

Syllabus for English 104-09
College Writing and Rhetoric

Missouri Western State University
Department of English, Foreign Languages, and Journalism
College of Liberal Arts and Sciences
English 104-09 -- College Writing and Rhetoric
Instructor- Kathy Miller
Spring 2009
T-TH 11:00-12:20 Murphy Hall Rm 109
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Required Text:

**The Brief Bedford Reader* 10th edition. X.J. Kenndy

Required Materials:

- *Notebook for notes, class work, journal entries, etc.
- *Folder(s) to keep all writing and portfolio work.

Course Goals:

Reading and Writing: Reading is the basis for all learning. It helps us to connect to others and the world around us. It forms us into a community. As human beings we must be able to see how we fit into society as an individual and how the common language affects society. We must be able to adapt to our world as it changes around us. Through language we have the opportunity to affect the change itself. In this course, we will be reading various texts and then writing about those texts. In developing the ability to react to text in a logical, emotional and intellectual manner, we will be able to see a clearer and more meaningful language. In order to achieve these goals, we will:

- Read and respond to various texts, such as textbook readings, media such as television, movies, theatre, advertising and our peers' work.
- Read and study written texts to improve our own writing.
- Summarize, analyze and evaluate texts.
- Understand, find, shape, address and write arguments.
- Engage in meaningful journal writing and collaborative writing.
- Revise our written work.
- Participate in peer revision groups.

The process of reading is not a half sleep, but in highest sense an exercise, a gymnast's struggle; that the reader is to do something for himself, must be on the alert, must himself or herself construct indeed the poem, argument, history, metaphysical essay-the text furnishing the hints, the clue, the start or frame-work.

Walt Whitman

For common objectives/means and institutional competencies for ENG 104, also refer to the English department website at <http://www.missouriwestern.edu/eflj/eng104.asp>

Methods of Instruction:

Methods of instruction include textbook, lectures, class discussions, group work, presentations, informal writing assignments, and formal writing assignments. Students will be expected to participate in peer revision group and in-class writing exercises.

Journals:

You will write (informal) daily journal entries/responses to most of your assigned readings. These entries will be your explanations of and reactions to the readings. Each journal entry will consist of both summary and response/analysis and be, on average, one full page. The collection dates will be announced one class period in advance. Journal entries will be graded on content and will be part of your grade for the course.

Peer Revision Group: Prior to submitting your formal writing assignments, you will be required to participate in peer revision groups in which you will bring in word-processed copies of your rough draft to share with your group and receive feedback from your group in order to help you strengthen and revise your own written work. This is a required activity and will be part of your grade for the course. If you miss a class that has a scheduled peer revision you will NOT be able to make up the assignment.

Policies:

Attendance and Class Preparation/Participation:

In order to improve student learning and to achieve compliance with federal financial aid policies, Western has a mandatory attendance policy for all 100-level courses. A student will be given an excused absence when acting as an official representative of the university, provided the student gives prior written verification from the faculty/staff supervisor of the event. A student will also be given an excused absence if he or she can provide documentation and prove that the absence was unavoidable. Please feel free to speak to me about any extenuating circumstances. All other absences will be deemed unexcused. The maximum number of unexcused absences allowed before the midterm report, March 16, for this class is 3. Thus, when you have 4 you will be reported to the Registrar's Office, who will automatically withdraw you from this class. The Financial Aid Office will reduce financial aid as appropriate. If you exceed the allowed absences after midterm, your final grade will be affected.

Students are expected to attend every scheduled class meeting and arrive on time. Arriving to class late is disruptive. As a result, chronic lateness will likely affect your final grade. Any student who is more than 10 minutes late is absent. You are welcome to stay and learn, but you will receive an absentee for the class. Students are also expected to come prepared to every class meeting and participate in class discussion for this is the only we can all share ideas, ask questions and learn.

Late work:

All writing assignments are due at the beginning of the class period on the due date. I will not accept late papers. If you are not in class on the due date you are still responsible for submitting your assignment on time. Late journals and in-class writing assignments will not be accepted. If you miss class you miss the points for any in-class work.

Revision:

All formal, graded writing assignments can be revised and resubmitted for a "new" grade. You will have two weeks from the date the paper is returned in class to revise and resubmit each paper. This is only for formal writing assignments. It is required that your original, graded essay accompanies your revised essay. Revision is important because each paper covers important skills that you will need to know for the next paper.

Grading Policy:

Your grade will be determined on formal papers, journal entries, quizzes and the final examination. Please note that smaller assignments and class preparation/participation are very important and do affect your grade. The components of your grade in this course are:

Formal writing assignments.

Paper One : 100pts

Paper Two : 100pt

Paper Three: 100pts

Paper Four : 150pts.

Journal Entries: 100pts.

Quizzes: 50pts.
Final Exam: 100pts

Students with Disabilities:

Anyone who has a disability that prevents the fullest expression of his or her potential to succeed in this course must notify me as soon as possible so that we can discuss class requirements and accommodations. You must also contact Michael Ritter, Special Needs Coordinator, and submit all necessary documentation to his office.

Academic Honesty Policy:

Academic honesty is required in all academic endeavors. Violations of academic honesty include any instance of plagiarism, cheating, seeking credit for another's work, and falsifying documents of academic records or any other fraudulent classroom activity. Cheating and plagiarism are not acceptable. You will receive a grade of F (0 points) for any paper/assignment /exam that shows evidence of cheating and /or plagiarism. You have the burden of proving that a paper/assignment/exam showing evidence of cheating and/or plagiarism has been written by you. You should keep thorough evidence of your writing processes for all papers so that you can meet this burden of proof. If you plagiarize a paper, you forfeit the right to revise that paper; if you cheat on an exam, you will not be allowed to retake the exam. Violations of academic honesty will be reported to the Provost of the designated representation on the Academic Honesty Violation Report Forms. Please see the 2006-08 Student Handbook and Calendar on page 21 for specific activities identified as violations of this policy and the student due process procedure. This handbook is also available on line at <http://www.missouriwestern.edu/handbook/index.pdf>.

Miscellaneous:

Civility and Cooperation: Missouri Western requires all students to help us maintain good conditions for teaching and learning. All students will treat their classmates and teachers with civility and respect, both inside and outside the classroom. Students who violate this policy may, among other penalties, be counted absent and asked to leave. You should review your Missouri Western student handbook for further information.

Please remember to turn off cell phones and pages.

Please note that you must complete all writing assignments in order to pass this course. In addition, admission into ENG 108 requires a "C" or higher in ENG 104.

Please feel free to come see me if you have any problems or questions.

Tentative course assignments for English 104

You must keep a reading log/writing journal that you will use in class to generate ideas and outside of class to summarize and respond to all essays within the reading assignments.

January 13, 2009

Intro to Course/Syllabus/textbook overview Look through book page 9-12

Discussion of paper # 1

January 15

Read pages 13-29 Make sure you understand the definitions of the bold words as they relate to both reading and writing as we will focus on these throughout the semester

January 20

Inauguration Reflections

January 22

Narration p. 81-98

"Shooting an Elephant" pgs 489-498

Journaling toward paper # 1

January 27

p. 99-109

Write a one page answer to question 5 (Connections) on page 97 which compares the essays by Angelou and Tan

"Once More to the Lake" pgs. 504-512

Journaling

January 29

“Only Daughter” pg 476-482

In Class writing for paper #1

Feb 3

Rough Drafts due: Peer editing for paper #1 Bring 3 copies of your draft to class

Feb 5

Paper # 1 due

At this point we will assess how we are doing and if we need to implement some writers’ workshops on specific writing issues, we will do so at this time

