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ENG 1002G-014: Composition and Literature

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COURSE DESCRIPTION AND POLICIES:

As an introduction to the major literary genres (fiction, poetry, drama), this course instructs students in methods of analysis to become more attentive and sensitive readers and in ways to articulate—both in classroom discussion and written discourse—a mature, informed reaction to literary work. All students enrolled in 1002 should have passed English 1001G or must have fulfilled the requirement through transfer credits or CLEP exams.

Attendance: I will allow up to three (3) unexcused absences. After three, you will lose one letter grade (from your final class grade) for each unexcused absence. An unexcused absence occurs when no acceptable documentation or explanation is provided to the instructor. I, of course, will decide what is “acceptable” on the basis of individual cases. In any case, talk to me ahead of time if you wish to know if your excuse will be acceptable. Tardiness and Leaving Early: Every third time you are late for class will be counted as a full unexcused absence. Leaving class early without my prior approval will be counted each time as a full unexcused absence.

Coursework: In addition to daily assignments, you will write one 5-7 page essay for each genre examined. All essays must be typewritten, double-spaced, and will be graded on the basis of composition, grammar, and rhetoric. I do accept late essays, but you will lose one grade per day on any essay turned in beyond the due date (yes, weekends and breaks count).

Exams/Quizzes: There will be two regular exams (one over short stories/one over poetry) and a comprehensive final exam at the end of the semester. Quizzes will be given on daily readings as necessary.

Final Grades: Final grades will be determined by averaging all coursework and, if necessary, implementing the above-stated attendance policies. There will be no “curving” of grades, and I do not offer “extra credit” assignments. English 1002G is graded on an A, B, C, NC (no credit) scale. Students who receive a grade of NC must repeat 1002G until a grade of C or better is attained.

Plagiarism: Any teacher who discovers an act of plagiarism has the right and responsibility to impose upon the guilty student an appropriate penalty, up to and including immediate assignment of a failing grade for the work in question as well as the course, and is to report the incident to the Judicial Affairs Office. Plagiarism is defined as “The appropriation or imitation of the language, ideas, and/or thoughts of another author, and the representation of them as one’s original work.” (Random House Dictionary)

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).

NOTE: Turn off all cell phones and pagers BEFORE class. Anyone receiving calls or pages during class will lose ten points on the next graded assignment or exam. No exceptions.
Course Syllabus:

NOTE: We will cover many, BUT NOT ALL, of the works listed below. You will need to attend class regularly to know which works will be assigned during a given semester. This list is also subject to expansion and/or deletion. Paper topics and due dates, as well as reviews and exam dates, will be announced in class.

FICTION:

O'Brien—“The Things They Carried” p.1096
Carver—“Cathedral” p.202
   “Call If You Need Me” p.194
Baldwin—“Sonny’s Blues” p.37
Cather—“Paul’s Case” p.213
Chopin—“The Story Of An Hour” p.273
LeGuin—“The Ones Who Walk Away From Omelas” (handout)
Flannery O’Connor—“A Good Man Is Hard To Find” p.1124
Dostoevsky—“The Grand Inquisitor” p.458
Frank O’Connor—“Guests Of The Nation” p.1136
Bass—“The Hermit’s Story” p.102
Oates—“Where Are You Going, Where Have You Been?” p.1083
Bambara—“The Lesson” p.60
Ford—“Reunion” p.528
Joyce—“Araby” p.775
Faulkner—“A Rose For Emily” p.505
Jackson—“The Lottery” p.713
London—“To Build A Fire” p.921
Melville—“Bartleby The Scrivener” p.986
Crane—“The Blue Hotel” p.407
Singer—“Gimpel The Fool” p.1217
Silko—“Yellow Woman” p.1209
Reid—“What Salmon Know” p.1186

POETRY:

Yeats—“Sailing To Byzantium” p.338/ “The Second Coming” p.261
Bishop—“Sestina” p.212/ “In The Waiting Room” (HO) / “Sea Scape” (HO)
Plath—“Daddy” p.494/ “Lady Lazarus” p.278/ “The Applicant” (HO)
Eliot—“The Love Song Of J. Alfred Prufrock” p.395
Lowell—“For The Union Dead” (HO) / “Skunk Hour” p.482
Wright—“A Blessing” p.530/ “Autumn Begins” p.530
Rich—“Storm Warning” (HO) / “Diving Into The Wreck” (HO) / “Rape” (HO)
Dickey—“Buckdancer’s Choice” (HO) / “The Heaven Of Animals” (HO)
Sexton—“Cinderella” p.267 / “Her Kind” p.31

DRAMA:

Sophocles—Oedipus Rex
Shakespeare—Hamlet
Williams—Cat On A Hot Tin Roof

Do The Right Thing (Written and Directed by Spike Lee)
American Beauty (Written by Alan Ball/Directed by Sam Mendes)