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ENGL 151-00, Basic Writing, Spring 1996

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English 151
MWF 1:50-2:50
Professor Marshall (Tod)
Office: 310 Palmer Hours: 12:30-1:50 MWF

Texts

The Art of the Essay, ed. Fakundiny
Ways of Seeing, Berger

Recommended:
Harbrace College Handbook
Dictionary

The purpose of this course is to develop your skills as college level writers. To that end, we will be reading and writing a great deal over the course of the semester: reading in order to encounter new ideas, writing to practice our skills. Over the course of the semester, you will produce several essays and one lengthy research paper. Additionally, we will be talking about the traits of good writing as exhibited by work in our textbooks and work done by our peers. Consequently, a large component of the class will be our discussions: I will expect you to be prepared for class and to participate with enthusiasm and interest.

Policies

More than three absences will result in a 2 step reduction of your final course grade (from an "A" to a "B+" or from a C+ to a C-). Only documented absences will be excused. Additionally, late papers will be unacceptable unless accompanied by a documented excuse. My only other classroom concern is that we practice courtesy and control in our classroom discussions. All work for this course must be done in compliance with the Rhodes Honor Code.

Requirements

Four Essays	60%
Rewritten Essay	10%
Final In-class essay	15%
Participation	15%

The course grades will be computed on a hundred point scale.

Note: all essays for the course (excepting, of course, the final) must be typewritten.

All writing and reading assignments are due on the dates listed below. Please bring the appropriate text to class.

Schedule

Aug 28 Course Introduction
30 F "Introduction" 1-19

Sept. 2 Labor Day
4 Bacon, "Of Studies," "Of Boldness"
6 Johnson, "On Spring," "In Pursuit of Fame"
11 Lamb "Grace Before Meat" Essay #1 Assigned
13 Hazlitt "On Going a Journey," Emerson, "Illusions"

- 16 Thoreau, "Life Without Principle," In-class work.
 18 Draft of essay #1 DUE. Peer editing.
 20 Dubois, "On Being Black," "The Guilt of the Cane"
 23 Essay #1 DUE. Hurston, "How It Feels to be Colored Me," Walker, "Looking for Zora"
 25 Baldwin, "Equal in Paris," King, "A Letter from Birmingham Jail"
 27 Swift, "A Modest Proposal," Thomas, "An Earnest Proposal"
 30 Essay #2 assigned. Orwell, "Reflection on Gandhi"
- Oct. 2 Kozol (handout)
 4 Didion, "On Morality." In-class writing.
 7 Draft of essay #2 DUE. Peer editing.
 9 Belloc, "The Mowing of a Field," "The Death of a Moth"
 11 White, "A Slight Sound at Evening," Welty, "A Sweet Devouring"
 14 Essay #3 Assigned. McConkey, "In Praise of Chekhov"
 16 Ozick, "The Riddle of the Ordinary," "A Drugstore in Winter"
 18 Selzer, "An Absence of Windows," "A Worm from my Notebook"
 21 Fall Recess
 23 Conferences
 25 Conferences
 28 Draft of Essay #3 DUE. Peer Editing.
 30 Rose, "Tools of Torture," Ehrlich, "The Smooth Skull of Winter"
- Nov. 1 Berger, Ways of Seeing
 4 Berger, Ways of Seeing
 6 Essay #4 assigned. Berger, Ways of Seeing
 8 "Resources for Readers and Writers--Montaigne..."
 11 "Resources for Readers and Writers--Essayists on Their Art"
 13 Library Tour
 15 Library Tour
 18 "Resources for Readers and Writers--Talking About Style"; Draft of Essay #4 Due; Peer Editing
 20 Rewrite of Essays 1, 2, or 3 Assigned. "Table" Essay #4.
 22 In-class writing.
 25 Draft of Rewrite DUE. Peer Editing.
 Thanksgiving Recess
- Dec. 2 Rewritten Essay DUE. Discussion of Essay #4 and in-class writing.
 4 TBA
 6 Essay #4 DUE. Discussion of proposed topics for Final.
 9 Final essay--in class.
 11 Final essay--in class.