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Queens College

2020

ENGL 130 Writing about Literature

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Writing about Literature 130-03 Queens College Summer 2020
Professor Erika Figel
Online- June 29-August 6, 2020
Meeting synchronously M/Th 10:00AM - 11:34AM
Asynchronous study T/W
Contact Info: erika.figel@qc.cuny.edu
Office Hours: will respond to emails within 12 hours and will meet synchronously with students by appointment.

Required Core: College Writing 2 (EC-2)
Course Description: ENGL 130/130H. Writing about Literature in English
ENGL 130 fulfills the College Writing 2 requirement and builds on the work of English 110 (College Writing 1), in order to teach the conventions of writing in the discipline of English.The course focuses on the study of Anglophone literature and how to engage in scholarly conversations about literature by using close reading of primary and secondary sources, conducting original research, and developing analytical arguments about literary texts in different genres.

Learning Goals:
- Read and listen critically and analytically, including identifying an argument's major assumptions and assertions and evaluating its supporting evidence.
- Write clearly and coherently in varied, academic formats (such as formal essays, research papers, and reports) using Standard English and appropriate technology to critique and improve one's own and others' texts.
- Demonstrate research skills using appropriate technology, including gathering, evaluating, and synthesizing primary and secondary sources.
- Support a thesis with well-reasoned arguments, and communicate persuasively across a variety of contexts, purposes, audiences, and media.
- Formulate original ideas and relate them to the ideas of others by employing the conventions of ethical attribution and citation.

Reasonable Accommodations for Students with Disabilities
Candidates with disabilities needing academic accommodation should: 1) register with and provide documentation to the Special Services Office, Frese Hall, Room 111; 2) bring a letter indicating the need for accommodation and what type. This should be done during the first week of class. For more information about services available to Queens College candidates, visit the website, or contact: Special Service Office; Director, Miriam Detres-Hickey, Frese Hall, Room 111; 718-997-5870.

CUNY Policy on Academic Integrity
Academic Dishonesty is prohibited in The City University of New York and is punishable by penalties, including failing grades, suspension, and expulsion as provided at
https://www.cuny.edu/about/administration/offices/legal-affairs/policies-procedures/academ

ic-integrity-policy/.

Technology Requirements:
You will need online access to the Internet and your login credentials to Blackboard to access materials for the course. Please ensure that your login credentials are valid at the start of the course to ensure you receive all information and communication from Blackboard. Please also make sure you can participate in discussion and online activities and synchronous class sessions through Google Classroom.

Our Class Code is **igu2d6s**.
Our Google Meet link is: https://meet.google.com/lookup/f7u427ugyj.

You will need your QC CAMS account to login into Google Classroom and Google Meet class sessions. (https://cams.qc.cuny.edu/) Your CAMS account is different from your QC Email account. It looks like *jsmith* instead of *john.smith*. If you are having issues with logging in to Blackboard or Google Classroom, please contact Queens College's IT help desk as soon as possible: https://www.qc.cuny.edu/computing/HelpDesk/Pages/Welcome.aspx

How to login to QC Google (you cannot use your personal Google account)-
http://ctl.qc.cuny.edu/google/

Go to gdrive.qc.cuny.edu
Login with your CAMS account (looks like jsmith100,) if you have forgotten your username or password- go here: cams.qc.cuny.edu).
(Accept terms and conditions if it's your first time logging in).
Go to Classroom.google.com, (Identify as a student).
Click the + button on the top right.
Add the course code.

Troubleshooting-
After logging in, it won't let you add the class.
A: Sometimes it switches you back to your personal Google account if you have more than one logged in at a time. Open the account switcher by clicking on your initial or profile picture in the top right and enter your QC account.

If you do not know CAMS account/password, go to cams.qc.cuny.edu and click forgot Username or Password.

Required Texts: This is a ZTC and OER course. All materials are linked in syllabus and through Google Classroom.

- Picture of Dorian Gray by Oscar Wilde: http://www.gutenberg.org/ebooks/174
- All poems on syllabus linked to online access (see below)
- Vanya and Sonia and Masha and Spike, by Chris Durang: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qMYFyggNArc
- Uncle Vanya by Anton Checkhov: http://www.gutenberg.org/ebooks/1756 and https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5mHjT4maw7o
- Writing and Literature: Open Textbook: https://web.ung.edu/media/university-press/Writing%20and%20Literature.pdf?t=1535646005784

Grading Scheme:

Grades	GPA	Numerical Value / Definition
A+	97-100	4.0 (GPA in Good Academic Standing)
A	93-96	4.0
A-	90-92	3.7
B+	87-89	3.3
B	83-86	3.0
B-	80-82	2.7
C+	77-79	2.3
C	73-76	2.0
C-	70-72	1.7 (GPA in Academic Probation)
D+	67-69	1.3
D	60-66	1.0 (Grade of D is the lowest passing grade in the undergraduate division)
F	0-59	0.0

Grading Breakdown of Assignments:

Fiction: Essay 1: Close reading of a single text in context (2-3 pp): 15%
- Point of exercise to engage and apply literary terminology and basic analytical concepts while discovering deeper meaning of theme(s) in a text

Poetry: Essay 2: Compare two poems by different poets with shared theme - (3-4 pp): 20%
- Point of exercise to engage and apply poetic terminology and basic analytical concepts and broaden understanding of thematic analysis through differentiation in technical aspects as perspectives and craft choices

Drama: Essay 3: Close reading of a primary text in context with original research: (4-5 pp): 25%
- Point of exercise to prove influence of works on each other through verified context

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Late or Missing Assignments:
- Missing assignments not handed in by end of the semester will receive a F (50).
- Assignments are due on the dates listed below. I will accept late work at any time up until the last day of class; **however, all late assignments, no matter how late, will receive a 10 point deduction.**
- Rough Drafts are due before Final Drafts and are required. **If a rough draft is not submitted for each essay, 10 points will be deducted from the final grade on the essay.**

Quizzes: 10%
- Point of exercise to test understanding and practice of class material

Online Dictionary and Discussion: 15%
- Point of exercise to practice increase in vocabulary and engagement of new words and concepts learned and engage with other students in the class.
- The dictionary is an online discussion forum that all students will contribute to in order to write any and all words that are new to you this semester. As you read through the texts this semester, you will mark words and/ or other information that interests you in the online dictionary discussion thread.
- You are also required to post in the discussion forum in Google Classroom. You will receive new discussion prompts every week from me. Rough drafts will be peer edited through this forum as well.
- There are 6 Discussions and 1 Online Dictionary with a minimum 3 words added per student.

Participation: Attendance and online activities 15%
- Point of exercise to observe and reward consistent attendance and participation in synchronous class sessions and asynchronous activities.
- You are allowed 4 absences from synchronous sessions, but it is on you to make up work and keep up with class. All synchronous sessions are recorded in Blackboard. If you are absent 5 or more times, you will lose 10 points from your participation grade.

Calendar of Readings/Assignments:
The calendar of readings and/or assignments may change as I deem appropriate; however, I will make you aware ahead of time in the event of any changes. *Your consistent attendance in class will keep you in touch with any changes to the syllabus.*

Unit 1: Prose

Week 1 (6/29-7/2): Introduction to Prose

Read: Chapters 1-14 inclusive *The Picture of Dorian Gray* by Oscar Wilde --->
http://www.gutenberg.org/ebooks/174
Watch: Prof Figel Lectures on Chapters 1-14 *The Picture of Dorian Gray* on Prof Figel YouTube channel
Write: There are 2 Quizzes and 1 Discussion Post this week.
Meet: In our synchronous sessions, lecture and discussion on Literary Terminology, Why Literature is Important, and themes expressed in *The Picture of Dorian Gray.*
Stitching : This first week we will read and discuss *The Picture of Dorian Gray* by Oscar Wilde. You will finish the first 14 chapters by Thursday's synchronous session. After finishing it that weekend, we will discuss the resolution of the plot on Monday's synchronous session.

Week 2 (7/6-7/9): Essay 1 on *The Picture of Dorian Gray* by Oscar Wilde

Read: Read chapters 15-20 *Picture of Dorian Gray* to finish book. --->
http://www.gutenberg.org/ebooks/174 and Chapter 8: The Literary Essay --->
https://web.ung.edu/media/university-press/Writing%20and%20Literature.pdf?t=1535646005784
Watch: Prof Figel Lectures on Chapters 15-20 *Picture of Dorian Gray* on Prof Figel YouTube channel
Write: There will be 1 Quiz and 1 Discussion Post for Rough Draft Essay 1 due before Thursday's synchronous session. Final Draft Essay 1 Due July 13.
Meet: In our synchronous sessions, lecture and discussion on MLA citation, Essay 1 prompt, and how to write about literature.
Stitching : We conclude our discussion of the plot and turn our attention to writing about the theme of duality and dichotomy in *The Picture of Dorian Gray* by Oscar Wilde. There will be presentations on Brainstorming, Thesis, and Outlines.

<u>Unit 2:</u> Poetry

Week 3 (7/13-7/16): Introduction to Poetry

Read: Sections 4.1 Analyzing Poetry and 4.3 Literary Terminology in Writing and Literature ---->
https://web.ung.edu/media/university-press/Writing%20and%20Literature.pdf?t=1535646005784

Audre Lorde "Echoes"--->
https://whirlsofwords.tumblr.com/post/145821234536/echoes-by-audre-lorde

Amiri Baraka "An Agony. As Now."-->
https://www.poetryfoundation.org/poems/52777/an-agony-as-now

Margaret Atwood "You Begin"-->
https://readalittlepoetry.wordpress.com/2011/03/22/you-begin-by-margaret-atwood/

Walt Whitman "Noiseless, Patient Spider"-->
https://www.poetryfoundation.org/poems/45473/a-noiseless-patient-spider

Li Young-Lee "Out of Hiding"-->
https://www.americanpoems.com/poets/li-young-lee/out-of-hiding/

Tarfia Faizullah, "En Route to Bangladesh, Another Crisis of Faith"-->
https://www.poetryfoundation.org/poems/56919/en-route-to-bangladesh-another-crisis-of-faith

Octavio Paz "In Her Splendor Islanded" --->
https://www.poetryfoundation.org/poetrymagazine/browse?contentId=27687

Brenda Cardena "Lecciones de lengua" →
https://www.poetryfoundation.org/poems/54628/lecciones-de-lengua

Watch: Prof Figel Lectures on Poetry Terminology, "Noiseless, Patient Spider", and "When I Heard the Learn'd Astronomer" on Prof Figel YouTube channel

Write: <mark>There will be 1 Quiz and 1 Discussion Post this week.</mark>

Meet: In our Synchronous session on Monday, I will review poetry terminology and how to read a poem using the poem "Reapers" by Jean Toomer as an example. In Thursday's session, I will review the other poems and their meanings.

Stitching : In this introduction to poetry, you will be immersed in up to 11 different poems with diverse authors and themes; however, you will see how profound the genre of poetry is when you realize how many themes can fit into one short poem. As Howard Bloom said, "a poem may be short but never small."

Week 4 (7/20-7/23): Essay 2 on Themes in Poetry

Read: Presentation on Comparison Essay for Literature and Poetry and MLA

Watch: Additional videos posted in Google Classroom on analyzing poetry and MLA format; Lectures on Prof Figel's YouTube page

Write: <mark>There will be 1 Quiz and Rough Draft Essay 2 Due this week.</mark><mark style="background-color:cyan">Final Draft Essay 2 due July 27.</mark>

Meet: In our synchronous sessions, we will be discussing Essay 2 and reviewing Rough Drafts of Essay 2

Stitching : We have read and studied about 10 poems. For essay 2, you are choosing two that you find share a theme and will write an essay comparing the choices the poets made in expressing that theme.

Unit 3: Drama

Week 5 (7/27-7/30): Introduction to Drama

Read: Uncle Vanya by Anton Checkhov: http://www.gutenberg.org/ebooks/1756
Watch: Vanya and Sonia and Masha and Spike, by Chris Durang:
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qMYFyggNArc
Uncle Vanya by Anton Checkhov: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5mHjT4maw7o
Write: There will be 1 Quiz and 1 Discussion Post this week.
Meet: In our synchronous sessions, we will discuss how drama is different from prose and the differences between the two plays studied.
Stitching : Every form has its purpose, and as we close our semester with drama, we focus on the performative aspect of this genre.

Week 6 (8/3-8/6): Essay 3 on Adaptation in Drama

Read: Articles on adaptation and reviews/interviews with Chris Durang posted in Google Classroom
Watch: Interviews with Chris Durang: Lectures on Prof Figel's YouTube page
Write: There will be 1 Quiz and Rough Draft Essay 3 Due this week. Final Draft Essay 3 due August 10.
Meet: In our synchronous sessions, we will discuss
Stitching : Essay 3 will focus on adaptation in theater, the choices writers make in adapting an old play into something for contemporary audiences. Outside research will be required for this essay.