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ENG 3705-001

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Gloria Anzaldua, author of *Borderlands/La Frontera*, wrote that "identity is an arrangement or series of clusters, a kind of stacking or layering of selves, horizontal and vertical layers, the geography of selves made up of the different communities you inhabit." In English 3705 we will examine this and other concepts of multiculturalism by reading literature from a variety of prose genres through the lens of culturally specific concepts and experience. (old curriculum Group 2; new curriculum Group 2)

Texts:
- Anaya, *Bless Me, Ultima*
- Naylor, *Mama Day*
- Kingston, *The Woman Warrior*
- Silko, *Ceremony*
- Cisneros, *The House on Mango Street*
- Alexie, *Smoke Signals*
- Otsuka, *When The Emperor Was Divine*
- Gaines, *A Lesson Before Dying*
- Woodson, *From the Notebooks of Melanin Sun*
- Allison, *Two or Three Things I Know for Sure*

Course requirements and grading:
1. Grades:
   - Two Exams (20% and 30%)
   - Class participation and discovery writing (in and out of class, including "mini missions") (20%)
   - Final Project (30%)

Writing Guidelines:
All out-of-class assignments should be typed, use MLA style internal citations and include a "Works Cited" page. If you have any questions about this format, please see me or visit the Writing Center. In addition, please turn in all essays on the assigned dates. *Unless we have made other arrangements, a late essay will be graded down a half letter grade per class hour it is late.*
2. Plagiarism: Respect for other writers’ words and ideas is a core value in this class. We’ll discuss intellectual honesty and strategies for achieving it, but here is the basic English Department policy that we will follow:

"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 assignments of a grade of F for the assigned essay and a grade of F for the course, and to report the incident to the Judicial Affairs Office. Respect for the work of others should encompass all formats, including print, electronic, and oral sources."

Ethical research writing includes having mastery of distinctions between summary, paraphrase, and quotation (including all appropriate punctuation to distinguish these forms); it also requires providing complete and accurate in-text citations for any ideas as well as language (exact unique words or phrases, sentences, and extended passages) taken from any source (oral, print, or electronic), as well as corresponding Works Cited entries. The MLA style sheet examples offered on the OWL website will be our final authority on appropriate form: http://owl.english.purdue.edu/. Note that it offers updates on the newest 2009 MLA rules.

3. Attendance and Class Participation: Being in class 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 and active part in class discussions and writing groups (being alert, involved, respectful, tactful, and courteous). Taking part in discussion might include asking well-informed questions based on close reading of assignments, responding to questions, entering into general discussions among students. Also, please be on time (if you arrive after attendance is taken, it is your responsibility to see that I mark you present), turn your cell phones to vibrate and use only for emergencies, bring the text/s of the day to class, and only pack up after class discussion concludes. In general, if you have a problem, 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." It is your responsibility to provide me with appropriate documentation for any absence.

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. Really. I mean it. I enjoy meeting with you and find that those who visit and take this opportunity to pursue ideas or clear up problems generally do much better in the class. 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 3705 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/ewpmain.php.

Research and writing resources:

- [http://owl.english.purdue.edu/](http://owl.english.purdue.edu/)
- [http://www.bartleby.com/](http://www.bartleby.com/)
- [http://seamonkey.ed.asu.edu/~mcisaac/emc598ge/Unpacking.html](http://seamonkey.ed.asu.edu/~mcisaac/emc598ge/Unpacking.html)
- [http://www.edchange.org/multicultural/sites1.html](http://www.edchange.org/multicultural/sites1.html)
- [http://www.pbs.org/race/000_About/002_04-background.htm](http://www.pbs.org/race/000_About/002_04-background.htm)
- [http://jan.ucc.nau.edu/~jar/Multi.html](http://jan.ucc.nau.edu/~jar/Multi.html)
English 3705—001: Getting Started  
(DUE TO ME BY 5 P.M. on January 16th)

Using the email account you check most regularly, please send me an email message (lscoleman@eiu.edu) with the following information:

- Your name, course and section number, major, minor (if any), home and school addresses and phone numbers (including cell if that is what you use most often).
- Your goals for English 3705 and what part you see/imagine reading and writing playing in your future personal, professional, and civic goals (Please give this some time and careful consideration—and be as specific as possible)
- An acknowledgement of having read and agreed to the policies in the course syllabus.

If you have any questions, please feel free to ask them in the email, in class, or after class.

Plan to check this account on a regular basis.
Week 1 (January 13 & 15)
T: Introductions; assign introductory email
Th: Handouts: Kendall and Staples

Week 2 (January 20 & 22)
T: Handouts: Baldwin, hooks, Walker
Th: Begin A Lesson Before Dying

Week 3 (January 27 & 29)
T/Th: Finish A Lesson Before Dying

Week 4 (February 3 & 5)
T: Watch Daughters of the Dust
Th: finish film and begin Mama Day

[Exam #1 will be given after we complete Mama Day]
Week 7 (February 24 & 26)
T—Heath Volume II—Gloria Anzaldua 3041-2 & 3054-65
Th—Heath Volume I 467-74 and 1282-3

Week 8 (March 3 & 5)
T—House on Mango Street (Read the following stories—“The House on Mango Street,” “Those Who Don’t,” “Hips,” “Four Skinny Trees,” “Bums in the Attic,” “A House of My Own,” “Mango Says Goodbye Sometimes” and any 3-4 other stories of your choice)

Th—Begin Bless Me, Ultima (to p. 59)

Week 9 (March 10 & 12)
T—Bless Me, Ultima (to p. 176)

Th—finish the novel

Spring Break

Paper topics will be assigned Week 11, a proposal will be due Week 13, and papers will be due on April 30th.