Reading for Writers I (Primary Genre)

This guided, self-designed course provides the writer with a foundation of readings in the genre. Under the guidance of a professional writer in the genre, each student will develop a substantial reading list of “classics” of the particular writing field along with important contemporary texts.

Student: Jane Doe
Faculty Member: Mr. Chips
Course Number: WRT536
Semester and Year: Fall 2005
Credit Hours: 4

Subtitle for Course: Subtitle suggests the specific student-centered focus and is unique for each course and student

Course Description: An overview statement describes course contents and philosophy (100-500 words suggested)

Requirements: List specific requirements for completion of the course
In listing the requirements answer the following questions:

- What are the nature and amount of work to be produced for this course (such as papers, stories, poems, articles, essays, interviews, annotated bibliographies, journals, reviews, etc.)?
  For this course, typical output is approximately 35 pages of writing (about 2.5 pages per week) that somehow addresses the reading assignments, whether by critique, analysis, parody, discussion, or some other method. 35 pages is typical—not a hard and fast requirement—you have the flexibility to propose alternative approaches.
- Will written exercises be part of this course aside from the writing assignments listed above?
- What is the schedule of interactions, including all due dates, deadlines, and/or appointments?

Reading List:
For this course, you should plan to read approximately 12 books in the genre or the equivalent in articles, essays, etc., or some combination. This is approximately one book per week with a few weeks deducted to account for holidays, syllabus composition, end of semester, etc. Accommodations can be made for particularly long or intense texts, or for particularly intense use of texts (such as in-depth chapter-by-chapter analysis).

Interactions:
- Specify the schedule of interactions to take place between faculty and student for this course.
- Specify the mode(s) of interaction between faculty and student for this course.

Evaluation:
What will be evaluated and how will the evaluation take place? (For example, will the faculty member see drafts for evaluation? Is the process of work being evaluated along with the product? Will assignments be graded, or will there be a final grade only?) How will final grade be determined? Note: it is not sufficient for the mentor to say simply “The instructor will assign a final grade based on quality.” The syllabus should specify how the final grade will be determined.

Sample (for demonstration only—not all syllabi are expected to use this method)
Final grade will be determine by:
25% On-time completion of all assignments
25% Submission of writing at the graduate level (clean copy, professionally formatted and presented)
25% Evidence that student grasps important elements of the readings
25% Average grade of all assignments
Learning Outcomes:
The instructor must list 3-6 learning outcomes for the course. Outcomes should be skills that the student will have obtained by the end of the course and should be the direct result of the goals and objectives of the course. See sample syllabi at the MFA web site for examples.

Plagiarism
Plagiarism and other forms of academic dishonesty are serious academic offenses and will be treated as such in this course. Please familiarize yourself with the university’s policy on plagiarism in your academic catalogue and/or student handbook. Plagiarism is the use of another writer’s words or ideas without acknowledgment of their source. The penalty for plagiarism will be course failure and will be reported to the appropriate Dean(s) and other university officials.

Department of Writing, Linguistics, and Creative Process Policy on Academic Honesty
The Department of Writing, Linguistics, and Creative Process follows the University guidelines regarding academic honesty and issues of plagiarism, which are available in the catalog on the University website at https://www.wcsu.edu/catalogs/undergraduate/academic-services-procedures/.

In the specific context of writing, we highlight some particular problems with plagiarism. Plagiarism violations include:

- Submitting material that is not one’s own.
- Using material—words and/or ideas—directly from a source without proper citation and attribution.
- Submitting a project written for one course, past or present, as new material in another course without the explicit permission of the instructor.

In accordance with University policy, plagiarism on an assignment may be grounds for failing the course and the filing of an Academic Dishonesty Report, which will escalate the situation to higher administrative decisions.

We encourage students to speak with us openly and honestly regarding any questions surrounding academic honesty and plagiarism.

Accommodations
Any student who needs accommodations of any kind to complete this course may make arrangement through AccessAbility Services, http://www.wcsu.edu/accessability/, (203) 837-8225.