Spring 1-15-1999

ENG 1092C-097: Composition and Literature

McCormick
Eastern Illinois University

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Nature of the Course

English 1092C, "Composition and Literature, Honors," is an introduction to the principal literary genres--fiction, drama, and poetry. It is also a writing course, a sequel to 1091C. (See your "Writing Assignments" handout.)

Course Requirements

You must read the assigned material carefully and perform the required writing assignments. For each fifty-minute class session you will need to spend two to three hours reading and re-reading the assigned material, and preparing your journal entry for the day.

Attendance/Missed Work/Late Papers

You will be expected to attend class regularly. Missed exams or themes may be made up only after you have discussed the matter with me and supplied documentation from your physician, from the University Health Service, or from another appropriate source. Late papers will be penalized a half-letter for each class day they are late. Papers that have still not been submitted two weeks after the due date will be regarded as "missing" and will receive a -l. They may not be made up. (See "Grading," next page.)

Information for 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 Policy (Policy for all English Department Courses):

"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 NC for the course, and to report the incident to the Judicial Affairs office."
Grading

Your grade will be determined by your performance on the following tasks:

20%--Theme 1
20%--Theme 2
20%--Mid-Term Exam
20%--Final Exam
20%--Journal Entries and In-Class Journal Writing Assignments
    + Points Earned on Spot Checks of Journal and Occasional Pop Quizzes

I will use the following values in averaging your grades:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A+</td>
<td>4.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B+</td>
<td>3.2</td>
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<tr>
<td>C+</td>
<td>2.2</td>
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<tr>
<td>D+</td>
<td>1.2</td>
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<td>F</td>
<td>0.0</td>
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<tr>
<td>A</td>
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<td>B</td>
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<td>C</td>
<td>2.0</td>
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<td>D</td>
<td>1.0</td>
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<td>Missing</td>
<td>-1.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A-</td>
<td>3.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B-</td>
<td>2.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C-</td>
<td>1.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D-</td>
<td>0.8</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

I will use the following cutoff points in determining final grades:

A = 4.2 to 3.8  
B = 3.7 to 2.8  
C = 2.7 to 1.8  
D = 1.7 to 0.8

But note the following incentive to attend class faithfully:

If at the end of the semester your average falls 1 to 2 decimal points below the cutoff for the next higher grade category, I will assign you the higher grade if you have had no more than 3 unexcused absences. For example, if your average were 3.6 or 3.7 (i.e., 1 or 2 points below the cutoff for an A), you would receive a final grade of B if you had had no more than 3 unexcused absences. If you had 4 or more unexcused absences, your average of 3.6 or 3.7 would earn a final grade of B.

IMPORTANT: To receive credit for this course you must have a final average of 1.8 (C-) or better (or 1.6 for students who have no more than 3 unexcused absences). Final grade averages that fall below the C- cutoff point will be recorded as "NC"--no credit.
Syllabus: English 1092C/Spring '99

Instructor: Dr. McCormick
Office: 339D
Phone: 581-6121
Office Hours: M 9-11 & 1-2
W 9-10 & 1-2
F 9-11 & 1-2
(and by appointment)

Required Purchases:
Theme folder
Large spiral notebook

Textbooks:
Poetry: An Introduction
Story and its Writer
Bedford Intro. to Drama

TWO PRELIMINARY REMARKS:

1. Asterisks below indicate important due dates. Mark them on your calendar.

2. I welcome your questions about any of our assignments for this course. Ask and I'll be happy to clarify.

JANUARY

11 Introduction to the course

**13 WAR: Poetry, "Dulce et Decorum Est," pp. 76-77, and "To Lucasta" (photocopied poem). Also read pp. 1-2 of this syllabus & pp. 1-2 of your "Writing Assignments" handout. BRING SPIRAL NOTEBOOK (journal) TO CLASS TODAY.

15 Story, "The Shawl," 1098-1101.
Story, "Death of the Ball Turret Gunner" (and editor's commentary), pp. 45-46; also read "Sir Patrick Spence" (photocopied poem).
IMPORTANT: Before coming to today's class, write a journal response to one or more of today's readings and bring it to our meeting today. See pp. 1-2 of your "Writing Assignments" handout for suggestions.

18 Martin Luther King's Birthday; no class

(REMINDER: Bring a journal entry to class. And remember to do so for every future class meeting when we have a reading assignment.)


Also: Read carefully the description of topics for THEME ONE
on your "Writing Assignments" handout. In your journal before today's class scribble down at least three different ideas for developing several of the topics listed for THEME ONE. Then spend some journal time developing the idea you like best. The writing you do in today's entry will give you a good start on a potential topic for Theme One.

JANUARY

29 Devote no fewer than three hours to working on Theme One. Bring your questions (and your texts) to today's class. In class today you will sign up for a conference to discuss your plans for the theme with me. Bring to the conference a 100-word description and preliminary outline of your plans for the paper (make a copy for yourself and submit the original to me). Also before coming to today's class, read your handout entitled "SAMPLE PARAGRAPHS AND THEME." Bring your "CHECKLIST" handout to class.

FEBRUARY

1 Prepare a rough draft of Theme One and bring it to class for peer review. In class today you will swap your draft with a classmate and the two of you will use your "CHECKLIST[s]" as the basis for your assessment of one another's drafts.

** 3 THEME ONE due at beginning of class. Submit it in a theme folder, along with early versions and scribbles. Photocopy and include in your theme folder any journal pages in which you worked on material for your theme. (Don't tear pages out of your journal.) Before submitting your paper, make a photocopy (or print a duplicate copy) for your files. When I return the graded theme, you will submit the duplicate copy to me for my files. In class today three of you will offer brief presentations of your paper (10-12 minutes each).

5 Four presentations of Theme One (10-12 minutes each).

8 Two presentations of Theme One (10-12 minutes each).

I will return Theme One to you today. Bring your duplicate copy to swap.

10 Drama, Lysistrata, 143-153 (to "Scene 1").

12 Abraham Lincoln's Birthday: no class

Rejoice. You are doing a fine job in your second semester at Eastern.
FEBRUARY

15 Lysistrata, 153-161 (to "Scene 3"). In class today, remind me to arrange a time and place for us to see the Mel Gibson videotape of Hamlet.

17 Lysistrata, 161-168. Remind me today to distribute a plot summary of Hamlet (and confirm time/place for watching Hamlet).

19 No class. Instead (at the time/place previously arranged) we will view a videotape of Hamlet (3 1/2 hours long).

22 Drama, Hamlet, Act I, 253-266.

24 Hamlet, Act II, 266-277. Remind me to distribute a MID-TERM EXAM STUDY GUIDE.

26 Hamlet, Act III, 277-292

MARCH

1 Hamlet, Act IV, 292-302.

3 Hamlet, Act V, 302-312. Also read Introduction to Hamlet, pp. 249-253.

5 Discussion of Hamlet; review for Mid-Term Exam.

** 8 Mid-Term Exam, Part I.
** Submit your journal for evaluation at the beginning of class. (Make a photocopy of your journal entries before submitting the journal.)

**10 Mid-Term Exam, Part II. (Bring an exam booklet to class. Purchase at University Union.)

12 Correct all errors of punctuation, grammar, spelling, or mechanics which I marked on Theme One. Use your grammar handbook as your guide in interpreting any abbreviations I have used in your margins. Make your corrections in pencil directly above or beside the errors I marked. In class today (God willing) I will (1) return your Mid-Term exams, (2) answer any questions you have about my markings of Theme One, and (3) schedule optional conferences with those who wish to ask me questions about your work thus far in the course and find out just exactly how you're doing in this course at midterm. If you are not doing as well as you and I wish your were doing I will try to offer some suggestions at our conference for improving your grade in the second half of the course. (Look ahead to the assignment for APRIL 21.)
MARCH

15, 17, 19. Spring Break: no classes

If you have signed up for a conference, bring the following
materials at the assigned time: your journal, your mid-term
exam, and your corrected Theme One.

24 Story, "Everything that Rises Must Converge," 1036-1048, and
commentary by Booth, 1563-1566 and Di Renzo, 1567-1571.

26 Story, "Rocking Horse Winner," 800-811 and commentary by
Harris, 1428-1430.

29 Drama, Death of a Salesman, 997-1008.

31 Death of a Salesman, 1009-1028.

APRIL

2 Death of a Salesman, 1029-1044.

5 PSYCHOPATHOLOGY. Story, "The Yellow Wallpaper," 530-542, and
commentary by Gilbert & Gubar, 1420-1422. For the "Wallpaper"
author's own commentary, see 1423-1424.

7 Poetry, "Daddy," 410-412 (a tough poem--read three times at
least).

9 Story, "A Good Man is Hard to Find," 1063-1074, and commentary
by O'Connor, 1549-1552.

12 In your journal before today's class spend time brainstorming
for ideas for THEME TWO. We will do additional brainstorming
in class. Bring your ideas and questions, and sign up for a
conference if you wish to discuss your plans for the theme
with me.

14 No class. Optional conferences. Work three hours on THEME
TWO, using our "Sample Paragraphs and Theme" and your
"Checklist" handouts for inspiration.

16 Prepare a rough draft of theme two and bring it to today's
class, along with your "CHECKLIST," which you will use as a
tool for in-class revision.

**19 THEME TWO DUE AT BEGINNING OF TODAY'S CLASS, ALONG WITH
CORRECTIONS OF THEME ONE. (See MARCH 12 assignment.) Submit
in theme folder along with earlier versions or scribbling
which preceded your final version of Theme Two. (Don't remove
pages from your journal, however.) MAKE A PHOTOCOPY (OR PRINT
A DUPLICATE COPY FOR YOUR FILES BEFORE SUBMITTING YOUR THEME. WHEN I RETURN THE GRADED THEME YOU WILL SUBMIT THE DUPLICATE COPY TO ME FOR MY FILES. Informal discussion of themes.

In class today three of you will offer brief presentations of your paper (10-12 minutes each).

**IMPORTANT:** Remind me to distribute a Final Exam Study Guide at today's class meeting.

APRIL

21 In class today four of you will offer brief presentations of your paper (10-12 minutes each).

23 In class today two of you will offer brief presentations of your paper (10-12 minutes each).

Bring duplicate copy of THEME TWO to class. You'll swap it for the graded theme which I will return at the beginning of today's meeting.

**IMPORTANT NOTE:** You may elect to revise either THEME ONE or THEME TWO in hopes of raising your grade for the theme by a maximum of one letter. Schedule a brief conference with me if you wish to revise, and we will discuss revision strategies. The revised theme is due at the beginning of our final class session. No papers will be accepted after that date.

26 "Laboratory Poem" and "Mongoloid Child Handling Shells on the Beach" (photocopied poems).

28 Poetry, "To an Athlete Dying Young," 391 and "Castoff Skin" (photocopied poem).

**30** Last class day. Review for final exam.

If you are revising THEME ONE or THEME TWO, your revised version is due at the beginning of class today. Submit in a theme folder along with the version of the theme which I have already graded. Include all new scribbling and early drafts which preceded the final revised version. Also include the following: (1) the graded theme which you have not revised; (2) a handout I will give you entitled "Instructions for Submitting Revised Papers." (The handout supplies additional instructions for preparing your revised theme and arranging the contents of your theme folder.)

Bring your JOURNAL to the Final Examination

**FINAL EXAMINATION:** ____________________________ (write time and date here when announced). Remember to bring your JOURNAL to the exam.