I. Basic Course Information

A. Spring 2009
B. Instructor: Carr Kizzier
C. Office: E331
D. Phone: 443-840-1638   Email: carr@kizzier.com
E. Office Hours: MWF 12:15-1:15; T 3:30-5:30; or by appointment
F. Pre-requisite: Grade of C or Better in ENGL 101

II. Course Goals

A. College Composition II increases the writing and thinking skills developed in English 101; covers applying critical thinking and writing skills to a variety of academic assignments, including analyzing complex texts, conducting library and Internet research, developing a research paper, documenting research, and working collaboratively with peers.

B. Overall Course Objectives
   Upon completion of this course, students will be able to
   1. apply a variety of strategies for planning, writing and revising academic essays
   2. work collaboratively with peers to develop and carryout writing projects
   3. apply the critical thinking skills of analysis, synthesis and evaluation to a variety of texts
   4. develop an academic research project from topic identification to final draft
   5. formulate and support a thesis with adequate and pertinent evidence
   6. conduct library and Internet research
   7. evaluate print and electronic research sources
   8. incorporate direct quotation, summary and paraphrase in their writing
   9. provide documentation for sources on a Works Cited page using parenthetical documentation
   10. analyze a variety of complex texts, including a significant number of works by women and people of color
   11. demonstrate an awareness of how an author’s gender, class, culture, and/or race may shape an individual work
   12. identify the voice or voices in a complex text

III. Evaluation

A. Requirements
1. Papers/Digital Stories: This is a writing course, and thus the bulk of the work we do in class will be directed at producing essays. During the course of the semester each student will write and revise a total of three essays based on complex texts, employing all of the process steps, including multiple drafts, for a minimum of two thousand words. In addition, each student will also write a research paper of at least fifteen hundred words. Regardless of the topic, each paper must conform to the following standards: All papers must be typed, completed on time, and presented in standard MLA format (double-spaced, one-inch margins, 12-point font).

2. Reading Assignments: In this class, the assigned readings will form the basis of our discussion, analysis, and writing. With this in mind, then, you will be assigned some reading material for every week: material from the texts; stories brought in from outside sources; and the work of you and your fellow students. You are required to read thoroughly and be prepared to discuss each of these readings before you come to class on Monday when we have our group quiz.

3. Discussion Postings to the Blog: In order to facilitate responding to what you read, during the course of the semester you will be writing reviews of the texts that you read. Each week, you are required to provide a brief summary of the text (3-5 sentences), and then respond to a directed topic (2 ¶ minimum). These will be posted to the Class Blog, and are due by Sunday night at 8pm.

4. Class preparation/participation: English 102 is by nature a participatory course. Literary analysis is not something that can be taught to students by an instructor giving a lecture. In order to develop your analytical skills, you must write, read, and rewrite, and we will be doing all three in class. It is essential, then, that you come to class prepared, which involves the following:
   a. Be punctual. Entering late is distracting to the entire class.
   b. Please bring your work – texts, journals, reviews, dictionary, pens or pencils, diskettes, and blank paper – to every class, **Students who do not bring their texts and/or assigned work will be asked to leave and will be marked absent.**
   c. Complete all assignments – particularly your paper drafts – on time, before you come to class. If reading is assigned, be prepared to discuss it or take a quiz on it as soon as you enter class.
   d. Participate fully in all class activities: discussions, peer workshops, presentations, etc. **Each student should participate at least once in every class.**

B. Grading Policy
1. Your essays and research paper will carry the greatest weight in determining your final grade. In addition, \textbf{all essays must be completed in order to achieve a passing grade.}

Assuming you have fulfilled the attendance requirements, then, your final grade will be determined according to the following formula:

\begin{itemize}
  \item 50\% -- 3 Short Essays
  \item 25\% -- Research Paper
  \item 15\% -- Discussion/Blog Posts
  \item 10\% -- Class preparation, participation and group work
\end{itemize}

2. \textbf{Late Work:} It is imperative that students a.) \textbf{attend class} and b.) \textbf{complete all work on time.} Thus the following policy regarding late work:

Out-of-class essays will be submitted at the \textbf{beginning} of the class they are due. \textbf{Papers submitted late will be assessed a penalty of one grade for each class that has elapsed – NO EXCEPTIONS.}

No in-class assignments will be “made up.”

* \textbf{E-mailed work is considered submitted at the time it is sent/received as recorded electronically. Failures of technology are not excuses for late work.}

\section*{C. Attendance Policy}

Regular attendance is crucial to success in this course. Many of the activities we engage in during class time – the discussions, peer workshops, conferences — can’t be “made up”, with the result that students who miss class may submit weaker papers. In the end, poor attendance almost always results in a disappointing outcome for the student.

That said, there are always circumstances in which you will find yourself unable to attend class. \textbf{If you know ahead of time that you will miss a class, let me know in person, leave a message on my phone, or email me.}

Keep in mind, however, that \textbf{poor attendance can also directly affect your grade.} Missing one or two classes will most likely not affect your grade. \textbf{Students having 4 absences, however, can receive no better than a B for their final grade. Students with 5-6 absences can receive no better than a C for their final grade.} Finally, \textbf{students who miss more than six (6) classes will receive a failing grade. Please note:} There is no distinction among absences. There are no \textit{excused} or \textit{unexcused} absences.

In addition, frequent tardiness can also affect your grade. \textbf{Showing up late for class two times will equal one absence.}
IV. Course Procedures
   A. Texts and Materials
      - *Fast Food Nation* by Eric Schlosser *(required)*
      - *Extremely Loud and Incredibly Close* by Jonathan Safran Foer *(required)*
      - *The History of Love* by Nicole Krauss *(required)*
      - *The Moviegoer* by Walker Percy *(required)*
      - *Balzac and the Little Chinese Seamstress* by Dai Sijie *(required)*
      - *Ernest Hemingway: The Short Stories* by Ernest Hemingway *(required)*
      - *Any writer’s handbook* *(recommended)*
      - *The American Heritage* or any good *college dictionary* *(recommended)*

   Class Materials: binder or folder for papers, notebook, writing implements, flash drive with USB connection *(required)*

   B. Other Procedures
      1. **Classroom Etiquette** – It is expected that adult college students will exhibit courtesy, respect, and cooperation during class toward the instructor and toward fellow students. Please remember the sacrifices that others make to attend college, and that everyone is entitled to an orderly and scholarly environment. With this in mind, then, please turn off all cell phones and pagers before entering the classroom, and please refrain from bringing food with you to class. *Students texting in class will be dismissed and marked absent.*

      2. **Academic Honesty Policy** – Academic honesty is expected of all students. Work submitted by students as their own must be their own, and materials taken from any other source must be clearly identified as such. Intentional falsification of source materials, plagiarism, obtaining advance information about exams, and other violations of academic honesty are not acceptable. The usual penalty for academic dishonesty is failure on the paper or exam for the first offense. A second instance of academic dishonesty will result in failure of the course. Any subsequent violations of the academic honesty policy will result in the student’s dismissal from the program or from the college. A student may appeal any action taken under this policy.

      3. **Extra Assistance** –
         a. **Instructor Office Hours**: If you are having a problem with an assignment, need some extra help, or simply want to discuss class-related topics, please feel free to schedule an appointment with me for time outside of class. I am available to help. JUST ASK.
         b. **The Writing Center**: In the Writing Center, located in E338, faculty tutors are available to help you with your writing projects/problems. Walk-in assistance is available, though making an appointment by calling 443-840-1799 is preferable.
The Writing Center also serves as one of the open computer labs on campus.

C. Tentative Schedule of Assignments
   *Please See Attached*