ENGLISH 2 - CRITICAL ANALYSIS & INTERMEDIATE COMPOSITION

Sandi Powazek    Confs: Tu, 10-11& by appt.
Mailbox: English Dept., DH 311  Office: LV 129
Voicemail:  434-8614    Email: powazek_sandra@smc.edu
Website: http://homepage.smc.edu/powazek_sandra/

Required Texts:


Recommended Texts & Materials: Unabridged dictionary and thesaurus
English grammar and usage handbook
MLA Handbook

Course Description:
Prerequisite: English 1 with grade of "C" or better.

This course is designed to help students develop their critical thinking and writing skills beyond the level achieved in English 1. The course emphasizes the application of logical reasoning, analysis, and strategies of argumentation in critically reading, thinking, discussing, and writing about contemporary Los Angeles literature. The three genres of literature, fiction, poetry, and drama, will be focused on specifically. Students will examine literary elements such as structure, character, plot, point of view, style, tone, symbolism, and theme in a variety of texts.

Course Requirements and Policies:

Reading: Timely and thoughtful completion of the daily reading assignments and journal entries is imperative. Reading quizzes will be given throughout the semester; no make-up quizzes will be given. For a stimulating and challenging class experience, you must be current with your reading.

Class Participation: Students are expected to participate in class and group discussions regarding the reading selections, as well as prepare for possible presentations. To illustrate discussion points, students will be asked to identify passages and read them aloud.

Writing: In addition to in-class writing assignments, four papers will be required. One paper will be a 3-4 page short explication essay and the other three papers will be 4-5 page critical essays.

Some assignments may offer an alternative that provides a more creative opportunity. All papers must be typed and formatted in accordance with the MLA guidelines.
You have the opportunity to rewrite up to 2 of the first three essays if you meet with me individually **within one week** of its graded return to you and turn in the second draft **by an agreed upon time, usually one week** after our meeting date. The grade received for the rewritten essay will replace the grade of the original essay.

All assignments are due at the beginning of the class period on the due date. **Late essays can be delivered to my mailbox and will be penalized one grade point per late day. Essays more than one week late will not be accepted. No essays will be accepted via fax or e-mail.**

Exams: In addition to quizzes, there will be a mid-term and a final exam. These exams will require that you synthesize many of the readings and respond to essay and short response questions, and identify key passages from the works and comment on their significance.

Attendance: Attendance, active participation in classroom discussion, and the thoughtful and timely completion of the assigned reading and/or writing are crucial in this course. **Class absences beyond two, which is considered reasonable, will be treated as excessive and may result in failure or being dropped from the course.** If you are absent due to extraordinary circumstances, please let me know, preferably in advance, or at the least, as soon as possible.

Conferences: You must meet with me individually to arrange to rewrite any of your papers. I will also be available at a mutually convenient time to discuss paper ideas, review draft papers, or discuss any other course related issues. Please feel free to approach me before and/or after class with any comments and questions you might have.

**Grading:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignment</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Essay 1</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Essay 2</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Essay 3</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Essay 4</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Journal responses/quizzes*</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mid-term</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Class participation</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td><strong>100%</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Journal responses, quizzes, and in-class writing will be graded on a 0-3 point scale. All three requirements/questions must be adequately provided to receive a maximum score of 3 on journal responses and quizzes. Deficiencies lower the score accordingly.

**Plagiarism:** All secondary sources must be documented in accordance with the MLA guidelines. Plagiarism is defined as using another person's language, thoughts, or ideas and passing them off as your own. It is a serious offense and will be dealt with very severely. If you use someone else's work without quoting or citing appropriately, you have committed plagiarism and may fail the assignment and/or course, be reported to the Dean, and possibly be suspended from the college.