheduled conferences; no class meeting

*Mar. 1: review; essay #1 due

*Mar. 3: mid-term exam

Mar. 8: “Burnham’s White City” from *City of the Century* (handout)

Mar. 10: “Haymarket” from *City of the Century* (handout)

Mar. 15, 17: Spring Break


*Mar. 24: *The Jungle* chapters 1-3

Mar. 29: Markelis, *White Field, Black Sheep* 1-55; essay #2 topic statement due

Mar. 31: *White* 57-100; essay #2 bibliography due

*Apr. 5: *White* 103-152

*Apr. 7: *White* 155-205

Apr. 12: essay #2 draft due

Apr. 14: Paretsky, *Indemnity Only* 1-74

*Apr. 19: *Indemnity* 75-153

*Apr. 21: *Indemnity* 154-237

Apr. 26: *Indemnity* 238-323

Apr. 28: essay #2 due

May 2: Final Exam 8:00 – 10:00 am