

Fall 8-15-2012

ENG 5025-001: Creative Writing Professional Development

R Gay

Eastern Illinois University

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Welcome to ENG 5025: Creative Writing Professional Development

R. Gay

~~4:30-5:20~~ p M, Coleman 31509
Office: 3331 Coleman Hall
E-mail: rgay at eiu dot edu
Office Hours: M, W: 3-4p; T, F: 1-2

Textbooks: What We'll Be Reading:

Stephen King's *On Writing*
Other readings as assigned.

What This Course is About and Learning Outcomes

This class is designed to provide you with tools to make your way through the world as a writer. By the end of the semester, you will have a better understanding of the current creative writing market, what it means to participate in the literary community, and ways you can use creative writing in your professional life. At the end of the semester, we will have a class reading, open to the public, where you will read your own creative work.

Syllabus

The full syllabus is online at <http://www.creatingtexts.org/courses/eng-5025-fall-2012/>. There you will find weekly assignments and all pertinent course information.

Grading

This is a graduate class. Your grade will be based upon consistent attendance, enthusiastic and thoughtful participation in class, and excellent effort on assigned work.

Communication and Classroom Etiquette

Etiquette is important. While I want our class time to be fun and I am a fairly easygoing person, there are a few areas where I am not so easygoing. When you are e-mailing me, it is not acceptable to write something like "Hey" or simply begin your e-mail without any greeting. Please begin any e-mail correspondence with me (or, frankly, with anyone) with "Dear Roxane," or "Dear Dr. Gay," or "Hi Professor Gay," or something along those lines that indicates an awareness that you are addressing a specific individual for a specific purpose. E-mails that don't follow a certain etiquette for communicating will not be responded to. If you ask me, "Will I miss anything important?" when querying if it is acceptable to miss class, I will get irritated because every class day is important. Electronic devices such as cellphones, iPods, and iPads (unless you are reading a textbook on an iPad or other e-reader) should be stowed in the overhead cabins or beneath the seat in front of you during class. If your cellphone rings or buzzes or begins playing the latest Top 40 song during class, I might answer it or confiscate it and that won't be fun for anyone.

Attendance Policy: Showing Up Matters

This is a graduate course. As such, we shouldn't need to discuss attendance. Attendance is expected. Excused absences will not be penalized. Unexcused absences will not be appreciated. You are responsible for acquiring the information missed as a result of an absence. Assignments must be submitted when due even if you will be absent from class on the due date. No late assignments will be accepted. Attending class unprepared is considered an absence. A problem with absences will be reflected by a problem with your final grade.

Using the Writing Center

I encourage you to use the EIU Writing Center located at 3110 Coleman Hall. This free service provides one-to-one conferences with writing center consultants who can help you with brainstorming, organizing, developing support, and documenting your papers.

The writing center is open to help any student from any major at any stage of his or her writing process, and its system of one-to-one conferences demonstrates value and respect for individual writers, all of whom can benefit from feedback about their works in progress. The center is not a proofreading or editing or remedial service, however. It is a place where you can learn how to become a more thoughtful, independent, and rhetorically effective writer.

To schedule an appointment, you can drop by the center (3110 Coleman Hall) or you can call 581-5929. The writing center is open Monday through Thursday, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., and 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. On Friday hours of operation are 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Sessions last anywhere from 10 minutes to 45 minutes.

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

No One Likes a Cheater: Plagiarism Policy

Here is the official statement on plagiarism by EIU's English Department: "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 own original work" (Random House Dictionary of the English Language)—has the right and 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."

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ENG 5025 Fall 2012

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M, 4:30 – 5:20, Coleman 3150 ⁹

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E-mail: rgay at eiu dot edu

Office Hours: M, W, 3-4, T, 1-2, and other times by appointment

Textbooks: What We'll Be Reading:

On Writing by Stephen King

Readings as assigned

What This Course is About:

This is a course on creative writing professional development—what does it mean to acquit yourself professionally as a creative writer. We'll look at submitting and publishing your creative work, participating in public readings, employment opportunities, and more. At the end of the semester, we will have a group reading where each member of the class will share their creative work.

Important Information:

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[Grading](#)

[Assignments](#)

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