Fall 8-15-2007

ENG 1002G-011: Composition and Literature

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COMPOSITION AND LITERATURE
Course Syllabus
English 1002-011
Spring 2007

August 21
CH 3210
Introduction to the Course
Read: from An Introduction to Poetry:
   Hall, "Names of Horses"
IN-CLASS WRITING: Diagnostic Essay
ASSIGNMENT: Reading Journal

August 23
CH 3210
Read: from Short Fiction:
   "Introduction to Short Fiction"
   Hawthorne, "The Birthmark"
   Abrahamson, "Imperfection"
   "The Reader-Response Approach"
ESSAY ASSIGNMENT: Personal Response Essay

August 28
CH 3140
Read: from Short Fiction:
   Boyle, "Greasy Lake"
   Joyce, "Where Are You Going . . .?"

August 30
CH 3140
Read: from Short Fiction:
   Carver, "A Small, Good Thing"
   Johnson, "Car Crash While Hitchhiking"
   Walker, "The Welcome Table"
DUE: Statement of Topic for the Personal Response Essay
Sign Up for Conferences

September 4 - September 6
DUE IN CONFERENCE: First Draft of the Personal Response Essay
At Scheduled Time in my Office, CH 3721
Class Suspended

September 11
CH 3140
Read: from An Introduction to Poetry:
   "Reading a Poem"
   "Listening to a Voice"
   Frost, "Out, Out -"
   Browning, "My Last Duchess"
   Lovelace, "To Lucasta"
   Owen, "Dulce et Decorum Est"
September 13
CH 3140
Read: from *An Introduction to Poetry:*
- “Words”
- “Saying and Suggesting”
- “Writing About a Poem”
- “How to Quote a Poem”
  
Read: from *Short Fiction*
  - Dennis, “The Drifter’s Conscience”
  - “The Formalist, New Critical Approach”

**ESSAY ASSIGNMENT:** Explication Essay

September 18
CH 3210
Peer Editing of Essay Drafts
**DUE:** Second Draft of Personal Response Essay

September 20
CH 3210
Read: from *An Introduction to Poetry:*
- “Imagery”
- “Figures of Speech”
- Bishop, “The Fish”
- Cofer, “Quinceanera”
- Simic, “My Shoes”
- Shakespeare, “That time of year . . .”

**DUE:** Revision of Personal Response Essay

September 25
CH 3140
Read: from *An Introduction to Poetry:*
- “Sound”
- “Rhythm”
- Yeats, “Leda and the Swan”
- Brooks, “We Real Cool”
- Housman, “When I was one and twenty”

**DUE:** Explication Exercise
Sign Up for Conferences

October 2-4

**DUE IN CONFERENCE:** First Draft of Explication Essay
At Scheduled Time in my Office, CH 3721
Class Suspended

October 9
CH 3140
Read: from *An Introduction to Poetry:*
- “Symbol”
- “Myth and Narrative”
- Blake, “The Sick Rose”
- Hughes, “Mother to Son”
- Keats, “La Belle Dame Sans Merci”
- Sexton, “Cinderella”

**DUE:** Journal of Responses to Reading (first half)

October 11
CH 3140
Peer Editing of Essay Drafts
**DUE:** Second Draft of Explication Essay
October 16  
DUE: Revision of Explication Essay

October 16-18  
Viewing: *Jesus's Son*, dir. Alison Maclean

CH 3210

October 18  
Read: from *Short Fiction*:  
"Approaching Short Fiction Through Film" pp. 1339-1366  
Curtis, "Bunnies Squashed . . ." pp. 1397-1400  
Gray, "Without Regret" pp. 1404  
from *Writing Essays about Literature*:  
"Documentation and Research" pp. 279-32

ESSAY ASSIGNMENT: Research Essay

CH 3210

October 23-30  
Read: from *Stages of Drama*:  
"David Mamet / Glengarry Glen Ross" pp. 1480-1482  
Mamet, *Glengarry Glen Ross* pp. 1483-1502  
Dean, "Glengarry Glen Ross" pp. 1502-1506  
Zeifman, "Phallus in Wonderland" pp. 1507-1509

Viewing: *Glengarry Glen Ross*, dir. James Foley

CH 3140

October 30  
DUE: Plan for Research Essay

ASSIGNMENT: Summary of Critical Essay

November 1-8

November 1-8  
Viewing: *The Fellowship of the King*, dir. Peter Jackson

November 13-15  
Read: *The Lord of the Rings*, Tolkien

November 15  
DUE: Summary of Critical Essay  
Sign Up for Conferences

November 27-29  
DUE IN CONFERENCE: First Draft of Research Essay  
At Scheduled Time in my Office, CH 3721  
Class Suspended

December 4  
Peer Editing of Essay Drafts  
DUE: Second Draft of Research Essay

CH 3210

December 6  
Conclusion of the Course  
DUE: Revision of Research Essay

CH 3210

December 13  
FINAL EXAMINATION --- 12:30 – 2:30 P.M.  
DUE AT FINAL EXAM: Reading Journal (entire journal, including material submitted at Midterm)

CH 3140
READING ASSIGNMENTS

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


*Webster's New World Dictionary*.

Keep *The Blair Handbook* and the dictionary handy for reference. **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. *The Fellowship of the Ring* should be read the first class for which the trilogy is assigned (November 13). The other two volumes are optional. Since it is a lengthy novel, I suggest you begin reading it early in the semester.

WRITING ASSIGNMENTS

The course requires that you submit the following writing:

A **JOURNAL** of your responses to the reading assigned for the course. Half of the journal is due at mid-term; the journal in its entirety is due at the end of the semester. Responses are evaluated on originality and relevance to the works of literature discussed. Although graded less stringently than essays, journals should be legible, coherent and reasonably free of errors in mechanics and grammar.

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. Therefore, if you cannot keep the appointment, call or e-mail me as well ahead of time to reschedule.

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.

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. 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>Numerical</th>
<th>Letter</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>100 - 90</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<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>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Your overall grade for the course is determined as follows:

- The three REVISIONS brought to conferences count for 15% apiece. Total: 45%.
- The JOURNAL counts for 7.5% at midterm and 7.5% at the end of the course, 15% 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.