ENG 1091G-094: Composition and Language (Honors)

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Course Description:
English 1091 is an interdisciplinary expository writing course, which means that the readings and writing assignments will be drawn from a variety of fields of study. We will be looking at different styles, purposes, and requirements of writing in particular academic (and sometimes, non-academic) contexts; this course is useful for any major.

This section of English 1091 focuses upon the theme of "Travel and the Traveler." In this class, students will develop their writing skills as they examine the rhetoric of travel writing and issues attendant to travel and tourism as cultural practices. We will hone writing skills through formal and informal writing exercises and assignments, extensive reading and intensive discussions that emphasize careful critical reflection of the verbal and visual texts we encounter.

Required Texts and Materials:
Course Packet (availability TBA)
Into Thin Air by Jon Krakauer (available at Textbook Rental Services)
Pocket Manual by Diane Hacker (available at Textbook Rental Services)
A good college-level dictionary
Film viewing: "Everest" and Film of your choice for review

Highly Recommended: A good college-level dictionary
A "thumb" drive for computer lab
Course Requirements:
This course emphasizes close reading, in-class discussion, and attention to writing issues. Attendance and participation are mandatory and crucial to your success. This class is smaller than many and relies heavily on peer interaction and evaluation in its aim to establish a collaborative writing community. Thus, your commitment to being present is important, not only for your intellectual growth, but that of your classmates. If you miss a class, it is your responsibility to find out what went on.

The course grade will be determined as follows: Unit One—Orientation and Oppositions (10 points); Unit Two: “Imperial Eyes” single-page essay (20 points); Unit Three: “Going to Extremes”—one hour in-class essay and an editorial (20 points); Unit Four—proposal, annotated bibliography, research report and presentation, as well as a standard-format persuasive, research-based five to seven page essay (35 points); in-class writing (5 points); Film review (10 points). You cannot pass this class without fulfilling all the assignments. Papers must be turned in at the beginning of class on the due date. Late papers will lose 2 grade points per day off the unit grade (this includes weekends and holidays).

As far as nightly homework, in addition to the reading, there may be some short writing assignments, but the majority of the written work will be devoted to your paper drafts.

There are no tests in this class.

Please Note: I expect all of the writing you turn in for class to be typed, spell-checked, and properly formatted (i.e. your name, the date, the title of the assignment, proper paragraphing and use of citations where necessary). This requirement is non-negotiable, and hopefully goes without saying.

Attendance and Participation: As mentioned above. Your participation is a factor in your grade. I expect you to pay attention, contribute ideas, and ask questions. Please don’t fall asleep in class or try to read the Daily Eastern News. Furthermore, it is necessary to attend every class. If you don’t make it to class, I will not provide you with the material that was handed out, or the directions that were announced. Conferences with me, which you sign up for in advance, are also a course requirement. Please also take advantage of my office hours whenever you have questions or problems, or if you just want extra clarification of an assignment. (I am also available by appointment if you can’t make my office hours.

Please see attached handout on Eastern Illinois University’s Plagiarism Policy

English 1091 Course Schedule (may be subject to change)
Week One: Classroom 3130
M/23 Introduction, syllabus, names
HMWK: Individual Field Trip/Writing about a place. Go someplace on campus or in the Charleston/Mattoon area that you have not been to before. Go alone and spend an hour absorbing and taking notes about the sights and sounds, tastes and smells, and write a two
page essay describing your experience using vivid language that captures the experience. See handout. Due Wednesday in class.

W/25 Discuss
Start Brainstorming “Dream Trip/Study Abroad”
HMWK: Read Pico Iyer’s “Why We Travel”

Week Two: Computer Lab 3120
M/30 TBA
W/1 Oppositional Analysis
HMWK: Find two magazine advertisements that highlight the exotic or travel as part of their promotion of an UNRELATED product.

Week Three:
M/6 LABOR DAY/NO CLASS
W/8 Oppositional analysis/analyzing advertisements HMWK: Travel as metaphor/ essay #1

Week Four: Computer Lab
M/13 Oppositional Analysis continued
W/15 Paper #1 due (bring 3 copies to class) In class Author Assessment and Peer Edit.
Revision Strategies
HMWK: Begin Revising PaperTake Home Peer Edit (please make a copy of your comments due Monday).
HMWK: Continue revision. Paper 1.2 due on Wednesday
Pick up Course Packet and Bring to class on Monday

Week Five:
M/20 Return Take-Home Peer Edit to writer and give copy to instructor.
HMWK Continue Revising and pick up course packet.
W/22 Readaround/
Introduction to Unit Two: “Imperial Eyes”
HMWK: Read: Wanderings in West Africa and be prepared to discuss on Monday

Week Six: Computer Lab
M/27 Discussion HMWK: Read intro to Mary Louise Pratt’s Imperial Eyes
W/29 Discussion and Pre Writing for Unit Two Essay
HMWK: Edition 2.1 due on Monday

Week Seven:
M/October 4 Paper #2.1 due. BRING THREE COPIES of Paper to class
In-class Author Assessment; Peer Edit
HMWK: Take Home Peer Edit
W/6 Thesis Statements and Introduction workshop

Week Eight Computer Lab
M/11 Get back paper #2 (Revision due Monday, October 18th) CONFERENCES
T/12 CONFERENCES
W/13 TBA
Week Nine:
M/18 Revised paper 2.2 Due/In class assessment Intro to Unit Three: “Going to Extremes”
HMWK: Read Into Thin Air
Research Paper Bibliographies
W/20 Discuss assigned chapters Into Thin Air
HMWK: Finish reading Into Thin Air also, read short article on Edmund Hillary

Week Ten Computer Lab
M/25 Discuss Into Thin Air Tips on writing an in-class Essay
W/27 In Class Essay

Week Eleven:
M/Nov 1 Writing an Editorial: writing with an audience in mind
W/3 Writing an Editorial continued

Week Twelve Computer Lab
M/8 Paper #3 due (Bring 4 copies to class) Author Assessment, In-Class Peer Edit
HMWK: Take-Home Peer Edit
CONFERENCES ON RESEARCH PAPER
T/9 CONFERENCES ON RESEARCH PAPER
W/10 Take-Home Peer Edit due with copy of comments for professor
Style watch discussion

Week Thirteen:
M/15 Get back Paper #3; Revision Strategies; Discuss Research Paper outlines, plans
HMWK: Revise Paper #3 FOR WEDNESDAY, November 19th
W/17 Revision Paper #3 due. Work on outlines
HMWK: Research Reports due November 29th

November 22-26 Thanksgiving Recess

Week Fourteen: Computer Lab
M/29 Research Paper Reports due and 10” presentations (6 students)
W/1 Presentations (6 students)

Week Fifteen:
M/6 Presentations (6 Students)
W/8 Film Review due LAST CLASS:
Research Paper in stamped, self-addressed envelope is due in my office Friday,
December 10th.