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ENG 2009-002

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Office Hours
T—12:30-1:30, 4:45-5:15
Th—10-11, 12:30-1:30, 4:45-5:15

Spring 2006

2009—002
(TTH 2-3:15; CH 3290)

This course gives us the opportunity to read a variety of novels and short stories in order to explore three fundamental and overlapping aspects of our identity—race, age, and gender. We will examine the personal experience of these biological and social categories, as well as the social consequences of people's reactions to their own and other people's experiences within the different categories.

Texts:
• Charters, *The Story and It's Writer*, 5th edition
• Anaya, *Bless Me, Ultima*
• Woodson, *From the Notebooks of Melanin Sun*
• Gaines, *A Lesson Before Dying*
• O'Brien, *The Things They Carried*
• Cisneros, *The House on Mango Street*
• Walker, *The Color Purple*
• Mason, *Spence & Lila*
• Wells, *The Divine Secrets of the Ya Ya Sisterhood*

Course requirements and grading:
1. Grades:
   • Three Essay and Short Answer Examinations—#s 1 & 2=15% each; final exam (partly comprehensive)=25%
   • Class participation (discussions and groups) and discovery writing (in and out of class)—20%
   • Out-of-Class Project—25%

2. Plagiarism: Here is the English Department policy—"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 a grade of F for the course, and to report the incident to the Judicial Affairs Office."
   Included under plagiarism is the irresponsible handling of documentation—i.e., when the writer intends to misrepresent the use of another author's material.
3. **Attendance:** Class participation is essential to becoming a better, more able, and responsible reader, writer, and collaborator—this includes being fully prepared (actively reading assignments—annotating, taking notes, preparing questions—and completing writing assignments) and taking a responsible part in class discussions and writing groups (being alert, involved, respectful, and courteous). Please be on time, bring the text/s of the day to class, and do not start to pack up until class concludes. In general, if you have a problem, please e-mail or call me—or come to my office to see me as soon as possible. **More than three unexcused absences will lower your class participation grade to an F.** As outlined in the student catalogue, I will consider an absence excused only for "reasons of illness, emergency, or university activity."

4. **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.

5. **Office Hours:** Please feel free to drop in during my scheduled hours—or to request an appointment. If you have questions, be sure to ask them—in class or after. Chances are that if you have a question, someone else has the same question!

**Electronic Writing Portfolio**

English 2009C is a writing-intensive course. If you plan to use the formal essay for your Electronic Writing Portfolio (EWP), please talk with me by midterm. Seniors graduating this term should be aware of an early deadline for final semester submissions. We will need to make special arrangements for your essay due dates. Additional information and forms are available at [www.eiu.edu/~assess](http://www.eiu.edu/~assess).
Week 1
T 1/10—Introductions; assign introductory email
Th 1/12—Images due; Joyce's “Araby” (Charters)

Week 2
T 1/17—Jewett's “A White Heron” (Charters); short writes due; introductory email
due by noon today (1/17)
Th 1/19—Cisneros's The House on Mango Street

Week 3
T 1/24—Cisneros's The House on Mango Street
Th 1/26—“A&P” (Charters); From the Notebooks of Melanin Sun

Week 4
T 1/31—From the Notebooks of Melanin Sun
Th 2/2—Bless Me, Ultima

Week 5
T 2/7—Bless Me, Ultima
Th 2/9—Bless Me, Ultima

Week 6
T 2/14—Bless Me, Ultima
Th 2/16—Exam # 1