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| **English 1102: English Composition II****CRN: 20695****Course Syllabus: Spring 2013** |

Meeting Time: TR 12:30 – 1:45 Classroom: A&S 340B

Instructor: Benjamin Mitchell E-mail:benjamin.mitchell@gcsu.edu

Office Hours: Mon & Tues 4-5pm or by appt Office: Blackbird Coffee

**Required Texts:**

- *Literature for Life* edited by X.J. Kennedy, Dana Gioia, and Nina Revoyr

 ISBN: 0312552017 11th Edition

- *The Brief Wondrous Life of Oscar Wao* by Junot Diaz

 ISBN: 978-1-59448-329-5

**Required Materials:**

- a hard copy of the text being discussed during class time

- a single-subject notebook to be used as a journal

- your syllabus

**Course Description:** The undergraduate course catalog describes English 1102 as "a composition course that develops writing skills beyond the levels of proficiency required by ENGL 1101, emphasizes interpretation and evaluation of texts, and incorporates a variety of more advanced research methods."

In this class we will learn how to closely read poems and key passages from fiction and drama. We will cover the entire writing process, from a reading journal that collects your initial response to a work of literature, developing an interpretive thesis, outlining and forming the initial draft of a paper, literary research, peer review, and revision. These practices will help your writing skills in any subject, not just literature.

**Objectives:** (as described by our course’s Academic Assessment page):

* Basic introductions to various types of literature, including poetry, drama, and prose fiction;
* Strategies for college-level writing about literary texts, including vocabulary, grammar, style, purpose and audience;
* Revision;
* Basic research methods for college-level work;
* Analysis of texts orally (class discussion) and in writing.

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All students, regardless of their degree program, must pass English 1102 as it fulfills the Area A. Essential Skills requirement in the Core Curriculum.

**Course Assignments and Grade Distribution: Total 100%**

*Reading and Writing Journal:* 10%

*Long Assignments:* 60%

 - Explication (3-4 pages)

 - Social Issues (5-7 pages)

 - Literary Research Paper (7-10 pages)

*Short Projects:* 20%

 - Lead One Class Discussion

 - Mash-Up Project

 - Soundtrack

*Participation/Paper Workshops:* 10%

Detailed assignment sheets will be handed out for each paper/assignment later on in the semester. All papers are to be stapled, written in 12-point Times New Roman, have one inch borders, and go at least halfway down the first page of the minimum page requirement.

**All grades are non-negotiable.**

**MLA Style:** Formal assignments should adhere to the Modern Language Association (MLA) style. Formal papers require MLA style while pop quizzes, responses, informal writing, and peer review may be informally formatted. One-third of a letter grade will be deducted from a formal paper for problems in each of the following categories, for a possible one letter grade deduction total: 1) header, heading, and title, 2) margins, font, line spacing and length, and 3) quotation and citation format.

**Attendance:** Daily attendance is mandatory. If you are absent, you are most likely going to miss out on in-class assignments, and this will have an impact on your grade. However, each student is allowed a total of three (3) absences for any reason. There will be a one-letter final grade deduction for every absence beyond three days. Therefore, missing four class periods will result in a one-letter final grade deduction and missing seven classes will result in automatic failure of the course. Use your absences wisely and please email me if you don't know exactly what you missed or should be working on. I do not differentiate between excused and unexcused absences.

**Participation:** You are required to read all materials for each class and be prepared to talk about the readings and/or write about them. We will regularly have in-class informal writing exercises and group activities based on the reading, and if you haven’t read the material, it will be obvious. If you are not prepared to actively participate in class, your participation grade will suffer.

**Tardiness:** Tardiness is not accepted. If a student is more than ten minutes late, they will be counted absent for the day. Every three times a student is late (less than ten minutes) will count as one absence.

**Revision:** Each student can revisetwo essays of their choice, due on the specified date on the syllabus. Revisions must reflect serious effort—i.e. a major rethinking or reorganizing of the essay, and not a series of quick fixes to simple errors. This revision must also include a one-page note discussing and defending the changes you have made. Once received, the revised paper can add up to ten points to your paper grade, based on the rubric I will hand out with the revision assignment. Please note: submitting a revision does not guarantee a grade improvement.

**Late Work:** Except in rare cases of emergency, all late essays will incur a grade deduction of 10% per **class period**. At the start of class on the assigned due date, all essays are to be turned in typed, double-spaced, and stapled. Essays will not be accepted outside of class, via e-mail or otherwise. If you cannot attend class on the day, turn your work in the next time our class meets and accept the 10% grade deduction. Presentations must be done on the day you have signed up to do them. Late work is not eligible for revision.

**Academic Honesty:**The integrity of students and their written and oral work is a critical component of the academic process. The Honor Code defines plagiarism 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."The submission of another's work as one's own is plagiarism and will be dealt with using the procedures outlined online (<http://www.gcsu.edu/studentlife/handbook/code.htm>).

Realize that allowing another student to copy one’s own work is considered cheating and submitting the same paper in two classes (recycling or double-dipping) is dishonest and also goes against the Honor Code. As plagiarism is not tolerated at Georgia College, any student found guilty of **willful plagiarism** or **dishonesty** will fail the assignment and possibility the entire course.

**Assistance for Student Needs Related to Disability:** If you have a disability as described by the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Section 504, you may be eligible to receive accommodations to assist in programmatic and physical accessibility. Disability Services, a unit of the GCSU Office of Institutional Equity and Diversity, can assist you in formulating a reasonable accommodation plan and in providing support in developing appropriate accommodations to ensure equal access to all GCSU programs and facilities. Course requirements will not be waived, but accommodations may assist you in meeting the requirements. For documentation requirements and for additional information, we recommend that you contact Disability Services located in Maxwell Student Union at 478-445-5931 or 478-445-4233.

**Religious Observance Policy:** Students are permitted to miss class in observance of religious holidays and other activities observed by a religious group of which the student is a member without academic penalty. Exercising of one's rights under this policy is subject to the GC Honor Code. Students who miss class in observance of a religious holiday or event are required to make up the coursework missed as a result from the absence. The nature of the make-up assignments and the deadline for completion of such assignments are at the sole discretion of the instructor. Failure to follow the prescribed procedures voids all student rights under this policy. The full policy and prescribed procedures are found at: http://info.gcsu.edu/intranet/acad\_affairs/ReligousObservancePolicy.doc

**Fire Drill:** In the event of a fire alarm, exit the building in a quick and orderly manner through the nearest hallway exit. Learn the floor plan and exits of the building. Do not use the elevators. Crawl on the floor if you encounter heavy smoke. Assemble near the fountain for a head count.

**Writing Center:** The GCSU Writing Center is located in Lanier 209 and open Monday through Friday. While no extra credit will be offered, students are encouraged to visit regularly. For more information, call (478)-445-3370 or visit online at: <http://www.gcsu.edu/acad_affairs/coll_artsci/eng/writing/>

**About Conduct in Class:** Cell phones and laptops are distracting to you, to me, and to the rest of the class. You do not need a laptop or a cell phone to participate in classroom activities, so please don’t have them out. If I notice that you are using electronics in class, I will count you as absent. Please come to class prepared to discuss the readings. If I find that you are not prepared for class, it will affect your participation grade.

**Student Opinion Surveys:** Given the technological sophistication of Georgia College students, the student opinion survey is being delivered through an online process. Your constructive feedback plays an indispensable role in shaping quality education at Georgia College. All responses are completely confidential and your name is not stored with your responses in any way. In addition, instructors will not see any results of the opinion survey until after final grades are submitted to the University. An invitation to complete the online opinion survey is distributed to students near the end of the semester. Your participation in this very important process is greatly appreciated.

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| **Class Schedule (Tentative & Subject to Change)** |
| **Week 1 –Poetry**

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| **Tuesday, 1/8**Introductions. Go over syllabus. How to read poetry.**For Homework:** Buy textbooks. Read over syllabus. Read-James Arlington Wright- “Lying in a Hammock at William Duffy's Farm in Pine Island, Minnesota” (Handout)Jane Mead- “Passing a Truck Full of Chickens at Night on Highway Eighty” (Handout) | **Thursday, 1/10**Discuss handouts. Elements of poetry.**For Homework:** ReadBukowski- “Dostoevsky” (15) & “my old man” (1104)Levertov- “The Ache of Marriage” (1106) |

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| **Week 2 – Poetry**

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| **Tuesday, 1/15**Discuss poems and Student-Led Discussion assignment. **For Homework:** Read Brooks- “We Real Cool” (794), “Sadie and Maude” (354), “the rites for Cousin Vit” (356)Hughes- “The Negro Speaks of Rivers” (1117), “Theme for English B” (1118)  | **Thursday, 1/17**Discuss poems and Poetry Explication Paper.**For Homework:** Read Neruda- “We Are Many” (947)Lorca- “The City Sleeps” (Handout)Machado- “Traveler” (804) |

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| **Week 3 – Poetry**

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| **Tuesday, 1/22**Student-led discussion #1.**For Homework:** ReadWhitman- “I Hear America Singing” (949), “TBA” (Handout)Ginsberg- “A Supermarket in California” (945) | **Thursday, 1/24**Student-led discussion #2. **For Homework:** ReadGinsberg- “Howl I-III” (Handout) |

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| **Week 4 – Poetry**

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| **Tuesday, 1/29**Discuss poems.**For Homework: :** ReadPlath- “Lady Lazarus” (811), “Daddy” (341), “Metaphors” (1102) | **Thursday, 1/31**Student-led discussion #3.**For Homework:** ReadEliot- “The Love Song of J. Alfred Prufrock” (519)Yeats- “The Second Coming” (Handout) & “When You Are Old” (510) |

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| **Week 5 – Poetry/Fiction**

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| **Tuesday, 2/5**Student-led discussion #4. **For Homework:** ReadDonne- “The Flea” (517)Keats- “Brightstar” (Handout) | **Thursday, 2/7**Discuss poems. How to read fiction. **For Homework:** Read “Araby” (675) and “A&P” (33). |

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| **Week 6 –Fiction**

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| **Tuesday, 2/12****Explication Paper Due!** Discuss readings. **For Homework:** Read “The Things They Carried” (1299) and “Happy Endings” (448). | **Thursday, 2/14**Student-led discussion #5. Discuss Social Issue Paper.**For Homework:** Read “Where Are You Going Where Have You Been” (721) and “A Good Man Is Hard To Find” (710).  |

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| **Week 7 – Fiction**

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| **Tuesday, 2/19**Student-led discussion #6.**For Homework:** Read “Harrison Bergeron” (909) and “Cathedral” (1075).  | **Thursday, 2/21**Student-led discussion #7. **For Homework:** Read “The Yellow Wallpaper” (1034) and “Cask of Amontillado” (1341). |

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| **Week 8 – Fiction**

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| **Tuesday, 2/26**Student-led discussion #8. Sign up for Paper Workshop #1.**For Homework:** Read *Pride and Prejudice and Zombies* and short story handouts. | **Thursday, 2/28**Revision #1 Due. Discuss short stories and Mash-Up Assignment. How to read a novel.**For Homework:** Read *Oscar Wao* (1-75).  |

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| **Week 9 – Novel**

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| **Tuesday, 3/5**Social Issue Paper Rough Draft Due. Discuss *Oscar Wao.* **For Homework:** Read *Oscar Wao* (76-113). Prepare for Paper Workshops.  | **Thursday, 3/7**Paper Workshops. **No Class.****For Homework:** Read *Oscar Wao* (114-165).  |

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| **Week 10 – Novel**

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| **Tuesday, 3/12**Discuss *Oscar Wao*. **For Homework:** Read *Oscar Wao* (167-210).  | **Thursday, 3/14**Discuss *Oscar Wao*. **For Homework:** Read *Oscar Wao* (211-289). |

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| **Week 11 – Novel**

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| **Tuesday, 3/19**Discuss *Oscar Wao* and Research Paper. **For Homework:** Finish Social Issue Paper. Finish reading *Oscar Wao* (290-end). | **Thursday, 3/21****Social Issue Paper Due.** Finish discussing *Oscar Wao*.**For Homework:** Read “Sure Thing.” Finish Mash-Up Project. |

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| **Week 12 – Spring Break**

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| **Tuesday, 3/26**No class! Spring Break! | **Thursday, 3/28**No class! Spring Break! |

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| **Week 13 – Drama**

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| **Tuesday, 4/2****Match-Up Project Due.** Read “Sure Thing” aloud in class. How to read a play. **For Homework:** Read *A Raisin in the Sun* Act I (377 – 404). | **Thursday, 4/4**Discuss *A Raisin in the Sun* and Soundtrack Project.**For Homework:** Read *A Raisin in the Sun* Acts II & III (404 – 441). |

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| **Week 14 –Drama**

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| **Tuesday, 4/9**Discuss *A Raisin in the Sun.* Sign up for Paper Workshops #2. **For Homework:** Read *The Glass Menagerie* Scenes I – V (850 – 872). | **Thursday, 4/11**Discuss *Glass Menagerie.* **For Homework:** Read *The Glass Menagerie* Scenes VI – VII (872 – 895). |

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| **Week 15 – Drama**

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| **Tuesday, 4/16**Revision #2 Due. Discuss *The Glass Menagerie.***For Homework:** Read *The Pillowman* (handout)*.* Finish Soundtrack Project. | **Thursday, 4/18****Soundtrack Project Due!** Discuss *The Pillowman.***For Homework:** Finish reading *The Pillowman* (handout).  |

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| **Week 16 – Drama**

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| **Tuesday, 4/23**Research Paper Rough Draft Due. Discuss *The Pillowman.*  | **Thursday, 4/25**Paper Workshops. **No Class. Final Journal Due at your workshop!** |

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| **Week 17 – Finals Week***No class!* ***Turn in your Research Paper on turnitin.com no later than Thursday, May 2 at midnight!*** *Good luck on the rest of your finals!* |

**Important Due Dates:**

Tuesday, February 12 – Explication Paper Due

Tuesday, February 28 – Revision #1 Due

Monday, March 4 - Last Day to Drop with a W

Tuesday, March 15 – Social Issue Rough Draft Due

Thursday, March 21 –Social Issue Paper Due

Tuesday, April 2 – Mash-Up Project Due

Tuesday, April 16 – Revision #2 Due

Thursday, April 18 – Soundtrack Project Due

Tuesday, April 23 – Research Paper Rough Draft Due

Thursday, April 25 – Final Journal Due

Thursday, May 2– Research Paper Due