

Course Syllabus

NOTE: This syllabus is subject to change during the semester. Please check my online teacher site for changes

Department : English & Foreign Languages

Course Title : Composition and Rhetoric

Section Name : ENGL 1301

Start Date : 08/22/2010

End Date : 12/16/2010

Modality : FACE-TO-FACE

Credits :

Instructor Information

Name : Teresa Gazella

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OC Phone # : 432-456-2032

Course Description

Students will spend a major part of the year in the study of non-fiction prose from various authors and periods that serve as models of learning how to analyze effective rhetoric: how the author's diction, syntax, point of view, tone, and use of literary devices achieve particular rhetorical purposes. Students will also practice writing their own informed arguments on a series of topics common to current public discourse with sufficient richness and complexity to communicate effectively with mature readers.

Secondly, as there is a correlation between vocabulary and reading comprehension, students will practice decoding strategies. This will also be helpful as they prepare for the SAT and ACT.

The third major segment of the class is an introduction to important American literary movements as they are manifested in poems, short stories, novels, and plays. We will read selections written by authors who have withstood the test of time, trace the American identity as revealed in her literature, and evaluate what social and cultural factors affected American literature.

Prerequisites/Corequisites

ENGL 0370 passed with a C or better or a satisfactory placement score.

Scans

SCANS 1, 2, and 9

Course Objectives

1. analyze and interpret samples of good writing, identifying and explaining an author's use of rhetorical strategies and techniques;
2. apply effective strategies and techniques in their own writing;
3. create and sustain arguments based on readings, research and/or personal experience;
4. write for a variety of purposes;
5. produce expository, analytical and argumentative compositions that introduce a complex central idea and develop it with appropriate evidence drawn from primary and/or secondary sources, cogent explanations and clear transitions;
6. demonstrate understanding and mastery of standard written English as well as stylistic maturity in their own writings;
7. demonstrate understanding of the conventions of citing primary and secondary sources;
8. move effectively through the stages of the writing process, with careful attention to inquiry and research, drafting, revising, editing and review;

Required Readings/Materials

You are encouraged to buy the following *optional* books/materials, but copies are available to be checked out to you:

The Great Gatsby by F. Scott Fitzgerald

Catcher in the Rye by J.D. Salinger OR *A Separate Peace* by John Knowles

In addition, the following textbook will be issued to you: *The Language of Composition* by Shea, Scanlon, and Aufses

Additional texts may be posted on my teacher website for you to download.

Course Requirements (Lectures, Assignments and Assessments)

1st six weeks

Introduction/review of rhetorical analysis

Discuss timed writing best practices

Complete 2 rhetorical analysis timed writings

Group presentation of a major literary movement

Develop and practice critical reading skills through pre-reading, annotating, re-reading, etc.

Practice critical reading skills through reading and discussion of classic and contemporary essays and poetry*

Work on vocabulary enrichment through morphological analysis and context clues

2nd six weeks

Read and study *Catcher in the Rye* by J.D. Salinger or *A Separate Peace* by John Knowles

Introduce/review the argument essay

Complete 2 timed writings (rhetorical analysis and argument)

Continue to develop and practice critical reading skills through pre-reading, annotating, re-reading, etc.

Read classic and contemporary essays, short stories, and poetry*

Work on vocabulary enrichment through morphological analysis and context clues

PSAT test administered on campus on Wednesday, October 13, 2010

3rd six weeks

Complete 2 timed writings (rhetorical analysis and argument)

Read and study *The Great Gatsby* by F. Scott Fitzgerald

Continue to develop and practice critical reading skills through pre-reading, annotating, re-reading, etc.

Read classic and contemporary essays, short stories, and poetry*

Work on vocabulary enrichment through morphological analysis and context clues

***Classic and contemporary selections include, but are not limited to, the following:**

Possible essays for study

"On Education" and "The Poet" by Ralph Waldo Emerson

Excerpts from *Walden* by Henry David Thoreau

"A Vindication on the Rights of Women" by Mary Wollstonecraft

Professions for Women" by Virginia Woolf

"Sinners in the Hands of an Angry God" by Jonathan Edwards

"Once More to the Lake" by E.B. White

"Letter from Birmingham Jail" by Martin Luther King

Excerpts from *Nickel and Dimed* by Barbara Ehrenreich

Excerpts from *Pilgrim at Tinker Creek* by Annie Dillard

"Salvation" by Langston Hughes

"Shooting an Elephant" by George Orwell

"I Want a Wife" by Judy Brady

Grading Policy

Percentage %	Grade
50%	Essays/projects
30%	Quizzes
20%	Daily work

Special Needs

Odessa College complies with Section 504 of the Vocational Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. If you have any special needs or issues pertaining to your access to and participation in this or any other class at Odessa College, please feel free to contact me to discuss your concerns. You may also call the Office of Disability services at 432-335-6861 to request assistance and accommodations.

Learning Resource Center

The Library, known as the Learning Resources Center, provides research assistance via the LRC's catalog (print books, videos, e-books) and databases (journal and magazine articles). Research guides covering specific subject areas, tutorials, and the "Ask a Librarian " service provide additional help.

Student E-mail

Please access your [Odessa College Student E-mail](#), by following the link to either set up or update your account: <http://www.odessa.edu/gmail/>.

Student Portal

Please access your [Odessa College Student E-mail](#), by following the link to either set up or update your account: <http://www.odessa.edu/gmail/>.

Technical Support

For Blackboard username and password help and for help accessing your online course availability and student email account contact the Student Success Center at 432-335-6878 or online at https://www.odessa.edu/dept/ssc/helpdesk_form.htm.

Important School Policies

For information regarding student support services, academic dishonesty, disciplinary actions, special accommodations, or student's and instructors' right to academic freedom can be found in the [Odessa College Student Handbook](#).

