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ENG 3001-010: Advanced Composition

Roger Whitlow
Eastern Illinois University

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Course Purpose

Since I began writing professionally in 1968, I have worked regularly with dozens of publisher and magazine editors and other professional writers. It became soon apparent that much of what I learned in school about writing did not fit the real writing environment of doctors and lawyers, school principals and teachers, business executives and office workers, engineers and government employees — many of whom have lives and futures actually depending on the thoroughness and clarity of what they put into words. I will not, therefore, be teaching you to write more “school themes.” I will teach you to write with such precision, clarity, economy, and professionalism that you — if you try to learn it right — can walk out of this class and into a professional job with true confidence.

There is no “class attendance” policy per se. However, since one-fourth of the grade for the course is based on your contribution to discussion of the material, if you are not in class, you are obviously not contributing — therefore, poor attendance clearly affects your grade.

If you have a disability and wish to receive academic accommodations, please contact the Coordinator of the Office of Disability Services (581-6583) as soon as possible.

Class Meetings

1. Introduction
   Tibbets, To the Point/inflated language

2. Examples of inflated language
   Examples of weak/strong verbs
   Organization of essay
   Opening paragraphs

3. Essay #1 due/new topics
   Miller examples
   Middle paragraphs/connectives/sentence variety

4. Spelling

5. Essay #2 due/new topics
   Miller examples
   Inner-paragraph structure/texture/rhythm

6. Closing paragraphs

7. Essay #3 in class

8. Sentence combining

9. Sentence Combining

10. Essay #4 due/new topics
    Revision

11. Logical fallacies

12. Essay #5 due
    Review entire essay

13. Writing workshop

14. Essay #6 (revision) due

15. Final Discussion

Course Grade
Class participation, 25% / essays, 75%