Spring 8-15-2013


Buck
Eastern Illinois University

Follow this and additional works at: http://thekeep.eiu.edu/english_syllabi_fall2013
Part of the English Language and Literature Commons

Recommended Citation
http://thekeep.eiu.edu/english_syllabi_fall2013/57

This Article is brought to you for free and open access by the 2013 at The Keep. It has been accepted for inclusion in Fall 2013 by an authorized administrator of The Keep. For more information, please contact tabruns@eiu.edu.

Dr. Buck, Professor
Office: Coleman Hall, Room 3040
Telephone: Office: 581-5012 (Please leave voice mail if I'm not there)
Mailbox: English Dept Office, Coleman Hall, Room 3155
Office Hours: MWF 9:00-10:00 and by appointment.

Textbooks: Fiction 100: An Anthology of Short Fiction, 13th edition, 2012, by James H. Pickering, ed. and select editions of the following novels, all available in Textbook Rental:
Jane Austen, Persuasion
Fyodor Dostoyevsky, Notes From Underground
Albert Camus, The Stranger
Virginia Woolf, A Room of One's Own
Kate Chopin, The Awakening
E. M. Forster, Maurice

Course Objective
This literature seminar is designed to develop your skills in critical thinking and analytical expression based on the reading of literary texts (novels and short fiction). This course will 1) introduce you to a variety of works of fiction, from a wide-range of time periods, cultures, genders, and sexual orientations; 2) introduce you to the history of the novel as genre; 3) help you to develop a theoretical literary vocabulary and critical reading strategies that will enable you to articulate --both in class discussion and in written discourse--a mature, informed reaction to literary works; 4) through our discussions and observations and your personal reflections, help you to develop a better, more sensitive, and attentive understanding of our world, the people in it, and the wide variety of human experiences we have.

Course Requirements
The requirements of this course include two formal papers, folder writing assignments, and a comprehensive two-hour final exam. In-class writing may be unannounced. This course will be conducted in seminar style so you will be required to discuss and present your work and your ideas to the class throughout the semester. Formal Papers I and II (scope 5 pages--you may always write more) will be analytical and interpretive essays on selected works. The final exam will test your understanding of the theoretical content of the course; it will consist of an objective portion along with an essay portion. Paper and exam grades will be based on what you have to say (that is original and insightful) and how well you say it (clarity, development, and technical soundness). All written assignments must be turned in in print version, in person, in class; no electronic transmissions will be accepted. Course readings are attached. Please note that we will go faster or slower depending on the needs of the class.

Taking notes in class is an important study skill that you are expected to have mastered when you enter college. You are responsible for recording the details of what gets discussed in every class. Everything that gets put on the board must be copied into your notes. You are responsible for the material covered in all handouts and textbooks. My job is to guide you through these materials, not replace them.

Folder Writing Assignments
You will need to purchase a paper folder for this class. That is where you will be keeping your writing assignments for each unit. Please always bring your folders to class.
Folder writing assignments (home and in-class) are a large part of this course. You should plan on spending one hour per class time that we meet on folder writing you do at home. A folder response is 1-2 pages in length and will be evaluated on how well the question/issue is logically thought out. You must write in full sentences and in paragraphs for all assignments (notes or fragments will not be accepted) and you must proofread your work. I will evaluate what you say and how much you say that is logically insightful.

Always keep your writing assignments in your folder in an organized fashion so that you are sure not to lose anything. You will turn your folder in to me at the end of each unit along with your formal paper (see attached sheet for dates), but I will be collecting assignments occasionally as they are due (unannounced) so it is important that you come to class prepared with each assignment on the day they are due. Students who come to class unprepared three times during the semester or who are absent from class on the day they are called on or who fail to show up for individual conferences will have the final grade lowered for the course.

All home folder writing assignments must be typed. All in-class writing must be legible and neatly presented. If I cannot read your writing, you will receive a grade of zero for the assignment.

**Specifications for Writing Folder**

--Each assignment should begin on a separate piece of paper labeled with your name, the date, and a title.
--In-class exercises not completed in class because of insufficient time should be completed at home if not collected in class.
--Your folder will be collected 3 times during the semester but all assignments must be completed when assigned because you will be expected to read them and discuss them at the next class meeting.
--Folder assignments may exhibit marginal or interlinear additions, one or more parts added later at the end, etc. However, folder assignment are not just notes; they should demonstrate well-thought out responses in complete sentences and well-formed paragraphs and must be proofread carefully before they are turned in. Sloppy, unreadable, unproofed, or incomplete folders will receive a failing grade.

**Course Grading**
The final course grade will be based on an average of the following grades.
Unit I = 33% (paper 20%; folder and oral work 10%)
Unit II = 33% (paper 20%; folder and oral work 10%)
Unit III = 33% (final exam 20%; folder and oral work 10%)
Failure to complete any component of the course (including the final exam) will result in failure of the course.
Scale for the course is 100-90% = A; 89-80% = B; 79-70% = C; 69-60% = D; below 60% = F

**Tardiness**
Please be on time for class; habitual tardiness is disruptive and disrespectful of other class members. I will be taking roll each morning as soon as class begins. If you come in late, it is your responsibility to notify me after class so that I take your name off the absence sheet. If you fail to notify me at the end of class on the day you are late, you will be recorded as absent. Please do not ask me for a letter of recommendation if you are habitually tardy or absent from class or are unprepared with home assignments.

**Absence Policy**
See attached.
Late assignments
All written assignments must be submitted when due; no late assignments will be accepted. Papers are due when class begins on the designated dates. Make-up work will be permitted for excused absences only. All assignments must be turned in during class in print version at the designated times; no electronic versions will be accepted.

Typing and Presentation
Papers and at-home writing assignments must be typed (double-spaced) in MLA (Modern Language Association) format.

Electronic Devices
No electronic devices of any kind, including laptops, may be used at any time during class; they will be counted as a disruption in class and as an unethical use of information during oral work conducted in class. After three occasions, the student will be reported to the judicial affairs office. Anyone with an electronic device not stowed away and out of use during an exam or in-class writing will receive an automatic F on the exam--no questions asked, no discussion. Anyone who leaves class to use a phone may not reenter class--you must wait until class has ended to get your belongings.

Classroom Behavior
According to EIU policy established by the judicial affairs office concerning classroom behavior, you are expected to remain seated at all times while class is in session, unless you have an emergency, because leaving and reentering class distracts other students from their learning and concentration. If you must leave class, you may not reenter until the class session is over to obtain your belongings. Please come to class with plenty of kleenex; that is not an excuse for leaving class.

Where to Go For Help with this Course
Come to see me in my office during my office hours and by appointment.

Cheating and Plagiarism
1. No one (not even the Writing Center, nor parents, nor tutors, nor friends) may read, proofread, or edit your writing over the course of the semester; you may read sections of the paper out loud to someone for feedback but you must always keep your paper in your own hands so that you have control and responsibility over your own work.
2. The assignments in this class require analytical and critical thinking; I am not interested in the information you find on the internet; I am interested in evaluating you on your own original ideas and interpretations of the readings; if you do consult the internet, you must always document individually each idea that you read and that you used. No one should assist you with home assignments; if you have questions, you should see me during office hours.

The English Department requires that instructors quote to all students the university’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 assignments 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.

Use or reproduction of any material or ideas off the internet without proper documentation is considered plagiarism and will be penalized as above. Respect for the work of others, in other words, encompasses all formats, including print, electronic, and oral sources.
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. If you require extra time on timed in-class exams, you must present a documented letter from the Disability Office.

Electronic Writing Portfolio
If you wish to submit a paper written in this class, unless you receive a final grade of A on the paper, you must see me before you submit your paper. You will be asked to revise and fix all technical problems, retype the paper and submit it to me in hard-copy format for approval before submitting the paper electronically.

What to do in Case of Emergency
If we have an emergency in class, go promptly to inform Jean Toothman, Department Secretary (Room 3135) and Dana Ringuette, Chair (Room 3341) and dial 911.
ABSENCE POLICY

The university states in its attendance policy that you are expected to attend every class as scheduled because teaching/learning requires dialogue and when you are not there you do not engage in scholarship with others and you miss out on the logic presented in class (learning that cannot be adequately made up outside of class). University policy states that you are expected to participate actively in the learning process: this expectation means that it is your responsibility to read assignments, take careful notes on the reading, do homework exercises as assigned and provide those answers in class, volunteer responses in class, and ask questions about the material. Students who come to class do a lot of work, in other words, both oral and written, and so those who choose not to engage in that process merit taking the consequences.

There are consequences to not being in class.

1. 3 or 4 absences in the course will result in lowering of the final grade. With three absences, the final grade will be lowered by one-third. That means that if the final grade is a B on exams and papers, it will be lowered to a B-; if the final grade is a B-, it will be lowered to a C+. With four absences, the final grade will be lowered by one letter grade. If your average is a C in the course on exams and papers, your final grade in the course will be a D.

2. More than four absences in this course will result in failure of the course, regardless of grades received on papers or exams.

3. Because the university considers class time essential to a student's learning, students who have excessive absences (more than 4, excused or unexcused) will be advised to withdraw from the class in order to facilitate their success when they take the class over again at a later date.

4. Only students with an excused absence on the day of any scheduled exam may take an alternative exam, of different format, within the week of the scheduled exam.

5. I will expect you to find out from someone in the class what you've missed so that you'll be prepared for the next class meeting. Worksheets will only be distributed once; it is your responsibility to photocopy assignments from another student if you are absent.

6. Please do not tell me your reasons for not coming to class unless they are excusable according to university policy and please do not ask me what documentation you need. I do not grant permissions, in other words, for any absence. It is your responsibility to make your own decisions and to supply the best documentation you can.

7. According to university policy, there are reasons why you may be excused from class. They are listed below. However, they will be excused only if you follow the procedures outlined here in the syllabus.

   --For any excused reason, you must notify me by leaving a message on my voice mail at 581-5012 (not email) before class begins on the day of your absence.

   --When you return to class at the next class meeting, you must bring me a sheet of paper with the following information: your name, the date of your absence, the reason for your absence, and attached documentation that documents proof of why you weren't in class. Any absence without appropriate documentation will not be excused.

Definition of excused absence on back
Definition, according to university policy, of an excused absence:

1. University obligation, in which case you will need to present me with a letter at the beginning of the semester explaining the purpose and date of your upcoming absence.

2. Your medical illness or emergency, in which case you will need to notify me by leaving a message on my voice mail at 581-5012 (not email) before class begins on the day of your absence. Routine medical appointments or non-emergency medical appointments should not be scheduled during class time; the health services on campus are here so that you will not have to leave town for medical reasons. In addition, students experiencing personal problems should seek help immediately through the counseling services provided on campus so that personal problems don't interfere with the responsibility of being in class.
COURSE READINGS

Please read and do the assignment before coming to class on the date given here.
**This calendar should be used as a guideline. We may change some dates depending on the needs of the class.

UNIT I

Aug 19 Introduction to the course
Aug 21 The Picaresque novel: Don Quixote
Aug 23 The 18th Century English Novel: Daniel Defoe
Aug 26 The Novel of Manners and Jane Austen: Persuasion
Aug 28 Persuasion
Aug 30 Persuasion
Sept 2 Holiday
Sept 4 The Russian Novel and Dostoevski: Notes from Underground
Sept 6 Notes from Underground
Sept 9 Notes from Underground
Sept 11 The Russian Novel and Tolstoy: "The Death of Ivan Ilych," p. 1115
Sept 13 American Fiction and Melville: "Bartleby the Scrivener," p. 872

Sept 18 and 20 Paper I and folders due

UNIT II

Sept 23 Women and the American Southern Novel: Chopin's The Awakening
Sept 25 The Awakening
Sept 27 The Awakening
Sept 30 Women's Voices and the Literary Tradition: Virginia Woolf's, A Room of One's Own
Oct 2 A Room of One's Own
Oct 4  A Room of One's Own
Oct 7  Modernism and Proust
Oct 9  James Joyce, "The Dead," p. 703
Oct 11  Holiday
Oct 14  E. M. Forster, Maurice
Oct 16  Maurice
Oct 18  Maurice
Oct 21-25  Paper II and folder due

UNIT III
Oct 30  The French Novel and Camus: The Stranger
Nov 1  The Stranger
Nov 4  The Stranger
Nov 6  The Stranger
Nov 8  Hemingway, Fitzgerald, Anderson: The Lost Generation of Americans
       "Hills Like White Elephants," p. 595
Nov 11  Jackson, "The Lottery," p. 638
Nov 13  Baldwin, "Sonny's Blues," p. 47
Nov 15  Mason, "Shiloh," p. 839
Nov 18  Erdrich, "The Red Convertible," p. 417
Nov 20  The Graphic Novel and Barry, "Two Questions," p. 82
Nov 22  The Graphic Novel and Bechdel: Fun Home, p. 124
Nov 25-29  Thanksgiving Break
Dec 2-6  Preparation for Final Exam and Folder due