

English 251

Barry J. Ward, ENGL 251, Fall 2003, American Folklore and Culture

English 251 American Folklore and Culture Fall 2003

Dr. Barry J. Ward

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Office Hours: Wednesday 9:30-12:00 and by appointment

Texts: Brunvand, **The Study of American Folklore (SAL)**

Bronner, **Folk Nation (FN)**

Brunvand, **The Choking Doberman (CD)**

Other materials including movies, web sites, tapes, and reserve books

Attendance: Attendance is required. Unexcused absences in excess of four will be grounds for failure in the course.

Term Grades:

Examination I 25%

Examination II 25%

Final Examination 25% (take home examination)

Collection Project 25%

*Please note that incompletes will be given only in extraordinary circumstances. You must request one in writing the final week of classes (not final exam week)—specific reasons for the request and appropriate documentation must be included with your request.

Social Justice Statement:

West Virginia University is committed to social justice. I concur with that commitment and expect to maintain a positive learning environment based upon open communication, mutual respect, and nondiscrimination. Our university does not discriminate on the basis of race, sex, age, disability, veteran status, religion, sexual orientation, color or national origin. Any suggestions as to how to further such a positive and open environment in this class will be appreciated and given serious consideration. If you are a person with a disability and anticipate needing any type of accommodation in order to participate in this class, please advise me and make appropriate arrangements with Disability Services (293-6700).

For Thursday read SAL chapters 1-3

English 251 Reading and Examination Schedule Fall 2003

Week I Introduction and *Study of American Folklore* (SAF) chapters 1-3.

8/19 & 8/21

Week II SAF chapters 4-6; details on Collection Project.

8/26 & 8/28

Week III SAF chapters 7-8; *Folk Nation* (FN) pp. 3-76.

9/2 & 9/4

Week IV SAF chapter 9; FN chapter 13; *The Choking Doberman* (CD) Preface

and chapters 1-2

9/9 & 9/11

Week V CD chapters 3-7; SAF appendix "The Baby-Roast Story as a "New

American Urban Legend"

9/16&9/18

Week VI Tuesday: **Examination I**

Thursday: Return Examination I and discuss progress on Collections

9/23 & 9/25

Week VII SAF chapter 10

9/30 & 10/2

Week VIII SAF chapters 11-12; FN chapters 4, 10, and 12

10/7 & 10/9

Week IX continued above; SAF appendix essay "Structure and Meaning in Folk "Blues"

10/14 & 10/16

Week X SAF chapters 14-15

10/21 & 10/23

Week XI Tuesday: **Examination II**

SAF chapters 16-18

10/28 & 10/30

Week XII SAF 19-20; FN chapter 15

11/4 & 11/6

Week XIII SAF chapters 21-23; FN chapters 8-9

11/11 & 11/13

Week XIV **Collection Project Due no later than 10:00 a.m., Thursday 11/20**

11/18 & 11/20

Week XV **Thanksgiving Recess**

11/25 & 11/27

Week XVI Return and discuss Collection Projects

Take Home Final Due no later than 10:00a.m. Thursday 12/4

12/2 & 12/4

