

El Paso Community College

Syllabus

Part I

Instructor's Course Requirements

Spring 2013

I - Course Number and Instructor Information

English 1302, 22077 (R 7-9:40 p.m.)
Research Writing and Literary Analysis
Location: VV Classroom Addition B104
Professor: Craig Wynne
E-mail: cwynne1@epcc.edu
Office: Part-time office, Building B, Room 242
Office Hours: Monday 2:45 -3:45 p.m. and Thursday 5:45 – 6:45 p.m. or by
appointment (set this at least 24 hours in advance)

II – Texts Required

Roberts, Edgar V. and Robert Zweig. *Literature: An Introduction to Reading and Writing*
(5th Compact Edition). Upper Saddle River: Pearson, 2012.
Hacker, Diana and Nancy Sommers. *A Writer's Reference with Writing About Literature*.
7th ed. Boston: Bedford, 2011.

Iib-Other Materials Needed

Access to the Internet, particularly the class Wiki page and Engrade
Readiness to learn

III – Course Requirements

- 1) Essay #1 (Fiction) – 10%
- 2) Essay #2 (Drama) – 10%
- 3) Reader-Response Journals – 15%
- 4) Class Wiki Postings – 15%
 - 4a) Original Postings – 10%
 - 4b) Responses to Classmates' Postings – 5%

5) Research Project – 50%

5a) Topic Proposal 10%

5b) Annotated Bibliography 10%

5c) Research Essay - First Draft 5%

5d) Research Essay – Final Draft 15%

5e) Presentation – 10%

Note: Although I do not officially count “Class Participation” as part of the percentages, it can add to or detract from your grade. I will keep track of this through the use of 3x5 index cards with your name on them. If you make an excellent contribution to the class discussion, I will note it on your card. If, however, during class, nobody is raising his/her hand or the same few people are volunteering to participate, I will call on you at random using the index cards. If you cannot offer an answer, I will note that on your card. In addition, if you’re texting or engaging in other off-task behavior, I will note it on your card and will talk to you about it during the break or after class. If your behavior is disruptive to the class, you may be asked to leave for the session (see “Class Conduct” for more on this). During the middle of the semester, I will send you a note regarding your participation and whether it can stand to help or hinder your grade. At the end of the semester, I will tally the notes I make on your card. If your final grade amounts to a 79, and you have been paying attention and offering meaningful contributions to class discussion, your grade may be raised to a B. Conversely, if your grade amounts to an 81, and you’ve been making a habit of arriving late, texting or chatting in class, daydreaming, or engaging in other off-task/disruptive behavior, your grade may be lowered to a C.

Engrade: I will use a program called Engrade in order to calculate your grades. I will provide you with access to this program by the fourth week of class. Through it, you can keep track of your grades, as well as your attendance. It is your responsibility to log on. If you have a question or concern about your grade, you need to let me know early in the semester.

Essays #1 and #2: You will write two critical essays in which you analyze a piece (or pieces) of literature. Essay #1 will be written on a fiction piece, and Essay #2 will be written on William Shakespeare’s *A Midsummer Night’s Dream*. You will write these essays in drafts. You will write two rough drafts for feedback: the first one will be submitted to me, and the second one will be submitted to your peers for review. For each draft that is not submitted on time, one full letter grade will be deducted from your final draft grade. These drafts will not be graded the way a final draft is, but your peers and I will provide comments meant to guide you along in the process. So take them seriously.

Class Wiki Postings: In addition to in-class discussion, we will also discuss the week’s readings on the class Wiki page. Each week, I will post specific questions related to the readings due for the following week. You will choose an option and write at least 150 words on it. Original Wiki postings are due to the board at 5:30 p.m. every Tuesday. The sum of these will count for 10% of your final grade.

Once these are posted, you will have until 5:30 p.m. the Thursday of class to post a response of at least 50 words to one of your classmates’ postings, the sum of which will count for 5% of your grade. In order to facilitate class discussion between you, I will generally not respond to Wiki postings. However, I may insert myself into the discussion occasionally to steer towards a particular insight. If there is an issue with a lack of participation or inappropriate language on

Craig Wynne 9/5/13 1:43 PM

Comment [1]: I divided the grades in this fashion for the purposes of scaffolding the research writing process for students. In the topic proposal, students needed to think about why their topic held significance. In the annotated bibliography, students learned about credibility of print and online sources. In the presentation, students had the opportunity to practice public speaking skills while negotiating technology (PowerPoint was new to some).

Craig Wynne 9/5/13 1:30 PM

Comment [2]: At this point in my teaching career, I saw the need to monitor and document class participation more closely than I had been doing in the past. I found this method to be helpful in increasing student engagement, although I developed it further during the Fall 2013 semester.

Craig Wynne 9/5/13 1:32 PM

Comment [3]: The selections of plays in our course text included *A Midsummer Night’s Dream*, which I decided to teach because I have found that most students’ exposure to William Shakespeare consists of tragedies like *Romeo and Juliet* and *Othello*. I wanted to introduce students to the “lighter” side of Shakespeare while introducing them to the elements of drama.

the page, I will e-mail you privately. Late postings will not be accepted for credit, for ANY reason.

Before the second week, you will receive an invite to the class Wiki page. If you do not receive an invite by Monday, January 28, contact me. You can also go to <http://english1302spring2013wynne.pbworks.com/w/page/62455964/FrontPage> to look at it.

Reader-Response Journals: These are more open than the class wiki postings. Each week, you will freewrite 250 words or more on the readings. They can consist of your personal reactions to them, a personal story something in the reading reminded you of, a movie or TV show it reminded you of, anything. Just make it yours. These freewrites should cover ALL of the week's readings to receive full credit. Please submit one freewrite per week in which you discuss all of the readings. These will also be due to my e-mail by 5:30 p.m. the Thursday of class. Like the Wiki pages, these will not be accepted late under any circumstances.

Research Project: The second half of the semester will focus on this project. It will involve in-depth research on an author we read during the first half. This project will be undertaken in steps, which will amount to 50% of your grade. We will discuss this further during the semester.

IV – Instructor Policies

Attendance: The majority of class time will be spend discussing and workshopping, so your attendance is essential for participation. You are allowed one absence without penalty. **There is no such thing as an excused absence.** Each subsequent absence will result in a full letter grade deduction. If you miss more than three weeks' worth of classes and you do not drop before the deadline, you automatically fail the course – no exceptions. **I will not drop you; you need to do this yourself.** In addition, if you leave class early for any reason, you will be marked absent.

Punctuality: Lateness is distracting to both myself and your classmates. It can also cause you to miss important class information. I start class at the scheduled time (by the classroom clock), and I take attendance at the beginning of every class period. If you come in after I have taken attendance, you are officially "tardy." **Three tardies is equal to one absence.** If you are more than fifteen minutes late, you are officially absent for that class session. If you are more than fifteen minutes late on a peer review day, you will be asked to leave, as groups will have already been set up.

Essay Preparation: All must be typed – dark ink, 8 and one half x 11 inch on white paper, double-spaced, with proper one-inch margins and spacing between paragraphs. Use a 12-point standard typeface, Courier or Times Roman. Exceptions are in-class writing and the final exam. All essays must conform to MLA (Modern Language Association) format, which we will discuss in class.

Submission of Essay Drafts: For Essays #1 and 2, you will complete three drafts. Your first draft will be submitted to me, and your second draft will be submitted to your classmates for peer review. First and final drafts must be submitted to my e-mail. Peer review sessions will be conducted in class, so you should bring hard copies. If you do not have drafts ready for a peer review session, you will be asked to leave and marked absent for the day.

Late Work: First and second drafts will not be accepted late, and first drafts will not be accepted through any venue other than Blackboard. Final drafts will be accepted up until three regular days (not class days) after the due date, and will also only be accepted through e-mail. For every day it is late, your grade will be deducted by a full letter, up to three days. I will not accept any assignments after that.

Revision of Essays: You may choose to revise Essays #1 and #2 for a higher grade during the semester. If you are interested in revision, you must meet with me to discuss requirements for revising. You also must have submitted the assignment on time, and I must have gotten the sense that you put in a solid effort on those assignments. The last day to do this is Friday, May 3 at 9 p.m. through Blackboard. **This is optional, not required.**

Class Conduct: Any behavior that disrupts your classmates' ability to learn, as well as my ability to teach, will not be tolerated during class meetings. This includes texting. So please turn off cell phones during class meetings and keep them off during class meetings. Notify me before class begins if there is an emergency situation that absolutely requires you to keep your cell phone on during class time. While you may use laptops for in-class exercises and note-taking, you should not be checking Facebook, surfing the Internet, or doing anything unrelated to our class. Penalties for disruptive behavior may range from a verbal warning to dismissal from a class session to a referral to the Dean of Students.

Plagiarism: Plagiarism is the acceptance of someone else's work in any form as your own, and will not be tolerated. Cases of plagiarism will be discussed with the instructor and reported to the Dean, and may result in an "F" for the course.

Concerns/Problems: If you have a concern or problem with some aspect of the course, it is your responsibility to contact me. I encourage you to see me during my office hours early in the semester if you are having trouble, or even if you want to discuss something more in-depth. You may contact me by e-mail as well. When you do contact me by e-mail, I want you to write it in a professional tone. We'll be talking about audience a lot in this course, and I want you to keep in mind that you're speaking to a professional audience. This is how it should look.

Dear Mr. Wynne:

Write the content of your e-mail here. Make sure you've proofread for proper spelling, grammar, and punctuation. Do not use IM language ("2" for "to," "u" for "you," etc.).

Sincerely,

Your Name

If your e-mail does not follow this format, I will not respond. In addition, please do not ask a question that can be answered by looking at the syllabus or an assignment sheet, nor should you ask a question about an assignment within 24 hours of the due date. I will not respond if your e-mail falls under one of those criteria either. You need to prepare and to follow directions.

V – Course Calendar - I will most likely make changes and additions to readings during the semester, and it is your responsibility to keep up, in class and through Blackboard. We will use *A Writer's Reference* as I get to know your writing habits and patterns.

Week One – 1/24

Icebreakers, Policies and Procedures, the Wiki page, Writing Sample

HW: Read "Story of an Hour" (293-295); "The Lottery" (136-142); "A Good Man Is Hard to Find" (429-438); "The Things They Carried" (97-107)

Week Two – 1/31

Intro to Fiction, MLA Formatting, Essay #1 Announced

HW: Read "A&P" (311-315); "Hills Like White Elephants" (295-298); "Araby" (213-216), "The Cask of Amontillado" (226-230)

Week Three – 2/7

Discussion of Readings

HW: Essay #1 First Draft due to my e-mail Sunday, 2/10 at 9 p.m.; Write a 250-word reaction to a movie or TV show you think is funny – and why? for 2/14

Week Four- 2/14

Intro to Drama and Shakespearean language, Essay #2 Announced

HW: Read *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, Acts I and II (1129-1148); bring two hard copies of Essay #1 for peer review

Week Five – 2/21

A Midsummer Night's Dream Discussion; Peer Review Essay #1 – Second Draft

HW: Essay #1 Final Draft due to my e-mail Sunday, 2/24 at 9 p.m.; finish *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (1148-1180)

Week Six – 2/28

A Midsummer Night's Dream Discussion, Summation; Intro to Research Project

HW: Essay #2 First Draft due to my e-mail Sunday, 3/3 at 9 p.m.

Week Seven – 3/7

Library Presentation; Intro to Literary Criticism

HW: Read "Critical Approaches Important in the Study of Literature" (1348-1370); scholarly article TBD for 3/28

Week Eight – 3/14

No class – Instructor at conference – E-mail peer review - due to your classmates and myself 3/15 at 9 a.m.

Essay #2 Final Drafts due to my e-mail 3/17 at 9 p.m.

Week Nine – 3/28

Intro to APA

HW: Topic Proposal (due to my e-mail 3/31 at 9 p.m.)

Week Ten – 4/4

Source Evaluation; Begin Annotated Bibliography

HW: Two scholarly sources and annotations (due to my e-mail 4/7 at 9 p.m.)

Week Eleven – 4/11

Work in Computer Lab (Individual Conferences)

HW: Annotated Bibliography (due to my e-mail 4/14 at 9 p.m.)

Week Twelve – 4/18

Work in Computer Lab (Individual Conferences)

HW: Research Essay First Drafts (due to my e-mail 4/21 at 9 p.m.)

Week Thirteen – 4/25

Work in Computer Lab (Individual Conferences)

HW: Bring in two hard copies of Research Essay Second Drafts for peer review

Week Fourteen – 5/2

Research Essay Peer Review

HW: Research Essay Final Draft (due to my e-mail 5/5 at 9 p.m.)

Week Fifteen – 5/9

Final Presentations

Week Sixteen – 5/16 (Finals Week)

Final Presentations