ENG 1091-095: Composition and Language: Honors

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COMPOSITION AND LANGUAGE: HONORS

Fall 2005; English 1091G (95)  Dr. Zahlan
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OFFICE HOURS
Tuesdays and Thursday, 3:20-5:40 (1520-1740); By Appointment

AIMS OF THE COURSE

This course is designed to help motivated students become more discerning and critical readers and thinkers, more informed citizens, and more articulate and effective speakers and writers. The course requires reading, discussing, and writing expository and argumentative prose and carrying out responsible research. Designated "writing-centered," the course focuses on written expression as a major learning activity and the primary basis of evaluation. (For information on criteria, refer to "Guidelines for Evaluating Writing Assignments in EIU's English Department.")

Many of the readings that will inspire and provoke this semester’s discussion, writing, and research deal with international and cross-cultural issues. As we encounter diverse representations of and opinions on a number of situations, problems, and conflicts in today’s world, we will analyze and evaluate techniques of exposition, argument and persuasion. We will also increase our awareness of our own cultural values and reexamine our attitudes towards those who differ in background and belief.

TEXTS

Shelley, Frankenstein (1818 text), 2nd ed.
Watters, Global Exchange: Reading and Writing in a World Context

ASSIGMENTS

WEEK I

Tuesday, 23 August: Introductions & Assignments
                     In-Class Writing (Bring pens and paper to class.)

WEEK II

Tuesday, 30 August: Read and study Nagala, “‘Om’: Hinduism in American Pop Culture: Global Strategy or Sacrilegious Mistake?” GE 148ff.
Outline the essay and bring your (draft) outline to class.
Thursday, 1 September: Summarize Nagala’s essay; bring summary to class.
Prepare the discussion questions following each essay; make notes in your journal as appropriate.
Assignment of Paper I (Evaluative Analysis of “Cultural Relativism and Universal Rights”) due Thursday 15 September.
WEEK III

Tuesday, 6 September: Read Pearl, "Rock Rolls Once More in Iran," GE 137ff. and Islam Online, "Fatwas: McDonald's and Barbie Dolls," GE144ff. Prepare the discussion questions following each essay.

Thursday, 8 September: Review the previous readings and be prepared to evaluate the expository and argumentative techniques in each. Read and study "Analyzing Texts and Images," and "An Approach to Analyzing Texts," GE 5ff.

WEEK IV

Tuesday, 13 September: Read and prepare to discuss Fluehr-Lobban, "Cultural Relativism and Universal Rights," GE 161ff. Make journal notes and prepare to discuss the questions at the end of the essay (166).

Thursday, 15 September: Paper I (Evaluative Analysis of "Cultural Relativism and Universal Rights") due in class on this date.

Be prepared to present your paper to the class.

Assignment of Paper II (6 October) and Paper III (due 27 October)

Conference Sign-Up

WEEK V


Thursday 22 September: Discussion of Paper I; bring Reference to class.

Read and prepare to discuss Campbell, "Blood Diamonds," GE 208ff and Oxfam . . ., "Women's Weaving Project, G.E. 214ff.; consider the questions that follow each essay.

WEEK VI

Tuesday, 27 September: Above Assignments from Chapter IV continued; class reports on Web-site logs.

Review Paper II & III assignments; Assignment of Papers IV & V.

Thursday 29 September: Read and prepare to discuss Annan, "The Politics of Globalization," GE 200ff. Prepare to discuss the questions (207).

WEEK VII

Tuesday, 4 October: Pre-Writing for Paper II; Introduction to Argument by Definition

Thursday 6 October: Paper II: in-class writing; bring pens and test booklets to class.

WEEK VIII

Tuesday, 11 October: Read and prepare to discuss Freeman, "Gender and Power," GE 282ff., and Hochschild and Ehrenreich, Global Woman, GE 297ff. Consider the questions following each essay.

Thursday 13 October: Discussion of Paper II; above assignments continued.

WEEK IX

Tuesday, 18 October: Shelley, Frankenstein (Try to have the novel read by today.)

Thursday 20 October: Frankenstein continued; attend opening of Frankenstein exhibit at Booth Library, Thursday evening.
WEEK X

Tuesday, 25 October:  *Frankenstein*—class discussion concluded
Thursday 27 October:  **Paper III due in class**—Presentations as scheduled
                   Review of Assignments of Paper IV and V.
                   Conference Sign-Up for Week XII

WEEK XI

Tuesday, 1 November:  Paper III Presentations continued; Discussion of Paper III
                   Discussion of Research Topics
Thursday 3 November:  Research Day—NO CLASS MEETING
                   Conferences next week

WEEK XII

Tuesday, 8 November:  Prospectus for Research Project due in class.
                   Read and prepare to discuss Said, “The Clash of Ignorance,” GE 252ff. Prepare to discuss the questions at the end of the essay.
Thursday, 10 November: Above Assignments continued

WEEK XIII

                   Research presentations scheduled—last week of semester
                   (The schedule will be posted on my office door.)
Thursday 17 November: **Paper IV due in class**; be prepared to present your paper in class.

WEEK XIV

THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY—NO CLASS MEETINGS

WEEK XV

Tuesday, 29 November: Read and prepare to discuss D’Souza, “In Praise of American Empire,” GE 84ff. and Boniface, “Reflections on America as a World Power: A European View.” Look at also the cartoon “America’s World” from *The Economist* (90) and consider the questions following the cartoon and each essay.
Thursday 1 December: Above assignments continued
                   **CONFERENCES SIGN-UP**
                   **Research Presentations in Class as scheduled**
                   Last chance for review of draft of Paper V during my office hours today.
                   Be sure to schedule your EWP conference by today—last day to schedule the conference is 1 December.
WEEK XVI

Required documentation conferences scheduled for Week XVI—class will meet as usual. (Bring at least four sources—books or photocopies of articles or Web material, and your printed and fully documented paper to your conference.)

Tuesday, 6 December:

Paper V due in class on this date or by 5:00 p.m. (for those who are in class!) in my office—two copies must be handed in (one for the Honors Program). Those who speak on Thursday should be sure to keep extra copies of whatever materials you need for their oral presentations!

Thursday, 8 December:

Research Presentation in Class as scheduled

FAREWELLS

GRADE CALCULATION

Daily Preparation, Participation, Oral Presentation of Papers, In-Class Written Assignments = 25%

Papers I, II, III = 30% (10% each); Paper IV = 15%

Research Presentation = 5% Paper V (Research Paper) = 25%

JOURNAL ASSIGNMENT

Keep a separate notebook, journal, and/or blog for 1091G in which you outline articles and write both initial and considered responses to reading assignments and class discussion. Also use your journal or blog to document your tracking of a non-U.S. Web site throughout the semester (see page 3 of Global Exchange). From time to time you will be asked to write written responses in class, and you should add them into your journal when they are returned; you will also be asked to report on what you have found on your non-U.S. Web site(s). Use your journal or blog also to list new words that you encounter and wish to include in your permanent vocabulary. Record reading and research other than course assignments; use your journal or blog as a source of material for your papers. I will not review or grade biogs or journals (although I will be happy to discuss entries or material with you at your request.)

ONE UNIVERSITY, ONE BOOK

This year’s “one book” to be read on Eastern’s campus this fall is Frankenstein by Mary Shelley. Please attend as many of the presentations and events related to this book as possible.
ENGLISH 1091G--COURSE POLICIES (continued)

ASSIGNMENTS are to have been completed by class time on the date for which they appear on the syllabus. The book(s) in which the day's assignments are contained should be brought to class. Unannounced quizzes on assigned material may be given at any time. Students are responsible for all material covered in class and all announcements or assignments made in class as well as for all assignments on the syllabus.

EXAMS: There will be no opportunities to make up a missed exam or scheduled oral report other than in cases of documented medical emergency; (signing in at Health Service does not constitute documentation of a medical emergency). Paper II should be written on a test booklet, available at the Union Book Store.

ALL PAPERS AND OTHER WRITTEN WORK must be handed in on the date due.

1. Work turned in late without advance clearance will not be accepted.
2. Work turned in late with clearance will be penalized, usually at the rate of 5 points per day.
3. Any lateness may delay the grading and return of the paper, perhaps until the end of term.

BE SURE TO KEEP A COPY OF EVERY PAPER YOU HAND IN. It is advisable to keep an electronic copy as well as a hard copy of every paper you submit. IN THE CASE OF A MISSING PAPER, THE STUDENT IS RESPONSIBLE FOR SUPPLYING A COPY.

A NOTE ON THE PRESENTATION OF PAPERS: Papers must be typed (double-spaced) or computer-printed on heavy or medium-weight white 9 x 11 paper. Computer print must be clear and dark laser or ink-jet. Be sure the pages are separated and edges removed. Leave adequate margins. Each paper must have a separate title sheet which includes the title of the paper, course title, instructor's name, student's name, and date of submission. Repeat the title at the top of the first page of text. Papers must be stapled or clipped with the pages in the correct order.

ONLY PAPERS THAT ARE NEAT AND IN CORRECT FORM CAN BE ACCEPTED.

DOCUMENTATION: Use the current MLA system to cite both primary and secondary sources used in your papers. The system is fully explained and illustrated in The College Writer's Reference and other current handbooks. Inform yourself about documentation conventions for electronic media information and materials. All such materials must be documented and citation forms are illustrated in recent handbooks; go to the Writing Center for assistance. Electronic-media materials must be evaluated for quality at least as scrupulously as print materials (see Chapter 15 in the Reference.) Please remember that you must absorb and process all materials: downloading is not research.

ACADEMIC HONESTY: All written work (papers, exams, tests, quizzes) must be original and independent. Do not resort to prefabricated papers and research materials found on the net. Please make sure that you understand the meaning of plagiarism and the policy of the English Department:

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 the grade of F for the course, as well as to report the incident to the university's Judicial Affairs Office. Respect for the work of others should encompass all formats, including print, electronic, and oral sources.

ELECTRONIC WRITING PORTFOLIO: Each student must submit a document from 1001/91G OR 1002/92G as part of the requirements for his/her Electronic Writing Portfolio. This is a University requirement for graduation. If you plan to use a paper from English 1091, please make an appointment by 1 December for me to go over the paper and fill out the form—do not hand me a diskette in class. Bring a corrected text of the paper saved to a diskette in rich text. Bring also the form filled out online and printed.

STUDENTS WITH DOCUMENTED DISABILITIES: If you have a documented disability and wish to receive academic accommodation, you must make arrangements through the Office of Disability Services; you should contact the Coordinator of the Office of Disability Services (581-6583) as soon as possible.