

Reading & Writing 2, Fall 2011
Gord Sellar, Instructor

Course Overview:

This course is a continuation of the Reading & Writing 1 course, designed to build on on reading and writing skills developed last semester.

Teaching Method:

Our regular course meetings will consist class discussions, reading exercises, writing in class, occasional written homework taken home. Handouts and powerpoint presentations may occasionally be used to supplement the textbook, time permitting.

Course Objectives:

The point of this course is not to make you a better reader and writer of English texts. By the end of the course, you are expected:

1. to have improved your ability to read texts for meaning, main point, and analysis,
2. to be able to respond to texts verbally -- orally and in writing -- by addressing the texts' main ideas, supporting arguments, and evidence,
3. to have developed time management skills in terms of writing to a deadline
4. to have developed some skills in terms of revision, and
5. to have internalized a set of strategies for writing in academic contexts English.

Homework

Much of the writing "work" for this class will be done in the classroom, as in past semesters; however, some work will be assigned for home work, such as reviewing readings, pre-reading, and answering short-answer questions. You are expected to do this homework and participation (which is part of your grade) will be dependent on it.

All homework assignments (ie. work done outside class) must be submitted to me must be typed (double-spaced) and include your name, student number, my name, and the course name and number. Submissions consisting of multiple pages should be stapled or paperclipped.

DO NOT USE PLASTIC FOLDERS OR BINDERS TO SUBMIT WORK. (I will not return them.) Any work failing to meet formatting presentation criteria will be returned to the student immediately for resubmission within 3 days. Work submitted late without a good reason (car accident, death in the family, kidnapped by aliens for a week) will be penalized one half-grade level per day late: A+ becomes A0 at one day late, B+ at two days late, B0 at three days late, etc.

Textbook

NorthStar Reading & Writing 5, 3rd ed.
by Andrew K.
English &
Laura Monahon
English. (Pearson & Longman, 2009.)

Should you wish to explore texts or materials not encompassed in this course, please feel free to ask me for recommendations. I will be more than happy to help you find materials which are suited to your needs and worth exploring.

Assessment

- 25% - In-class participation (includes Attendance)
- 25% - Homework
- 10% - Daily Blog & Comments
- 15% - Midterm Reading & Writing Exam
- 20% - Final Reading & Writing Exam
- 5% - Department Events Attendance (Presentation Contest, Mosaic, Happy Hour)

A 0% in any of the above marks will result in an incomplete grade. Students must at least attempt all homework/assignments, blog, midterm and final exam, in order to pass the course.

Since students seem to feel that asking for higher grades for personal reasons is especially permissible with foreign teachers, please be advised that your final grade will remain final unless by some chance I have made a mistake in calculating it. Requests for the "gift" of a higher grade will be considered an invitation to coldly, carefully reconsider the grade in the light of a bad attitude, and to lower one's final grade if it seems appropriate to do so.

Contact Information

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COURSE OUTLINE:

This might change! (It all depends on the level of students and where the majority reached in the textbook in Reading & Writing 1.)

- Week 1: Introduction
- Week 2: Chapter 5- What is Lost in Translation?
- Week 3: Chapter 5 - What is Lost in Translation?
- Week 4: Chapter 6- The Landscape of Faith
- Week 5: Chapter 6- The Landscape of Faith
- Week 6: Reviewing Strategies for Understanding and Response, and Templates
- Week 7: Evaluating Writing: Guidelines and Peer Evaluation
- Week 8: Mid-term exam

- Week 9: Chapter 7- In Business, Size Matters
- Week 10: Chapter 7- In Business, Size Matters
- Week 11: Chapter 8- When The Soldier is a Woman
- Week 12: Chapter 8- When The Soldier is a Woman
- Week 13: Chapter 9 - The Cellist of Sarajevo
- Week 14: Chapter 9 - The Cellist of Sarajevo
- Week 15: Chapter 10- The End of Poverty & Final Exam
- Week 16: Review, and conferences (portfolios handed in)