Syllabus – Summer 2009
Pima Community College - East Campus

Writing 102
CRN (Section) 30068

Summer Session C: May 29 — July 17
Meeting Times: Fridays 10:30 AM - 3:50 PM
Location: E2 - 202
Instructor: Mr. Knight — Office: 137 (In "O-1" Building) Email: Jknight@pima.edu
Office Hours: Contact instructor either before or after class to make an appointment.

Required Text: Literature, Reading Reacting, Writing, For Pima Community College, East Campus. Edited by Kirszner & Mandell. Published by Thompson and Heinle.

Note: Be sure to keep all returned assignments, papers, tests, quizzes, and handouts in your notebook until you have received your final grade at the end of the semester.

Note: Monday, June 1 is the official Add/Drop/Refund deadline for. Students who do not process a “drop” by this deadline date will not receive a refund and may be held financially liable for tuition and fees. Important: If you decide to drop this, or any class, you must fill out the Registration Transaction form or process the classes you want to drop through the MAX 2000 system before the official Refund Deadline. Note: Adding, dropping, or withdrawing from classes may affect your financial aid, veterans benefits, international student status, academic standing, or athletic eligibility. See an Advisor, Counselor, or appropriate department to assist you before making any changes. For adding a course after June 1, it is necessary to obtain the instructor’s permission and signature for the class you want to add.

Note: Attendance will be graded. One absence lowers “Attendance Grade” to a “C.”

Students who are absent for 2 classes will be Withdrawn by the instructor.
Leaving class early will lower one’s “Attendance Grade” one full grade. (See page 4)

Withdrawing: (Not accessible by the Web or MAX 2000)
To withdraw from this class, a student must complete and process a Registration Transaction Form after the official Add/Drop/Refund deadline (Monday, June 1) but before the official Withdrawal Deadline (Monday, June 29).

Monday, June 29, 2009 is the official Withdrawal Deadline for withdrawing from this class. You will not receive a refund if you withdraw. However, if you process a Withdrawal by the official withdrawal deadline of June 29, you will receive a grade of “W” (official withdrawal) for this class on your academic record. If you do not process a withdrawal by June 29, you may receive a failing grade for this class. Therefore, it is your responsibility and in your best interest to process a withdrawal from this and/or other classes before the withdrawal deadline of June 29.

If you do not process a withdrawal by this deadline of June 29 but are absent more than one time, you may receive a “W” grade or a grade of “F” for this course.

Due dates and homework assignments on this syllabus are subject to change.

I do not give "Incompletes" for this course.
Writing 102 is a continuation of Writing 101 and will include writing analytical essays on stories and film, analysis and discussion of various types of literature, developing research skills, and writing a research paper. This course will also include analyzing literature for meaning and form, understanding the contexts of literature, and writing about literature. We will be reading selections from various literary genres including short stories, poetry, and a play.

Prerequisite: Writing 101.

Practical Guidelines for Student Success:

As your instructor, I intend to give you my very best effort and I expect no less from each of you. The guidelines listed below come from my desire to create a mutually respectful and caring class where each student is challenged and stimulated to learn as much as possible.

1. Attend every class, except when ill. (See Attendance Policy, page 4.)

2. Do all assigned homework.

3. Arrive on time and leave when you are dismissed, normally near or at the end of class. It is not acceptable to leave early (to go to work, a doctor's or dentist appointment, sports practice, jury duty, a job interview, another class, or to study, etc.). Any student who leaves early will be marked absent for that class and his or her Attendance Grade will be lowered one full grade. It is your responsibility to schedule (or reschedule) appointments so they do not conflict with this class. (See Attendance Policy, page 4). Permission to leave early will be granted only for serious illness. If arriving late or leaving early is going to be a problem for you on a regular basis, then you must drop this class.

4. As soon as you arrive at class, please be ready to participate in class activities for that day. This means having your book, homework, paper, and pen out and on your desk so that you are ready when class activities begin.

   If you are late for class, please get your textbook, paper, pen, and homework out before you enter the classroom so that your late arrival will cause only minimal disturbance to your classmates. Also, as a matter of courtesy, please turn off your cell phone or pager before coming into class. The use of cell phones (for calls or for text messaging), I-Pods, Lap-Tops or Palm-Tops etc. during class is both inappropriate and rude. Please turn off electronic devices such as these before class.

5. Acting with consideration toward classmates is important. Each person can make a difference to the experience of all of us. Listening attentively to what others have to say both contributes to a positive classroom atmosphere and shows respect and courtesy. Caring about others and showing it with kindness and consideration not only builds a warm and friendly classroom environment but also helps your own learning process as well.
Is This Course For You? (It is your choice and your responsibility.*)

Distinguished literature and films, including much of what we will be reading and viewing, often explore the darker side of the human experience. Serious fiction and film have never shied away from the great human themes of love and betrayal, friendship and loss, or the anguish and pain of loneliness, suffering, and death. You can be sure this course will not either, and thus our assigned readings will often be challenging and sometimes disturbing. The stories as well as the films we will be reading and viewing are at times satirical and seldom reassuring. Great writers — from the ancient Greek dramatists to Shakespeare to modern novelists and short story writers — have always challenged their readers to think and feel more deeply with heart breaking stories and biting satires that cut to the bone. In fact, one of the roles of the writer of serious fiction is to question what others believe they believe. This course is therefore not intended for those who are uncomfortable with or intolerant of controversial viewpoints, have fixed and unbending preconceptions about what literature or films should provide, or are otherwise easily offended (see *Note near the bottom of this page). To quote novelist Tobias Wolff:

"The stories (and films) that endure in our memories" are those that cause us to feel "outraged, exposed, in danger of heart–break or change." He adds that many of our best modern stories "confront difficult material: violence, sickness, racism, alcoholism, sexual exploitation, marital breakup. Well, so do we in our daily lives. I have never been able to understand the complaint that a story is 'depressing' because its subject matter deals honestly with human suffering. What depresses me are stories that don't seem to know these things go on, or hide them in resolute chipperness, 'witty' stories, in which every problem is an occasion for a joke, 'upbeat' stories that flog you with transcendence. Please. We're grown–ups now, we get to stay in the kitchen when the other grown–ups talk..."

Thus, you may rightly infer that the readings and films for this course are chosen for their honesty and their art, and are intended to serve as models of writing that is alive with highly charged, highly individualized language that describes the world with fresh eyes and unusual perspectives. These works of literary fiction are not meant to heighten your sense of moral righteousness or certitude, nor are they likely to leave you with a glorious, though false, afterglow and conviction that "Everything that happens is for the best" or "All is right with the world." Instead, the stories we will be reading, as well as our discussions, are likely to challenge your perceptions and perhaps even some of your beliefs. Serious literature is as chaotic and unpredictable as life itself. It seldom offers the reassurance of simple answers or happy endings. **If that is the kind of thing you are looking for, or if you believe that literature should always reaffirm what you already believe and therefore never confuse, disturb, or upset you, then you might well be better served elsewhere.**

What this course does do is bring you in contact with some of the most distinguished and celebrated writers of the modern era as well as model some of the basic tools and techniques that professional writers use. It will also give you the opportunity to put some of these writing tools into practice so that you can begin to express your own ideas and experiences with the clarity and insight that comes from focused reading, challenging discussions, and thoughtful reflection.

**Note:** Taking into account what has been said in the above paragraphs and given that you are likely in our readings and films to occasionally encounter four letter words and sexual (though not pornographic) scenes, plus earthy, diabolical, and, at times, cruel and unlikable characters who mouth racial slurs and 4 letter epithets (swear words), it is your responsibility, having been informed of this, to either accept the content of this course for what it is or to drop this course and sign up for something else that you think would be more suitable.

If you have any questions or concerns about anything you have read on this page (or anywhere else in this Syllabus), please see me (your instructor) right after the first class (or as soon as possible). If you need to schedule an appointment, I will be happy to arrange a mutually convenient time to meet.

Mr. Knight
Attendance Policy:

Your attendance reflects your commitment to this class and to your learning. Also, for this 8-week summer session, each 5 hour 20 minutes class is equivalent to 4 regular semester classes. Because of the amount of information covered, students cannot afford to miss any classes. Therefore, it is important that you are here for every class.

**Note:** Attendance will be graded and will count as part of your Attendance & Quiz Average Grade. (See Grading Policy page 9.)

One absence lowers one’s Attendance Grade to a “C.” Students who are absent for 2 classes will be withdrawn by the instructor.

Leaving class early lowers one’s Attendance Grade one full grade.

Attendance Grade Scale:

- 0 Absences =’s “A” for Attendance Grade
- 1 Absence =’s “C” for Attendance Grade
- 2 Absences =’s Student will be Withdrawn *(See *Note below)*

*Note: If a student is absent from 2 classes, regardless of the reasons, that student will be automatically withdrawn from this course. Absolutely no exceptions under any circumstance!*

*Note also: If a student leaves class early, his or her Attendance Grade will be lowered by one full grade each time this occurs. In other words, a student with no absences who leaves class early would then have a “B” for the Attendance portion of his or her Attendance & Quiz Grade Grade. Leaving class early twice would drop the grade to a “C,” and 3 times would be a “D,” etc.*

Arriving Late: Arriving late (or leaving early) is not acceptable. If arriving late or leaving early is going to be a problem for you, then you must drop this class.

Being more than 10 minutes late for class on more than 1 occasion will result in ½ an absence. Each additional time this occurs, the student’s attendance grade will be lowered one full grade. Therefore, the third time a student is more than 10 minutes late, his or her Attendance Grade will be lowered 1 full grade.

Leaving Early: If a student leaves class early, the Attendance portion of the Attendance & Quiz Average Grade will be lowered by one full grade each time this occurs.
Homework: homework is due at the start of class on the dates listed on the Calendar Of Homework Assignments.

Formatting for Essay Assignments (see Calendar of Homework Assignments p. 2 and 3 for examples):
All essays must be typed, double spaced, and use standard 12 point lettering (size of characters). Be sure use standard manuscript format. Manuscript format includes a Title that is centered, bolded, or underlined. Margins should be approximately 1 inch. Double space between each line within paragraphs, but do not skip extra lines between paragraphs.

Except for the Research Paper, do not submit a separate title page. Do not submit papers in plastic folders. Instead, attach papers of more than 1 page with a staple or a paper clip. For typed Writing Exercises, use a standard, single spaced heading at the top, right hand corner of your first page that includes your name, number & name of assignment (example, Joe Smith, First Writing Exercise), class & days class meets (example, Writing 102 Fri.), and date assignment is due. Note: use standard, 8 & 1/2 " by 11" paper and do not use erasable paper. If you are absent from a class, to obtain credit for late homework, it must be turned in on the day you return. However, the Title Page and the first draft of your Introduction to your Research Paper must be turned in the date it is due to receive credit. This is also true for your Research Paper.

Grades: Five grades will be averaged together to determine your Final Grade. Each of these 5 grades will count 20 % of your Final Grade. (See p. 9, "Grading Policy" for details.

These 5 grades include:
1.) the Attendance and Quiz Average Grade (See Grading Policy, p. 9)
2.) the Mid-Semester Exam and Homework Grade (see p. 9),
3.) the Response Paper Grade See p. 9.
4.) the Final Exam Grade (see p. 9), and
5.) the Research Paper Grade (see page 9).
Response Paper Grade: (Counts 1/5 of Final Grade)

There will be 2 required Response Papers on films we will be viewing during class. Both must be typed. Note: these two films (The Song of the Lark and What's Eating Gilbert Grape) will be placed on reserve at the East Campus Library from Friday after class to the following Thursday. If a student has to miss a class when one of these films is shown, it is his or her responsibility to view the film before the following class period in order to type the required Response Paper on that film.

The First Response Paper will be graded either plus (+), double plus (++), an "N.I." (Needs Improvement), or a minus (—). “NI” grades may be rewritten one time to obtain a plus (+). Double plusses (+++) will not be given for retyped "NI" papers. There is a one week deadline on retyped "N.I." papers. Papers that receive a minus (—) cannot be rewritten for a plus (+).

Second Response Paper will be graded either plus (+), double plus (++), or minus (—). (See Calendar of Assignments for grading requirements.) Note: "N.I." grades will not be given for the Second Response Paper. Note also: Papers that receive a minus (—) cannot be rewritten for a plus (+).

Response Paper Grade Scale:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>4 (+'s)</th>
<th>3 (+'s)</th>
<th>2 (+'s)</th>
<th>1 (+)</th>
<th>0 (+'s)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>=’s A</td>
<td>=’s B</td>
<td>=’s C</td>
<td>=’s D</td>
<td>=’s F</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Scoring Rubric:

### (For Response Papers)

- **Introduction:**
  - Clear & complete.
  - Mostly complete.
  - Incomplete &/or vague.
- **Organization & Development:**
  - Clear Topic Sentences & very well developed supporting details.
  - Topic Sentences OK with some supporting details.
  - Sentence structure needs work.
- **Sentence Structure, Grammar, & Spelling:**
  - Clear & complete sentences: no sentence fragments, no run-on sentences, and very few other grammar errors.
  - Mostly complete sentences: 1-3 fragments or 1-3 run-on sentences. Grammar basically sound.
  - Sentence structure needs work:
    - 4 or more fragments, or 4 or more run-on sentences, or a combination of 5 or more Run-ons & Fragments, or other serious grammar errors =’s (—)
- Also, no more than 1 spelling error.
- No more than 4 spelling errors.

Scoring:

- **Double Plus (++) =’s 4 pts.**
- **Plus (+) =’s 2–3 pts.**
- **Minus (—) =’s 1 or less pts.**

To earn a double plus (++) for a Response Paper, in addition to fulfilling the page length requirements, your entire paper must demonstrate outstanding work in all phases of writing including a clear and complete 2-part thesis, original, engaging content, convincing supporting examples from the film being analyzed, clear and precise word choice, plus correct use of grammar, punctuation, and spelling. Note: double (++) papers must be completely free of run-on-sentences & fragments, and have no more than 1 spelling error. Also, papers with more than 2 agreement errors, or more than 1 tense shift error, or more than 1 awkwardly constructed sentence will not receive a double plus (++).
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Research Paper Grade:  (Counts 1/5 of Final Grade)

Your Research Paper Grade will be determined by 2 grades.

1. Formatting Grade (including Title Page, Works Cited Page, Margins and Spacing of text), correct use of Transitions & Quotes, Correct Use of Parenthetical Citations, and Correct use of MLA documentation.
   The Formatting Grade will either be a plus (+) “C”, double plus (++) “B”, triple plus (+++) “A”, or minus (–) “D”.  (See Calendar of Assignments pp. 9 and 10 for specific grading requirements.)

2. Content, Organization, and Grammar Grade, including Clarity, Organization, Development, Depth of Insights, Grammar, Spelling, and Punctuation, will be graded either a plus (+) “C”, double plus (++) “B”, triple plus (+++) “A”, or minus (–) “D”.  (See Calendar of Assignments pp. 9 and 10 for specific grading requirements.)

Note: Research Papers that are not turned in the date they are due, or do not fulfill the requirements of the assignment, or are less than 4 pages will receive a grade of “F”.

Grading Scale for Research Paper Grade:

6 or 5 pluses (+’s) =’s A, 4 or 3 pluses (+’s) =’s B, 2 pluses (+’s) =’s C, 1 plus (+’) =’s D
0 pluses (+) =’s F

Plagiarism Policy for Research Paper: plagiarism is using and taking credit for ideas and words that are not your own. Anyone who plagiarizes a Research Paper will receive a grade of “F” on that paper.

How to make sure you have not plagiarized any material:
1. Document all quotations with their source. (See handout on MLA Documentation.)
2. Document the sources of ideas that you have paraphrased (put into your own words)
3. Simply changing someone else’s wording into your own is plagiarism. Instead of doing this, use direct quotations with documented sources.
4. When you do paraphrase someone else’s ideas (usually as a summary), be sure to use original phrasing and syntax (word order). Then, document the source of your paraphrased sentences.

Make-Ups: You can be absent only once. The second time a student is absent, he or she will be automatically withdrawn from the class. Late papers will be eligible to receive credit just one time, the class following an absence. The one exception to this is the Title Page and 1/2 to 2/3 page Introduction to your Research Paper which must be turned in at the beginning of class on the date it is due. Response Papers receiving a minus (–) cannot be retyped and resubmitted for a plus.
How Final Grades Are Calculated:

"A" = 4 points, "B" = 3 points, "C" = 2 points, "D" = 1 point, "F" = 0 points. Using this standard grade point system, each of your 5 grades are converted into points. Then, the following scale is used to calculate your Final Grade.

To earn a Final Grade of:  
A, the average of your 5 grades must be 3.60 or higher  
B, the average of your 5 grades must be 2.60 to 3.599  
C, the average of your 5 grades must be 1.60 to 2.599  
D, the average of your 5 grades must be 0.60 to 1.599  
F, the average of your 5 grades must be 0.00 to 0.599

(See also the Grading Policy handout on page 9 for more information on the 5 grades.)

Note: To earn an “A” for a Final Grade for this course, you must end up with a total of at least 18 points. (Highest possible point total is 20 for 5 “A’s”). However, to achieve 18 points, a student must either get 3 “A’s” and 2 “B’s” or 4 “A’s” and 1 “C.” (Obviously, 2 “A’s” and 3 “B’s” would result in a Final Grade of “B”). 4 “A’s” and 1 “D” would also result in a Final Grade of “B.”

Grading Criteria:

Writing Exercise papers will be graded double plus (++), plus (+), or minus (—), depending if the particular paper is complete, has correctly followed the assignment’s instructions, is organizationally and grammatically competent, has adequate support, and is turned in on time or within the one week allowable time period for papers that are marked “N I.” (See specific information above, in your Calendar of Assignments, and on the previous page.) Note: Late papers will be eligible to receive credit just one time, the class following an absence. The one exception to this is the Title Page and 1/2 to 2/3 page Introduction to your Research Paper which must be turned in at the beginning of class on the date it is due. Late papers not turned in the week following a student’s absence will be graded (—) minus and will not be eligible to receive a (+) plus.
Writing 102

GRADING POLICY

Summer 2009

Instructor: Mr. Knight

Your Final Grade will be determined by averaging the 5 grades that are explained below. (See Syllabus p. 8 for "How Final Grades Are Calculated")

Number and Type of Grade: Will Count:

1 Attendance and Quiz Average Grade 1/5 of Final Grade
   Your Quiz Average, based on 6 quizzes, will count 2/3 of this grade.
   Your Attendance Grade, to be determined by your total number of absences, will count 1/3 of this grade.
   (Attendance Grade Scale: 0 Absences =’s “A” 1 Absence =’s “C” 2 Absences =’s student is automatically Withdrawn.)

1 Mid-Semester Exam and Homework Grade 1/5 of Final Grade
   Your grade for the Mid-Semester Exam will count 2/3 of this grade.
   Your Homework Grade will count 1/3 of this grade
   Your Homework Grade will result from the number of completed homework assignments. Each minus (–) for a deficient homework assignment or for an assignment not turned in on time, will lower Homework Grade 1 letter grade.
   Note: A maximum of one late homework assignment (due to an Absence) may be turned in late and still receive credit. The one exception to this is the assignment of the Title Page and the ½ to 2/3 page Introduction to your Research Paper that must be turned in at the beginning of class on the date it is due and will not receive credit if turned in late.

1 Response Paper Grade 1/5 of Final Grade
   Determined by the number of pluses (+’s) from 2 Response Papers on films shown during class.
   The First Response Paper will be graded either (++), (+), “N.I.” (Needs Improvement) or minus (–).
   The Second Response Papers will be graded (++), (+), or minus (–). No “N.I.” grades for Second Response Paper.
   Grade Scale: 4 (+’s) =’s A 3 (+’s) =’s B 2 (+’s) =’s C 1 (+) =’s D 0 (+’s) =’s F

1 Final Exam Grade 1/5 of Final Grade
   Your grade on the Final Exam will result in your Exam Grade

1 Research Paper Grade 1/5 of Final Grade
   Your Research Paper Grade will be determined by the following 2 grades:
   1. Formatting Grade (including Title Page, Works Cited Page, Margins and Spacing of text), correct use of Transitions & Quotes, Correct Use Parenthetical Citations within the text and Correct Use of MLA documentation.
      To be graded either triple plus (+++), double plus (++), plus (+), or minus (–)
   2. Content, Organization, and Grammar Grade including Clarity, Organization, Development, Depth of Insights, Grammar, Spelling, and Punctuation to be graded either a triple plus (+++), double plus (++), a plus (+), or a minus (–). (See also p. 7 of Syllabus & pp. 9 – 10 in your Calendar of Assignments.)
   Your Research Paper Grade will be determined from the following Grade Scale:
   6 or 5 (+’s) =’s A, 4 or 3 (+’s) =’s B, 2 (+’s) =’s C, 1 (+) =’s D, 0 (+’s) =’s F

5 Grades (Total) Will Count 5/5ths of Final Grade

Note: All papers must be typed. Papers returned with an NI will be given one week to be rewritten and resubmitted. After this one week time period, pluses (+’s) for rewritten papers will not be given. Writing Exercises receiving an “NI” (Needs Improvement) can only be resubmitted once and cannot receive a (++). The Final Exam cannot be made up at a later date unless prior arrangements have been made with your instructor.
About Your Instructor:

A Brief Biography

Mr. Knight began teaching at Pima Community College in 1976. Since then, he has taught all levels of composition and literature including Writing 70, 100, 101, 102, Modern Literature, Honors Writing, and Creative Writing. He earned his Bachelor’s Degree from Amherst College and has a Master’s Degree from the University of Massachusetts.

At Amherst, he graduated with honors in English Literature in 1969. Amherst College is nationally recognized as one of the nation’s top liberal arts colleges and is consistently ranked by the annual *U.S. News and World Report* survey on academic excellence as the number one or number two small-college in the country.

Mr. Knight has co-authored two books on education including the *Arizona Adult Education Teacher’s Manual* and *IMPACT: A Handbook of Creative Teaching Methods*. He has also authored numerous literary articles, poems, and essays. In 1983, Mr. Knight founded a backpacking organization and has led group hiking treks to Havasu Canyon in the Grand Canyon on fifteen separate occasions.

When asked to summarize his academic and educational philosophy, he stated the following credo:

“Writing is a skill that can only be developed with diligence and practice.
Success in writing, as in life, does not come without effort and hard work.”