

ENGL 1102

Spring 2009

Class Info: ENGL 1102-16 CRN: 20105
M W 2-3:15 A&S 336

ENGL 1102-23 CRN: 20112
M W 3:30-4:45 A&S 340B

Instructor: John Teschner

Mailbox: in the MFA Office, A&S 329

Office Hours: T TH, 1:00 - 3:00, and by appointment. You can find me on a bench by the fountain or in the lounge by the coffee kiosk on the bottom floor of the library.

Contact Information:

Phone: 703-963-8119; email: john.teschner@gcsu.edu

Required Texts:

Say You're One of Them, Uwem Akpan

What the Living Do, Marie Howe

The Compact Bedford Introduction to Literature, Michael Meyer, ed.

Rules for Writers, Diana Hacker

Course Description & Goals:

According to Georgia College:

English Composition 1102 builds on the fundamental writing strategies introduced to students in Composition 1101 by focusing on the academic rather than the personal essay and includes a literature component. (<http://www2.gcsu.edu/writing/guidelines.html>)

There is quite a bit of leeway in this description, and I've got to admit I'm kind of stymied by it. To be candid, I love reading literature, but I'm not exactly sure what literature is, what literature does and what there is to say about it. So in this 1102 class, I'm going to ask you to help me answer these questions. I came across this quote by Margaret Atwood in the *Bedford Intro to Lit* (the anthology we'll get most of our readings from):

"The answers you get from literature depend upon the questions you pose."

My plan is that we'll sit around asking questions about the stuff we read and trying to answer them through discussion and in writing exercises. That will give you plenty of ideas for your papers. You will have a reading assignment due for almost every class. That reading assignment will include a brief written component. You'll turn that writing in to me at the beginning of each class, then we'll discuss the reading, and do some more informal writing. The informal writing you do in and out of class will become the basis for the papers you'll write for me this semester. Your job in class will be to help each other generate questions and answers, mine will be to facilitate that, and to teach you how take your ideas and craft them into academic papers.

Grades:

Participation/	
Informal Writing:	30%
Paper #1:	20%
Research Paper(#2):	25%
Paper #3:	15%
Drama Project:	10%

Participation/Informal Writing: This is an easy opportunity to strengthen your grade. All you have to do is show up, talk and do the required work. It is a big percentage of your grade because you will do A LOT of informal writing. My gradebook will have two columns for each class period. One column will register your presence or absence; the other will register your completion of the writing assignment for that day's reading. If you miss a class, you can still submit the writing assignment when you return. When you submit a paper, I will expect you to include the in-class writing that led up to that paper, which will become part of your informal writing grade.

Attendance: You are allowed three absences. If you miss more than three classes your grade will be affected.

Submitting Papers: This class is analog. At the start of class on the assigned due date, all essays are to be turned in on paper, typed, double-spaced, and stapled. Late papers will lose points for each day they are late.

Academic Dishonesty: This is from the student Handbook:

"Plagiarism" is defined as presenting as one's own work the words or ideas of an author or fellow student. Students should document quotes through quotation marks and footnotes or other accepted citation methods. Ignorance of these rules concerning plagiarism is not an excuse. When in doubt, students should seek clarification from the professor who made the assignment.

I take cheating and plagiarism very seriously. If you plagiarize in a paper, you will get a zero for that paper. At my discretion, you may also fail my class.

The school has a procedure for dealing with plagiarism. You can read all about it at: http://info.gcsu.edu/intranet/handbooks/academic_affairs/aahandbook/301.html

Etiquette: Please turn off your cellphones and put them away. If you want to use a laptop in class, please talk to me about it. Using the internet in class is inappropriate unless it is for research you've okayed with me. When we are talking, please keep your laptops shut.

Statement of Equal Opportunity: If you have a disability that affects your progress as a student in this class, please meet with me to discuss how we can create the most helpful environment. For significant accommodations, an official letter from GCSU documenting the disability will be necessary. All discussions will be confidential.

Fire Drill: In the event of a fire alarm students should exit the building in a quick and orderly manner through the nearest stairwell to a ground level exit. Do not use elevator. Third floor stairwells are areas where disabled people may communicate with rescue workers. Be familiar with the floorplan and exits of this building. (source: GC&SU Coordinator of Environmental Health and Occupational Safety)

Writing Center: The GCSU Writing Center is a tremendous resource. A visit takes only 15 or 20 minutes and the feedback you get can transform your paper. It is located on the second floor of Lanier Hall, room 209, and is open Monday through Friday. No reservation is necessary, just drop in.

Regents' Test: Some of you may be required to take the Regents' test. Test dates are Friday, March 13, Monday, March 16, and Tuesday, March 17. To find out whether you must take the test, check your tranquide under PAWS. More information regarding this exam can be found at: <http://testingcenter.gcsu.edu> and <http://www2.gsu.edu/~wwwrtp/>.

Tentative Class Schedule

Reading Assignments are DUE on listed date, all reading assignments have a writing component

1/12

1/14 Tennyson - The Charge of the Light Brigade - 767
Wilfred Owen - Dulce et Decorum Est - 671
Robert Wrigley - Exxon - handout

1/19 - MLK Holiday

1/21 Hemingway - Soldier's Home - 164

1/26 Tim O'Brien - How to Tell a True War Story - 543

1/28 Martin Amis - The Last Days of Muhammad Atta - 502
Norman Stock - What I Said - 770
Wrigley - Exxon (again)

2/2 Begin writing Paper 1

2/4 PAPER 1 DRAFT DUE/Revision workshop

2/9 Paper 1 revision continues

2/11 PAPER 1 DUE **NO CLASS (because I'll be at a conference)**

2/16 Flannery O'Connor - A Good Man is Hard to Find - 362

2/18 Flannery O'Connor - Good Country People - 378

2/23 Flannery O'Connor - Revelation - 392

2/25 O'Connor, Walker, Wright, Noble and Smith - essays - 453

3/2 Langston Hughes - 907

I, Too - 915

Negro, Danse Africaine - 916

Song for a Dark Girl - 922

Drum - 924

Morning After - 926

Harlem - 928

Dinner Guest: Me - 931

Essay on Romanticizing Africa - 935

Yusef Komunyakaa - Slam, Dunk, & Hook - 1027

Tony Hoagland - America - 1003

E.A. Robinson - Richard Cory - 707

3/4 Akpan - An Ex-Mas Feast
Choose Research Paper topic

3/9 Research Paper (Paper 2) Writing Workshop

3/11 RESEARCH PAPER DRAFT DUE Revision Workshop #1
[REGENTS TEST: March 13,16,17]

3/16 RESEARCH PAPER Revision Workshop #2

3/18 RESEARCH PAPER DUE

3/23 - **Spring Break**

3/25 - **Spring Break**

3/30 Andre Dubus - Killings - 102

4/1 Akpan - My Parents' Bedroom

4/6 Peter Meinke - The Cranes - 258

Raymond Carver - Popular Mechanics - 287

Dylan Thomas - Do Not Go Gentle Into That Good Night - 784

E.E. Cummings - Buffalo Bill's - 1017

Sylvia Plath - Daddy (handout)

4/8 Marie Howe - The Boy *thru* The Dream - 15-38

4/13 Marie Howe - For Three Days *thru* The Dream - 41-68

4/15 Marie Howe - More *thru* Buddy - 69-91

Mark Doty (Bedford)- The Embrace - 970

4/20 PAPER 3 DRAFT DUE

4/22 PAPER 3 DUE

4/27 DRAMA/CLOSE-READING PROJECT

4/29 DRAMA/CLOSE-READING PROJECT

5/4 DRAMA/CLOSE-READING PROJECT

Exam:

May 6 - 2:00 for 2:00 class

May 8 - 2:00 for 3:30 class