

Fall 8-15-2007

# ENG 1001G-058: Composition and Language

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## English 1001 G: Language and Composition

Fall 2007  
1001G-058  
CH 3140- 3210  
TR 17:00-18:15

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Coleman 201  
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### Course Description

As part of the series of EIU's writing courses, English 1001G: Composition and Language is the first one that introduces students to freshmen composition. This course is offered to help students become more critical readers, thinkers, speakers, and writers by the use of descriptive, analytical, and argumentative strategies. In this class, students will be writing narrative, descriptive, analytical, and persuasive essays that will enable them to approach writing as a strategy in order to communicate. Along with these abilities, students are expected to familiarize themselves with new writing technologies and media while learning to identify and evaluate electronic sources.

### Course Objectives

1. To write expository and persuasive papers in which paragraphs, sentences and words develop a central idea.
2. To develop a better understanding and command of the different steps in the writing process such as: pre-writing, drafting, outlining, revision and editing.
3. To differentiate between a claim, a factual statement, and a topic in order to develop a clear notion of what a thesis should look like.
4. To write well-developed paragraphs and sentences in standard written English.
5. To develop the ability to evaluate and criticize their own and their peers' writing.
6. To get acquainted with methods of library and on-line research.
7. To learn how to use documentation properly.

### Texts

- Silverman and Rader. *The World is a Text: Writing, Reading, and Thinking about Culture and its Contexts*, 2<sup>nd</sup> ed. (Reader)
- Ruszkiewicz John, Daniel Anderson and Christy Friend. *Beyond Words: Reading and Writing in a visual age*. Pearson: New York, 2006.
- Fulwiler, Toby and Alan Hayakama. *The Blair Handbook*. Prentice Hall: New Jersey, 2003.

### Electronic Writing Portfolio

As part of Eastern graduation requirements, all students need to submit a document from either 1001G OR 1002G to their Electronic Writing Portfolio. If you plan to submit a paper written in this class, you must schedule an appointment with me before November 1<sup>st</sup> in order to meet the submission procedures and revise your paper.

If you plan to submit a paper from this class to the Electronic Writing Portfolio refer to the following link to find the submission forms and other relevant information:  
<http://www.eiu.edu/~assess>

### Course Requirements

Participation (readings and discussions) -----	15%
Presentations -----	10%
Writing Portfolio -----	10 %
In-Class Writing Assignments and unannounced quizzes -----	10%
Essay #1 -----	10%
Essay #2 -----	10%
Essay #3 -----	15%
Essay # 4 and documentation -----	20%

### Course Policies

**Academic Honesty:** All work for this class (papers, presentations) must be prepared independently; all sources must be clearly documented. Any attempt to use another writer's production without proper acknowledgement could result in plagiarism (that is intentional or unintentionally). Take into account the English Department's plagiarism policy:

*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 assignment, 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.*

**Attendance and Absence policy:** Only three absences with proof of medical or legal emergency will be excused. Remember that every time you miss class you are also affecting other parts of your final grade. That is to say that if you miss class, your participation and in-class writing exercises will be affected which, in the end, will result in a lower final grade for the class. In-class exercises will not be accepted at any other time (refer to paper policies); if you are absent, so is your assignment. Again, whether your absences are excused or unexcused, you are absent, and this would affect your grade substantially. Being late for class will be counted as an absence.

**Participation**

As a student in this class, you are not only expected to engage with the readings, homework assignments, and writing projects, but you are also expected to come to class prepared to participate. Therefore, your participation grade will be based on the quality of your contributions. Remember to participate does not mean merely “to talk a lot,” but you should be able to demonstrate why you are making a specific observation and why that observation is relevant to the class as a whole.

**Paper policies**

Papers are due at the beginning of the class. Late papers will be marked a letter grade lower for EVERY class period late. Formal essays (1-4) turned a week past the deadline will be given an “F,” but MUST nevertheless BE SUBMITTED TO PASS THE CLASS.

**Emailing Policy**

If you need to talk about your progress in the class, I would encourage you to make an appointment to meet at my office during office hours.

\*\* Keep a separate notebook for all of your in-class writing exercises. I will collect this notebook once or twice during the semester.

## Course Schedule

(Changes may occur as the semester continues)

**ALL THE READINGS FOR THIS CLASS ARE TAKEN FROM *THE WORLD IS A TEXT* UNLESS OTHERWISE ANNOUNCED**

### Week 1

## KEEPING IT PERSONAL!

August 21<sup>st</sup> Introductions; course overview

August 23<sup>rd</sup> READINGS:  
➤ The Blair Handbook: “*Outlining*” and “*Clustering*” pgs. 54-56  
➤ *Understanding the assignment, Freewriting and Brainstorming, Outlining, and Construction a good thesis* pp. 22-26  
➤ *Mother tongue* pp. 261-264

### Week 2

August 28<sup>th</sup> READINGS:  
➤ *Happy Endings* pp. 596-599  
➤ *Narrating strategies* handout

August 30<sup>th</sup> **Submit First entry of your writing portfolio**

READINGS:  
➤ *Narrating a process* handout (4)  
➤ *To Make a friend, be a friend* pp. 601- 605

### Week 3

September 4<sup>th</sup> Bring to class the first draft of your narrative essay (at least 1 page double-spaced) for peer review

~~Written and oral feedback required to turn in at the of the class~~

➤ Revision and edition handout

September 6<sup>th</sup>

READINGS:

- Describing techniques handout (naming, detailing, and comparing)
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Week 4

**BATTLE OF THE SEXES!**

September 11<sup>th</sup>

Conferences

September 13<sup>th</sup>

READINGS

- *My mother's hands* pp.606-610

Week 5

September 18<sup>th</sup>

**Essay #1** (narrative essay) due at the beginning of class. Include a 200-word cover letter where you explain the changes you made (did not make) to your draft based on both your peers' suggestions and your teacher's comments. Avoid vague observations such as: *I thought my peer's comments were really important 😊* but give instead substantial reasons.

READINGS:

- *Being a Man* pp. 411- 413
- *Using Sensory Description* handout

Homework:

Next class bring one object that you think best stresses gender differences

September 20<sup>th</sup>

READINGS:

- *Construction of the Female self: Feminist readings of the Disney Heroine* pp. 432-440
- *Constructing a good thesis*, pp.24-26

Week 6

September 25<sup>th</sup>

READINGS:

- *A shiner like a Diamond* David Sedaris
- *Why I want a wife* by Judy Syfers

September 27<sup>th</sup>

READINGS:

- *No name woman* pp. 448-455
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Week 7

**BRAIN WASH!**

October 2<sup>nd</sup>

**Submit second entry of your writing portfolio**

READINGS:

- *Weasel Words* pp. 569- 580
- *Knowing your arguments, Knowing Your audience* and *How to make arguments: some helpful Tips* pp. 33-40.

October 4<sup>th</sup>

**Essay #2** (descriptive essay) due at the beginning of the Class

READINGS:

- *Comparison and contrast* handout

Group work: compare reality TV shows and your real experiences. Are situations portrayed accurately? How are different? Why are they call “reality TV shows”

HOMEWORK

Choose two TV shows for your comparison and contrast essay and be ready to work on it.

Week 8

October 9<sup>th</sup>

READINGS:

- *Voting Democracy off the Island: Reality TV and the Republican Ethos*, pp. 173-184

Today we will work on your comparison and contrast essays, helping you clearly establish a difference between summary and comparison and contrast.

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October 11<sup>th</sup> Bring rough draft (essay # 3) for peer review (at least 2 pages double-spaced).

Week 9

October 16<sup>th</sup> NO CLASS. Conferences (bring rough draft essay # 3)

October 18<sup>th</sup> READINGS:  
➤ *Life according to TV*, pp. 115-121  
➤ *How soaps are integrating America: Color TV*, pp. 121-123.

Week 10

October 23<sup>rd</sup> READINGS:  
➤ *Society's need for a queer solution: The media's reinforcement of Homophobia through traditional gender roles*, pp.142-154.

October 25<sup>th</sup> **Submit third entry of your writing portfolio**  
READINGS:  
➤ *Spatial Segregation and Gender Stratification in the Workplace*, pp. 196- 201  
➤ *Building Good paragraphs, Drafting the whole essay, Editing and revising, Editing and Revising, Editing and Revising and Turning the Finished Product*, pp. 30-33

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Week 11

**ENCOUNTERING THE DIFFERENCE!**

October 30<sup>th</sup> **Essay # 3** (comparison and contrast) due at the beginning of the Class  
READINGS:  
➤ *A white Migration North from Miami*, pp. 220-225  
➤ *Let's spread the fun around: The issue of sports team names*, pp. 289- 291

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November 1<sup>st</sup> READINGS:  
➤ Persuasion handout  
➤ *Me talk Pretty One Day* David Sedaris



Week 12

November 6<sup>th</sup> Be ready to talk about possible topics for your persuasive essay. Remember it can be any topic related to either social or gender issues. TOPIS MUST BE APPROVED!

November 8<sup>th</sup> READINGS:  
➤ *Works Cited Examples*, pp. 56-60  
In this class we will be working with methods of library and on-line research you will need to use for essay # 4

In-text citation, quotes, and MLA

Week 13

November 13<sup>th</sup> For today's class bring:  
➤ Your rough draft essay # 4 (at least three pages double-spaced)  
➤ Two of the five sources you are planning to use for this paper (only one of these sources could come from the internet)

November 15<sup>th</sup> NO CLASS: Conferences.

Week 14

November 20<sup>th</sup> NO CLASS. Thanksgiving break

November 22<sup>nd</sup> NO CLASS. Thanksgiving break.

Week 15

November 27<sup>th</sup> Portfolios due at the beginning of class  
Presentations

November 29<sup>th</sup> Presentations

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Week 16

December 4<sup>th</sup>      Essay # 4 due at the beginning of the class  
Presentations

December 6<sup>th</sup>      Wrap up

FINALS WEEK