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ENG 1092G-099: Literature and Composition

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English 1092
Literature and Composition
Spring 2003

Dr. Francine McGregor
Coleman 3355
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Office Hours: MWF 11-12; MW 2-3; and by appointment

About the Course

English 1092 will introduce you (or reintroduce you) to the genres of poetry, fiction, and drama so we can ask questions about what happens when we read and how we write about the ideas we generate through reading. By the end of the semester, you’ll approach texts more astutely, with a keener sense of language’s nuance and of your own ability to interpret and appreciate that nuance. Such an appreciation will be reflected in your own writing about literature and your sense of how you too can use language to capture subtle thought.

Required Texts

Paul Auster, *The New York Trilogy*
Angela Carter, *Wise Children*

Course Requirements/Evaluation

English 1002G is graded on an A, B, C, NC scale.

1) Four essays 40%
2) A research paper 15%
3) Numerous in and out of class writings, peer reviews, and reading quizzes 20%
4) Class participation. This includes active engagement with and contribution to the small groups you’ll be working with over the semester. It also includes listening to your classmates as well as contributing your own well-considered ideas to class discussions. 15%
5) Final exam 10%

Policies

1) The reading and writing load for this course is heavy so make sure you allow yourself plenty of time to complete the reading and writing assignments. Keep in
mind that if you come to class unprepared, you’ll be considered absent. On the less punitive side, class is simply a lot more fun, interesting, and useful when you’re prepared.

2) Much of what you will learn in this course will come from ideas generated in class discussion and from in-class workshops so your presence in (and engagement with) the class are essential. Except in documented emergencies, four absences will lower your final grade by one full letter. Five or more absences will result in automatic failure.

3) Missing an appointment with me, or failing to schedule a required appointment, will be recorded as an absence.

4) All assignments must be typed and handed in on the day they are due unless we have worked out a prior arrangement. Major papers handed in after that time will lose half a letter grade for each calendar day they are late. No major papers will be accepted a week after the deadline.

5) In-class writing/quizzes cannot be made up. Keep in mind that if you’re absent, you’re still responsible for preparing all work for the next class. If you know you will be absent, let me know in advance so I can tell you what will be due, and you can turn it in ahead of time.

6) You must successfully complete all work for the course in order to receive a passing grade.

7) You’re required to meet with me twice during the semester, but please feel free to meet with me as often as you like.

Plagiarism Policy

The following 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 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 a grade of ‘F’ for the course, and to report the incident to the Judicial Affairs Office.”

While I assume I’ll have no need to impose penalties for plagiarism, the ones I consider appropriate are that the student fail the course and be reported to the Judicial Affairs Office. If at any point in your writing for this course (or for another, if you like) you’re uncertain about whether you’re using sources appropriately, please come and talk to me.

Students with Disabilities

If you have a documented disability and wish to receive academic accommodations, please let me know and please contact the Coordinator of the Office of Disability Services (581-6583) as soon as possible.
Syllabus
(I’ll notify you in advance of any changes.)

Week 1: (Jan 13-17)
  Course introduction
  Poetry handouts

Week 2: (Jan 20-24; no class Monday 20th)
  Writing workshops for paper 1

Week 3: (Jan 27-31)
  **Paper 1 is due**
  Mini-presentations

Week 4: (Feb 3-7)
  Auster, “City of Glass” in *NYT*

Week 5: (Feb 10-14; no class Friday 14th)
  Writing workshops for paper 2

Week 6: (Feb 17-21)
  **Paper 2 is due**
  Auster, “Ghosts” in *NYT*

Week 7: (Feb 24-28)
  Auster, “The Locked Room” in *NYT*
  Writing workshops for paper 3

Week 8: (March 3-7)
  **Paper 3 is due**
  Mini-presentations

Week 9: (March 10-14)
  No classes – Spring break

Week 10: (March 17-21)
  Shakespeare, *King Lear*

Week 11: (March 24-28)
  Shakespeare, *What You Will*
  Writing workshops for paper 4

Week 12: (March 31-April 4)
  **Paper 4 is due**
Week 13: (April 7-11)
  Carter, *Wise Children* (chapters 1-2)

Week 14: (April 14-18)
  Carter *Wise Children* (chapters 3-5)

Week 15: (April 21-25)
  Writing workshops

Week 16: (April 28-May 2)
  **Paper 5 is due**
  Mini presentations

You will have a final exam during exam week.