

Fall 8-15-2012

ENG 1001G-048: Composition and Language

Doug Urbanski
Eastern Illinois University

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ENG 1001G
Composition and Language
Fall 2012, Tuesdays and Thursdays @ 11:00

Mr. Doug Urbanski
 2010 Coleman Hall
 Office Hours - Tuesdays 3:30-5:00, Wednesdays 12:00-2:00, or by appointment
 217.254.2625
deurbanski@eiu.edu

Course Objectives

Our goal in this course is to build upon your current writing abilities. It is said that the best way to become a better writer is to be a good reader, so we will examine published essays by established writers that somehow exemplify ways of writing. Over the course of the semester, you will respond to these readings in a notebook dedicated solely to journaling. Additionally, we will work on citation styles of your choice, depending on what you're comfortable with or what major you intend to get into.

Course Texts

The Norton Reader, 13th Edition (Textbook Rental Service)
A Pocket Style Manual, 6th Edition (Textbook Rental Service)
 Grammar packet (I will provide this)
 Other assigned readings TBD (I will provide this)

Journaling

As part of my expectation for you all in the class, I'll require that each of you get a composition notebook. These are easily found at Wal-Mart or County Market, but if for whatever reason you have a problem attaining one, let me know. Always bring your journal to class!

Plagiarism

Plagiarism is the presentation of another person's words as your own. Often, it's difficult to determine just what is truly constitutes plagiarism. The easiest way to avoid this problem is proper citation. EIU's own definition as provided by its Code of Conduct is as follows: "**Plagiarism** is the use, without adequate attribution, of another person's words or thoughts as if they were one's own." If I have any reason to suspect that a student is plagiarizing, I will investigate and take the necessary action as outlined in EIU's Code of Conduct.

Students with Disabilities

If you have a documented disability, inform both me and the Office of Disability Services (217-581-6583) so that we can assist you to the best of our abilities.

Grading Scale

To dispel any mystery about your grade, I've established a 250-point scale:

Narrative essay	25 pts.
Grammar	10 pts.
Brief Summary	10 pts.
Brief Analysis	10 pts.
Compare v. Contrast	50 pts.
Library Search	10 pts.
Magazine Article Presentation	10 pts.
Final Essay	75 pts.
Journaling and readings	50 pts.

On the back of the syllabus, you should also find a grid I've created so that you can keep track of your grades as we go. As soon as you get a graded assignment back, fill out the number you earned and the number of points it was out of. To figure out what grade you have at the time, just add up the numbers in each column and divide the smaller one by the bigger one. I know this is a composition class, but if it makes you feel any

better I have to do this math too!

Class Conduct and Attendance

I expect all of you to behave with the utmost respect to both me and your fellow students. That being said, if you come to class and show disrespect to *anyone*, I will politely ask you to leave. If you find that you are too tired, do not come to class. You will be allowed **three** unexcused absences. After the third unexcused absence, I will drop your grade one letter. For every unexcused absence afterward, I will drop it another letter. If for whatever reason I must ask you to leave, whether for disruptiveness or falling asleep in class, it will count as an unexcused absence.

Revisions

You will have the opportunity to revise both big essays. If you revise to the point of improvement, I'll throw out your old score for the new one. All revisions will be due on the day of our Final Exam.

Final Exam

Good news! There is no final exam! Your final essay and any revisions you choose to do will be due on the day of our final exam in my mailbox. I will give you the specifics when the day approaches.

Helpful Links

Purdue OWL - <http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/>

EIU Academic Calendar - <http://www.eiu.edu/registra/acadcal.php>

Schedule (tentative--subject to change!)

Week 1 (8/21)

T21 – Syllabus Day

Th23 – Personal Narrative Workshop

Week 2 (8/28)

T28 – Grammar Packet

Th30 – Grammar Packet

Week 3 (9/4)

T4 – “On Writing,” Stephen King (NR 443); “How to Write a Letter,” Garrison Keillor (NR 446)

Th5 – “Consider the Lobster,” David Foster Wallace (NR 635)

Week 4 (9/11)

T11 – Summary v. Analysis, Quoting

Th13 – Summaries and Analyses Workshopping

Week 5 (9/18)

T18 – Introductions, body paragraphs

Th20 – Conclusions

Week 6 (9/25)

T25 – Peer Review on Compare/Contrast Paper

Th27 – Conferences

Week 7 (10/2)

T2 – MLA work, Compare/Contrast Paper due

Th4 – APA work

Week 8 (10/9)

T9 – Library Run

Th11 – Conferences on Topics

Week 9 (10/16)

T16 – Topic Presentations

Th18 – Topic Presentations

Week 10 (10/23)

T23 – Finding Sources

Th25 – Source Workshop, Making Bibliographies

Week 11 (10/30)

T30 – Freewrite and Outlining Day

Th1 – Thesis Work

Week 12 (11/6)

T6 – Magazine Article Presentations, Library Search

Th8 – Magazine Article Presentations

Week 13 (11/13)

T13 – Work Day

Th15 – Work Day

Week 14 (11/20)

THANKSGIVING BREAK

Week 15 (11/27)

T27 – Paper Clinic/Proofreading Strategies

Th29 – Peer Review on Final Paper

Week 16 (12/4)

T4 – Conferences

T6 – Conferences

Week 17 (Finals Week)

Paper due in my mailbox on Tuesday, Dec. 11 (time to be determined)