Spring 1-15-2004

ENG 1002G-070: Composition and Literature

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Description and Guidelines: English 1002G, Composition and Literature, is a writing course designed to improve skills in critical thinking and analytical expression based on the study of fiction, drama and film. All students enrolled in this course should have passed English 1001C (with a grade of C or better) or must have fulfilled the requirement through transfer credit or through the CLEP proficiency exam. Please make sure you have fulfilled this prerequisite before continuing this course.

This section of 1002G is computer-assisted, which simply means that students will become familiar with and do some writing and peer evaluating on the computers in the classroom. No part of any grade will be affected in any way by a student’s performance on the classroom computers; however, computer problems outside the classroom do not serve as valid excuses for late or missing assignments. Every other week we are in the computer lab. Each student needs a formatted 3.5-inch computer disk on the third day of class. The disks are used to store all journal entries as well as ideas for, outlines of, and drafts of essays.

Attendance: Each student is allowed three unexcused absences; every unexcused absence after three will lower the student’s final grade 5%. Students are responsible for all material covered in class, which includes but is not limited to all lecture material and any changes made in the syllabus. Quizzes may not be made up; the three lowest quiz grades will be dropped. Exams may be made up with an excused absence and prior arrangement with the instructor.

Late Work: Papers are due at the beginning of class on the assigned dates. Any paper passed in late will be penalized one full grade every day—including Saturday and Sunday—that the paper is late. With an excused absence and prior arrangement with the instructor, a paper may be handed in late without penalty.

Papers: All papers must be typed, double-spaced; pages should be numbered and held together with a paper clip. The student’s name, the date, the instructor’s name, and the title of the essay should appear, single-spaced, at the top left of the first page of the essay. All papers will be given a number grade, a letter grade, critical comments, and an explanation of the grade. Any paper and paper’s grade may be discussed at length during office hours or a scheduled appointment.

Plagiarism: Eastern Illinois University English Department’s 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 course, and to report the incident to the Judicial Affairs Office.
Students with Disabilities: If you are a student who has a documented disability and wishes to receive academic accommodations, please contact the Coordinator of the Office of Disability Services (581-6583) as soon as possible.

Journal: Every student will keep a class journal on a disk, which will be collected on the last day of class. The journal will contain reader responses to works studied; paper ideas, outlines, and rough drafts; and free-writing exercises.

Assignments and Grading System:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignment</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Diagnostic Essay</td>
<td>not graded</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Journals</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Literary Terms Test</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quizzes (daily and rarely announced)</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fiction Paper</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Drama Exam</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Film Paper</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final Exam (comprehensive)</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Grading Scale:

- 90-100% = A
- 80-89% = B
- 70-79% = C
- 60-69% = D
- 0-59% = F

A course grade lower than 70/C- will appear on the student’s report card and on E.I.U. records as an NC (no credit). Extra Credit (an essay based on the reading of a novel or book of stories) is offered; see the instructor for details.

Syllabus (subject to deletion and expansion):

- **Jan13** Intro to course/Examine syllabus/Explanation of Diagnostic Essay
- **Jan15** Charters pp1752-1757 and pp 326-328, Kate Chopin’s “The Story of an Hour”/Journal briefing/begin discussing Literary Terms
- **Jan20** Finish discussing literary terms Exam/Assign “experts” to every story
- **Jan22** Literary terms Exam
- **Jan27** Frank O’Connor’s “Guests of the Nation” (four experts)
- **Jan29** Tim O’Brien’s “The Things They Carried” (four experts)
- **Feb03** STORY (to be announced)/in-class writing
- **Feb05** Thesis-topic sentences handed in for quiz/in-class writing: practice rough draft
Raymond Carver’s “What We Talk About When We Talk About Love” (four experts)

Joyce Carol Oates’s “Where Are You Going, Where Have You Been?” (four experts)

STORY (to be announced)/in-class writing

Thesis-topic sentences handed in for quiz/in-class writing: practice rough draft

Flannery O’Connor’s “A Good Man Is Hard To Find” (four experts)

Flannery O’Connor’s “Good Country People” (four experts)

discuss Fiction Paper/pick-up hand-out, Fiction Paper: Options and Considerations

Rough Draft of Fiction Paper (4-6 pages) typed. Any student failing to produce a typed Rough Draft will be downgraded ten (10) points on the Fiction Paper. Discuss introduction, thesis statement, and topic sentences.

Working Draft of Fiction Paper (3-5 pages) typed. Any student failing to produce a typed Working Draft will be downgraded ten (10) points on the Fiction Paper. Discuss body, transitions, and conclusion.

Fiction Paper due / Jacobus pp 1-23, Introduction: Thinking About Drama

Lysistrata

finish Lysistrata/review for exam

Exam on Lysistrata /Discuss Film #1 and Film paper

quiz on screenplay for Film #1/start Film #1 (to be announced)

finish Film #1/Discuss Film #1

Thesis-topic sentences handed in for quiz grade/in-class writing on Film #1

in-class writing on Film #1/quiz on screenplay for Film #2/discuss Film #2

start Film #2 (to be announced)

finish Film #2/ Discuss Film Papers
Rough Draft for Film Paper (4-6 pages) typed. Any student failing to produce a typed Rough Draft will be downgraded ten (10) points on the Film Paper.

Film Paper due/ Review for Final Exam

FINAL EXAM WEEK-------MONDAY May 5th---FRIDAY MAY 9th

Explanation of “expert”

Most of the short stories assigned will each be assigned four experts. Experts are students who help the instructor with the story’s discussion; the experts meet with the instructor briefly at the end of the class period prior to the class during which they will be experts. During this brief meeting the instructor and experts plan a course of action for the upcoming discussion, which involves each expert choosing one of the discussion items provided by the instructor. Each student will have a copy of all discussion items/questions. Experts discuss and draw other students into the discussion; they never simply read notes.

Each expert will also turn in a typed, hard copy of his efforts; this “written copy” will resemble an outline or a rough draft, highlighting major points. It is not a formal paper and should not be approached or executed as one, though excellent effort will certainly be rewarded. Each expert’s oral and written efforts combined will be graded and will count as a triple quiz grade.