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ENG 1092G-099: Composition and Literature

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COMPOSITION AND LITERATURE
ENGLISH 1092G (Spring 2005)

Objectives:

- to promote careful, coherent, substantive writing;
- to encourage active, thoughtful reading of world-class drama, fiction, and poetry;
- to increase understanding of views and cultures represented in literature;
- to sharpen critical thinking -- the analysis of ideas and evidence.

Scope: During the term you will read a considerable range of drama, fiction, and poetry. You will write three typed essays of 3-4 pages each and one typed, research-supported essay of 7-8 pages. As a capstone experience, you will interpret a range of poems during a final exam. The final exam will require you to write two short interpretations (about 250-300 words each) and one essay (about 600 words). In addition, a portion of your grade will reflect class participation. Here's a breakdown of the components that will determine the final grade for the course:

- three essays of 3-4 pages each: 30% of grade
- one research-supported essay of 7-8 pages: 35% of grade
- class participation: 15% of grade
- final examination: 20% of grade

Grading Policy: For the essays and final, I will grade using a simple ten-point scale. That is, a 92% is an A-, an 87% is a B+, and so on. When I grade the essays and the final, I will consider content (purpose, reasoning, evidence), organization and coherence, grammar and mechanics, and style. You can rewrite one of your first three essays for a new grade. Keep in mind that an essay or a final will fail if it is radically deficient in any of the areas for grading I have mentioned. After all, readers are served neither by a technically perfect essay that is superficial and empty nor an otherwise thoughtful essay that is riddled with distracting errors and infelicities.

Late Policy: You are expected to hand in your work on time and in class. You will forfeit five points each day for late work and five points for work placed in my mail on
the due date. If you are enrolled in another class or engaged in any other activity that may cause you to miss a significant number of classes in 1002, you should not attempt to take 1002 this term. In any case, you must provide a verifiable excuse from Health Service, a doctor, or a University official for an excused absence. If you have an excused absence, I will arrange time for you to catch up with written work.

Plagiarism Policy: Plagiarism is a serious offense that constitutes intellectual theft and fraud. Accordingly, plagiarism will be punished in conformity with English Department and University procedures. Here is the English Department's statement concerning 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 own 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.

Electronic Writing Portfolio: If you did not submit an essay from English 1001G or 1099G, you should submit an essay from this class.

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.
TENTATIVE SCHEDULE

1. Week of January 10
   - Introduction to Course
   - Writing About Literature: “Writing About Plot and Structure” (84-96)
   - Introduction to Greek Drama and Sophocles' Oedipus Rex (1-6, 29-38, 68-71)

2. Week of January 17
   - King's Day: No Classes
   - Sophocles' Oedipus Rex (72-84)
   - Oedipus Rex (84-103)

3. Week of January 24
   - Shakespeare's Hamlet (Act I, pp.324-38); also read pages 8-9, 240-44.
   - Hamlet (Act II, pp. 338-48)
   - Hamlet (Act III, pp. 348-62)

4. Week of January 31
   - Hamlet (Acts IV-V, pp. 348-620)
   - Class Discussion
   - O'Neill's Desire Under the Elms (Part I, pp. 990-1001)

5. Week of February 7
   - Desire Under the Elms (Part II, pp. 1001-8)
   - Desire Under the Elms (Part III, (pp. 1008-16); Essay I Due: Interpretation of Hamlet
   - Discussion

6. Week of February 14
   - Writing About Literature: Elements of Fiction (56-83, 98-136)
   - Irving, "Rip Van Winkle" (367-79)
   - Lincoln's Day: No Classes

7. Week of February 21
   - Hawthorne, "Young Goodman Brown" (328-38); Poe, “The Cask of Amontillado” (687-93)
   - Melville, “Bartleby, the Scrivener” (532-42)
   - “Bartleby” (542-88); Essay II Due: Interpretation of Desire Under the Elms

8. Week of February 28
   - Kafka, “The Metamorphosis” (432-50)
   - Melville, "The Metamorphosis" (450-67)
   - Cather, “Paul’s Case” (109-23)
9. Week of March 7
   -Faulkner, “A Rose for Emily” (268-75)
   -Flannery O’Connor, “Everything That Rises Must Converge” (647-58)
   -Cheever, “The Swimmer” (124-33)

SPRING RECESS

10. Week of March 21
    -Shelley, Frankenstein; or the Modern Prometheus (Read the “Preface” and “Letters,” as well as Chapters One through Three.
    -Frankenstein (Vol. I, Chapters Four through Seven)
    -Frankenstein (Vol. II, Chapters One through Four); Essay II Due: Comparing/Contrasting Two Stories Due

11. Week of March 28
    -Frankenstein (Vol. II, Chapters Five through Nine)
    -Frankenstein (Vol. III, Chapters One through Three)
    -Frankenstein (Vol. III, Chapters Four through Seven)

12. Week of April 4
    -Writing About Literature (154-67); Group Discussion About Approaches to Frankenstein; Handout of Poe’s “Annabel Lee”
    -Dickinson, “Because I could not stop for Death” (327-28), Thomas, “Do not go gentle into that good night” (251), plus the handout
    -Shakespeare, “Shall I compare thee to a summer’s day?” and “My mistress’eyes are nothing like the sun” (246-7), “When, in disgrace with Fortune and men’s eyes” (522); Frost, “Design” (372); Millay, “I will put Chaos into fourteen lines” (248)

13. Week of April 11
    -Marvell, "To His Coy Mistress" (80-83); Browning, “My Last Duchess (182-84)
    -Eliot, "The Love Song of J. Alfred Prufrock" (424-29)
    -Prufrockia (429-40); Tennyson, “Ulysses” (527-29)

14. Week of April 18
    -Shelley, Coleridge, “Kubla Khan: or, a Vision in a Dream” (489-490), Keats, “Ode on a Grecian Urn” (95-96), Shelley, “Ode to the West Wind” (261-63)
    -Student-Selected Poems

15. Week of April 25
    -Student-Selected Poems
    -Student-Selected Poems
    -Essay on Frankenstein Due