

Blue Ridge CTC
Writing for the Arts and Humanities
English 102
Fall 2007

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Office Hours: MW 11:00-1:30
TR 10:00- 3:00

Course Information

Required Texts and Materials:

Arp & Johnson. *Perrine's Literature: Structure, Sound, and Sense*. 9th edition. ISBN: 1-413-00654-X
Hacker, Diana. *A Writer's Reference*, 5th edition. ISBN: 0-312-41262-2
An up-to-date, college-level dictionary
A student computer account for use of the Blue Ridge CTC computer network
A valid e-mail address
A Martinsburg-Berkeley County Public Library card

Prerequisite: English 101

Course Description:

The goals for Writing for the Arts and Humanities are to develop students' critical reading, thinking, and writing skills as they discuss and write about a variety of literary genres: fiction, poetry, and drama. Emphasis is placed on learning to develop clear, logical, well-structured critical essays, free from serious usage/mechanics errors. To help achieve these goals, writing will be approached as a process, requiring multiple drafts and revisions of each student paper. Students will also receive instruction in research techniques and in writing the research paper. In addition, students will become familiar with and cultivate an appreciation for stylistic characteristics of each literary genre and the timeless insights into the human condition provided through the reading and study of literature.

Essential Skills and/or Outcomes to be acquired through this course include:

- 1) an ability to render close textual analysis;
- 2) an ability to synthesize information from multiple texts;
- 3) an ability to render clear, cogent ideas;
- 4) an ability to structure well-developed essays, with thesis, textual support, and analysis;
- 5) an ability to correctly employ standard written English usage;
- 6) an ability to utilize effective research methodology and research paper skills;
- 7) an understanding of ethnic/cultural diversity;
- 8) an aesthetic and critical judgement for literature;
- 9) an ability to utilize basic technology to improve writing and thinking skills.

Course Requirements:

3 essays
1 research paper
3 exams
Class Participation & Quizzes

Grading:

Fiction Interpretation10%
Lyric Analysis 10%
Poetry Interpretation 10%
Research Paper 20%
Fiction Exam10%
Poetry Exam 10%
Final Exam 10%
Class Participation10%
Quizzes 10%

Class Policies

Attendance: Class attendance is essential. You will be allowed two absences for any reason. For each unexcused absence beyond the allowed two absences, five percentage points (5%) will be deducted from your final Class Participation grade. Arriving to class more than 10 minutes late is the equivalent of a one-half absence. In-class work missed due to an absence cannot be made up, unless arrangements are made with the instructor **before** the missed class.

Class Participation: Class participation means active, constructive participation in class discussions and activities and online discussions on WebCT. **Do not neglect the importance of class participation; it accounts for 10% of your final semester grade.**

Due Dates: All drafts, essays, and other assignments are due on the dates specified or will be marked down one letter grade for each class day of lateness. All reading assignments must be completed **before** the beginning of the class during which they will be discussed. If you are seriously ill or experience a personal emergency that prevents your meeting a due

date, obtain permission for an extension **before** the deadline.

WebCT: This course will make considerable use of the online tools available on WebCT. All final drafts of essays in this class will be submitted through WebCT, and all quizzes for this course will be taken on WebCT. This class will also utilize the discussion boards available in WebCT to facilitate discussion of course material outside of class. This syllabus, as well as all assignments and much of the course content, will also be available via WebCT.

Essay Format: All essays must conform to MLA-style documentation, which is covered in your handbook and will be discussed in class. **All essays will be submitted through WebCT and must be in Word format (.doc) or Rich Text format (.rtf).** Essays in other formats will be unreadable for me, and if I can't read it, I can't grade it.

Tutoring: Tutors are available in many courses at Blue Ridge CTC, and I highly recommend that students make use of this resource. The tutoring is free to BRCTC students, and information about this program is available in the Academic Support Center. Free help is also available through Smarthinking.com (click the "Online Tutoring Help" link on our course's WebCT homepage for more information).

Program Assessment: The faculty members of Blue Ridge CTC are dedicated to assuring that each student meets the educational objectives of the program. The educational objectives have been developed and are planned to assure that the program is producing graduates who will be successful in obtaining and maintaining positions in the entry-level business field and who will be quality employees. To achieve this goal, the faculty is committed to a systematic and comprehensive process of assessment of student learning. As part of this program assessment, students will from time to time asked to participate in non-graded assessment activities which may include, but are not be limited to, participation in role-playing simulations and completion of standardized written or practical examinations or pre and post graduation surveys.

Academic Integrity - Cheating in all its forms, including plagiarism and cheating on visual work, is considered an academic matter to be controlled and acted upon by the instructor of this course. Students guilty of academic dishonesty on any graded assignments in this course will be penalized with a grade of F in the course. Such action shall be taken by the instructor, with written notification to the Dean of Academic Instruction at Blue Ridge CTC. Students involved in facilitating academic dishonesty among others, such as the unauthorized dissemination of examination materials, will be subject to disciplinary action as well.

Withdrawal from this course - The last day to withdraw from this course is Fri., Nov. 9, 2007.

Syllabus

Aug 20	Introduction to the course Assign: Letter of introduction (<i>WebCT</i>)
Aug 22	Writing About Literature Read: LSSS – pp. 3-58 MLA Documentation Read: <u>Writer's Reference</u> , Chapters MLA1-MLA5
Aug 27	Read: LSSS – pp. 61-67, 100-111, 161-166, 188-195 Quiz #1 (on WebCT)
Aug 29	Read: LSSS – pp. 227-233 Walker – "Everyday Use" (LSSS – pp. 166-174)
Sept 3	Labor Day Holiday (<i>no class meeting</i>)
Sept 5	Read: LSSS – pp. 274-285 Jackson – "The Lottery" (LSSS – pp. 251-259) Assign: Fiction Interpretation essay (<i>WebCT</i>) Quiz #2 (on WebCT)
Sept 10	Read: LSSS – pp. 334-338 Hawthorne – "Young Goodman Brown" (LSSS – pp. 299-311)
Sept 12	Review for Fiction Exam (<i>see WebCT for exam availability and date/time due</i>)
Sept 17	Introduction to Poetry Read: LSSS – pp. 647-655, 668-677 Housman – "Terence, this is stupid stuff" (LSSS – pp. 662-664) Assign: Song Lyric Analysis (<i>WebCT</i>)

- Sept 19 **Read:** LSSS – pp. 686-692, 700-703
 Quiz #3 (on WebCT)
- Sept 24 **Read:** LSSS – pp. 714-724, 734-745
- Sept 26 **Due:** Song Lyric exercise (in-class)
- Oct 1 **Read:** LSSS – pp. 756-766, 778-781
Assign: Poetry Interpretation essay (*WebCT*)
- Oct 3 **Read:** LSSS – pp. 791-795, 804-809
 Larkin – “Church Going” (LSSS – pp. 817-819)
 Quiz #4 (on WebCT)
- Oct 8 **Read:** LSSS – pp. 822-830, 838-853
Assign: Research Paper (*WebCT*)
- Oct 10 **Read:** LSSS – pp. 864-875, 883-891
 Quiz #5 (on WebCT)
- Oct 15 **Read:** LSSS – pp. 903-906, 915-916
 Eliot – “The Love Song of J. Alfred Prufrock” (LSSS – pp. 925-929)
Due: General topic for Research Paper (via e-mail)
- Oct 17 Review for Poetry Exam (*see WebCT for exam availability and date/time due*)
- Oct 22 Writing a research paper (Bring both textbooks)
Due: Specific topic for Research Paper (via e-mail)
- Oct 24 Introduction to Drama
Read: LSSS – pp. 1027-1032, 1074-1078
- Oct 29 **Read:** Williams – *The Glass Menagerie* (LSSS – pp. 1143-1196)
- Oct 31 Continue *Glass Menagerie*
 Quiz #6 (on WebCT)
- Nov 5 MLA Documentation Review
Read: Writer’s Reference, Chapters MLA1-MLA5
- Nov 7 Rough Draft Workshop for Research Paper
Due: First draft of Research Paper
Sign up for conferences
- Nov 12 & 14 Conferences (**Due at conference:** Second draft of research paper)
(*No class meetings on conference days*)
- Nov 19 & 21 Thanksgiving Break (*no class meetings*)
- Nov 26 **Read:** LSSS – pp. 1209-1216
 Shakespeare – *Othello* (LSSS – 1263-1357)
- Nov 28 Continue *Othello*
- Dec 3 Finish discussing *Othello*
 Quiz #7 (on WebCT)
- Dec 5 Review for final exam (*see WebCT for exam availability and date/time due*)

This syllabus is subject to change at the instructor’s discretion, and the class will be notified of any changes; however, it is the student’s responsibility to pay attention to changes to this syllabus. Ignorance is not a valid excuse.