

English 101

Sarah Gerkenmeyer, ENGL 101, Fall 2005, Composition and Rhetoric

“When I write, I feel like an armless, legless man with a crayon in his mouth.” -Kurt Vonnegut

English 101: Composition and Rhetoric—Fall 2005

Section #068, T/Th 1:00-2:15, 302 Hodges Hall

Instructor Name: Sarah Gerkenmeyer

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Texts

Axelrod, Rise B., Charles R. Cooper, and Alison M. Warriner. *Reading Critically Writing Well: A Reader and Guide*. 7th ed. Boston: Bedford/St. Martins, 2005.

Brady, Laura, and Kathleen J. Ryan. *Work in Progress: English 101 at West Virginia University*. Acton, MA: Tapestry P, 2005.

- Lunsford, Andrea A. *The Everyday Writer*. 3rd ed. Boston: Bedford/St. Martins, 2005.

Course Goals

Please see *Work in Progress*—especially pages 5-7—for an overview of the aims and practices that shape English 101 at West Virginia University.

Assignment Overview

Expect to write and revise four papers (about 20+ pages) over the course of the semester, in addition to other informal writing both in and out of class. Please see *Work in Progress*—especially pages 13 and 14—for more information. I will also give you detailed assignment sheets as we begin each of the four major papers.

Portfolio Approach, Response, and Evaluation

Please see *Work in Progress*—especially pages 7-8—for an overview of the portfolio approach this course uses to emphasize ongoing writing and revision. You will not receive a grade on individual papers but you will always receive comments on your papers to give you a sense of what you need to polish and review for your final portfolio. You will receive an “In-progress” midterm grade and commentary, which will describe your work. Success in this class depends on meeting all the requirements, the quality of your written work, and your willingness to try new perspectives, to revise and rethink, to take risks.

PLEASE NOTE: It is your responsibility to save all of your written work in this course, including in-class writing exercises and assignments that have received comments from me.

Evaluation Criteria and Grade Descriptions

Please see pages 10-13 for the criteria for participation, informal writing, portfolios, and for descriptions of final A, B, C, D and F work.

Policies and Procedures

Please see *Work in Progress*—especially pages 7-10—for course policies and procedures. This section includes important information about why your regular attendance and participation is important; why late work (or lateness in general) disrupts our working environment; how a commitment to social justice promotes a positive learning environment; and why academic integrity is essential to our community. The following policies are especially important to note:

- Two or more absences will compromise your grade. There are no excused absences.
- Arriving late to class on two occasions is equal to one absence.
- Missing a conference is equal to two absences.
- Coming to class unprepared (i.e. no texts or incomplete work) is equal to one absence.
- Plagiarism will be penalized. It is your responsibility as a student to understand the various forms of plagiarism.

Office Hours and E-Mail

Office hours (listed above) provide a great chance to talk one-on-one. Please stop by to ask questions—or just to say hello. You may drop in during these times or make an appointment with me to talk about any questions or comments you have about your progress in the course. I’d be happy to talk with you via email as well, and you can expect that I will respond to you (in email or in class) within 48 hours Monday through Friday. So that we can use e-mail and the Internet to extend course conversations in a variety of ways, please activate and check your MIX account. (Note: you can forward MIX to another account.)

Course Schedule

All reading and writing assignments are subject to change. Any changes will be announced in advance so that students can plan accordingly.

WEEK ONE:

Tues. Aug. 23: Introduction to the course

Thurs. Aug. 25: WIP: p. 1-18 RCWW: Chapter 1

WEEK TWO:

Tues. Aug. 30: RCWW: p. 158-161 “Writing Home,” Chris Offutt (handout); “Me Talk Pretty One Day,” David Sedaris (handout); “To See Your Story Clearly, Start by Pulling the Wool over Your Own Eyes,” Kent Haruf (handout); Due: Writer’s Notebook #1

Thurs. Sept. 1: WIP: p. 34-36; p. 85-89; Due: Writer’s Notebook #2

WEEK THREE:

Tues. Sept. 6: RCWW: p. 216-223, EW: p. 3-22; Due: brainstorming draft of Literacy Narrative (multiple copies); Peer Workshop: Literacy Narrative draft

Thurs. Sept. 8: class cancelled for CONFERENCES; Due: revised Literacy Narrative (in conference)

WEEK FOUR:

Tues. Sept. 13: TBA; Due: Literacy Narrative “final for now” with drafting

Thurs. Sept. 15: RCWW: p. 326-329; 358-371; Due: Writer’s Notebook #3

WEEK FIVE:

Tues. Sept. 20: TBA; Due: Genre Analysis brainstorming draft (multiple copies); Peer Workshop: Genre Analysis draft

Thurs. Sept. 22: class cancelled for CONFERENCES; Due: revised Genre Analysis (in conference)

WEEK SIX:

Tues. Sept. 27: TBA; Due: Genre Analysis “final for now” with drafting

Thurs. Sept. 29: TBA; Due: Midterm Memo and Working Portfolio

WEEK SEVEN:

Tues. Oct. 4: RCWW: p. 83-85; p. 104-115; p. 133-139; Due: 3-5 possible interview subjects; Hot Potato: interview subjects

Thurs. Oct. 6: RCWW: p. 124-132; Due: Writer's Notebook #4; Peer Workshop: interview questions

WEEK EIGHT:

Tues. Oct. 11: TBA; Due: notes from first interview session

Thurs. Oct. 13: TBA; Due: Writer's Notebook #5; Hot Potato: Interview thesis

WEEK NINE:

Tues. Oct. 18: RCWW: p. 150-157; Due: Interview Essay draft (multiple copies); Peer Workshop: Interview Essay draft

Thurs. Oct. 20: class cancelled for CONFERENCES; Due: revised Interview Essay (in conference)

WEEK TEN:

Tues. Oct. 25: TBA; Due: Interview "final for now" with drafting

Thurs. Oct. 27: WIP: p. 107-122; Due: Writer's Notebook #6

WEEK ELEVEN:

Tues. Nov. 1: EW: p. 139-156; Due: research topics and questions; Hot Potato: research questions

Thurs. Nov. 3: EW: p. 156-179; p. 369-402; Due: MGRP research question

WEEK TWELVE:

Tues. Nov. 8: TBA; Due: MGRP draft with 3+ genres (multiple copies); Peer Workshop: MGRP draft

Thurs. Nov. 10: TBA; Due: MGRP complete draft (multiple copies +1 for instructor); Peer Workshop: MGRP complete draft

WEEK THIRTEEN:

Tues. Nov. 15: class cancelled for CONFERENCES; Due: Writer's Notebook #7 (in conference)

Thurs. Nov. 17: TBA; Due: MGRP "final for now" with drafting

WEEK FOURTEEN: Thanksgiving Recess

WEEK FIFTEEN:

Tues. Nov. 29: TBA

Thurs. Dec. 1: TBA; Due: Writer's Notebook #8

WEEK SIXTEEN:

Tues. Dec. 6: Due: Portfolio introduction and table of contents; Peer Workshop: introduction and table of contents

Thurs. Dec. 8: Due: Final Portfolio

WEEK SEVENTEEN: final exams; portfolios will be picked up in my office during our final exam time slot.