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ENG 1002G-005: Composition and Literature

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Texts (in order of use):

Jacobus, Drama, Bedford/St. Martin’s, 4th ed.
Charters, The Story and its Writer, Bedford/St. Martin’s, 6th ed.
Hacker, A Pocket Style Manual

General Comments:

This is a writing and a reading course. You will be writing about what you read. The two go together: good readers make good writers.

We will be reading imaginative literature, starting first with the study of poetry. We begin with poetry because it takes us back to the beginnings of language. You were a poet when you were first learning to speak as you made sounds to mimic what you saw or heard. You were a poet then because you had so few words to use and thus each one had to mean so much. The world is a physical place for little kids, and for poets.

You will write several papers in this course, both in and out of class. Make sure these papers are your own. If you take ideas from another source, you must be sure to document that source. Quoting others doesn’t mean that you’re dumb, unless you do it all the time. Instead, seeking the ideas of others is central to learning, but you risk plagiarism if you do not acknowledge where you got your information. The solution is simple: let your reader know where the idea came from if it is not yours.

This course is also a “writing-centered” course, and you may wish to fulfill your writing portfolio requirement with one of the papers you complete in here. More on this possibility as the semester goes on.

Grades:

This class will only be as good as you make it. The first requirement is to be here, and once here, to participate. English 1002 is not a lecture class; we are all in here to learn, me included, but none of us will learn anything without our sharing our ideas.

In addition to participating, here is how I will determine your final grade:

1. daily quizzes on the readings
2. a total of six essays of 2-4 pages; three of these essays to be revised at least once
3. a comprehensive final exam