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## ENGL 151- 05 and 07, Critical Reading, Thinking and Writing, Fall 2001

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**English 151: Critical Reading, Thinking, and Writing**  
**Section 5 or 7: Self and Culture**

**COURSE SYLLABUS**

Professor Meyer-Lee  
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843-3134

Office: Palmer 308A  
Office hours: Tu 9:30 - 12:30  
Th 11:30 - 1:30

Key: NR = *The Norton Reader*; CP = Course Pack; CoR = *The Craft of Research*

Week	Day	Date	Assignments
1	W	22-Aug	Introduction: course philosophy and requirements In-class exercise: what are "self" and "culture?"
	F	24-Aug	Clifford Geertz, "Thick Description" CP Reading response to be brought to class.

UNIT 1: Yourself and culture

2	M	27-Aug	Lars Eighner, "On Dumpster Diving" NR 25-33 Reading response to be e-mailed to meyer_leer@rhodes.edu by 8:00am
	W	29-Aug	Marianna De Marco Torgovnick, "On Being White, Female, and born in Bensonhurst" NR 52-62 Reading response to be e-mailed to meyer_leer@rhodes.edu by 8:00am
	F	31-Aug	CoR 85-148 Joan Didion, "On Going Home" NR 50-52 Quiz on CoR
3	M	3-Sep	Labor Day
	W	5-Sep	James Baldwin, "Stranger in the Village" NR 375-84 Reading response to be brought to class DRAFT OF ESSAY 1 DUE at the beginning of class.

UNIT 2: Individualism

	F	7-Sep	Robert Bellah et al., <i>Habits of the Heart</i> , Preface and Chapter 1, CP Reading response to be e-mailed to meyer_leer@rhodes.edu by 8:00am
4	M	10-Sep	Robert Bellah et al., <i>Habits of the Heart</i> , Chapter 2, CP Reading response to be e-mailed to meyer_leer@rhodes.edu by 8:00am
	W	12-Sep	Robert Bellah et al., <i>Habits of the Heart</i> , Chapter 6, CP

Week	Day	Date	Assignments
			Reading response to be e-mailed to meyer_leer@rhodes.edu by 8:00am
	F	14-Sep	<i>Habits</i> catchup FINAL REVISION OF ESSAY 1 DUE at the beginning of class.
5	M	17-Sep	CoR 149-74, 199-233 Quiz on CoR
UNIT 3: Gender and culture			
	W	19-Sep	Herb Goldberg, "In Harness" NR 349-53 Paul Theroux, "Being a Man" NR 251-53
	F	21-Sep	Maggie Helwig, "Hunger" NR 318-22 Anna Quindlen, "Between the Sexes, a Great Divide" NR 263-65 Rumination on gender and culture due
Unit 4: Cultural difference			
6	M	24-Sep	Cathy Davidson, "From the Best of Japanese Families" NR 444-52
	W	26-Sep	Charlotte Gray, "The Temple of Hygiene" Rumination on cultural difference due
	F	28-Sep	Mordecai Rosenfeld, "Genesis, Chapter 22—A Respectful Dissent" NR 1109-1111 DRAFT OF ESSAY 2 DUE at the beginning of class
Unit 5: American culture			
7	M	1-Oct	Pico Iyer, "The Contagion of Innocence" NR 310-18
	W	3-Oct	David Guterson, "Enclosed. Encyclopedic. The Mall of America" NR 206-17
	F	5-Oct	Anthony Burgess, "Is America Falling Apart?" NR 304-309 CoR 234-54 Rumination on American culture due
8	M	8-Oct	Daniel Harris, "Light-bulb Jokes," NR 340-43 FINAL REVISION OF ESSAY 2 DUE at the beginning of class
Unit 6: Prejudice			
	W	10-Oct	Vanessa Ochs, "Not in My Backyard" NR 368-75
	F	12-Oct	Brent Staples, "Black Men and Public Space" NR 384-86 Debra Dickerson, "Who Shot Johnny" NR 398-401 Rumination on prejudice and culture due
9	M	15-Oct	Fall recess

Week	Day	Date	Assignments
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Unit 7: Religion

	W	17-Oct	Clifford Geertz, "Religion As a Cultural System" CP THESIS AND OUTLINE OF ESSAY 3 DUE at the beginning of class Reading response to be e-mailed to meyer_leer@rhodes.edu by 8:00am
	F	19-Oct	Gilbert Highet, "The Mystery of Zen" NR 1159-67
10	M	22-Oct	Jean-Paul Sartre, "Existentialism" NR 1168-76
	W	24-Oct	Edward Rivera, "First Communion" NR 1096-1108
	F	26-Oct	Langston Hughes, "Salvation" NR 1094-96 Louis Menand, "The Gods Are Anxious" NR 1112-14 Robert Graves, "Mythology" NR 1114-18 FINAL REVISION OF ESSAY 3 DUE at the beginning of class
11	M	29-Oct	CoR 1-27, 35-63 Quiz on CoR

Unit 8: A grab bag of arguments and issues

*Women and intellectual culture*

	W	31-Oct	Virginia Woolf, "In Search of a Room of One's Own" NR 1049-58
	F	2-Nov	Adrienne Rich, "Taking Women Students Seriously" NR 482-88 Rumination on women and intellectual culture due TOPIC FOR ESSAY 5 to be e-mailed to meyer_leer@rhodes.edu by X:00am
12	M	5-Nov	CoR 64-84 Library workshop: meet in XXX

*Argument from personal experience*

	W	7-Nov	Richard Rodriguez, "Aria" NR 531-36
	F	9-Nov	Bruce Shapiro, "One Violent Crime" NR 15-19 PROPOSAL FOR ESSAY 5 DUE at the beginning of class
13	M	12-Nov	Malcolm Gladwell, "The Sports Taboo" NR 278-86
	W	14-Nov	In-class workshop on argument FINAL REVISION OF ESSAY 4 DUE at the beginning of class

*The nature of the individual*

	F	16-Nov	Sven Birkerts, "Homo Virtualis" NR 240-49
14	M	19-Nov	Martha Nussbaum, "The Idea of World Citizenship in Greek and Roman Antiquity" NR 1119-32 Reading response to be e-mailed to meyer_leer@rhodes.edu by 8:00am

Week	Day	Date	Assignments
ANNOTATED BIBLIOGRAPHY FOR ESSAY 5 DUE at the beginning of class			
	W	21-Nov	Thanksgiving recess
	F	23-Nov	Thanksgiving recess
<i>Manipulation of history</i>			
15	M	26-Nov	Frances Fitzgerald, "Rewriting American History" NR 819- THESIS AND OUTLINE OF ESSAY 5 DUE
	W	28-Nov	H. Bruce Franklin, "From Realism to Virtual Reality" NR 786-801 Reading response to be e-mailed to meyer_leer@rhodes.edu by 8:00am
<i>College</i>			
	F	30-Nov	Brent Staples, "Why Colleges Shower Their Students with A's" NR 405-407
16	M	3-Dec	William Zinsser, "College Pressures" Rumination on academic culture at Rhodes due
	W	5-Dec	Wrap up: self and culture revisited FINAL REVISION OF ESSAY 5 DUE at the beginning of class PEER-EDITING JOURNAL DUE at the beginning of class