

ENG 101
Spring 2001
MWF 10-11

Dr. Adriane Ivey
Office: Languages 103B
Phone: 4-8358
Office Hours: MTWTH 2-4
email: aivey@emory.edu

Required Texts: Course Packet and *Into the Wild* (Jon Krakauer); a writing handbook (suggested)

Objectives: This course is designed to help you practice and develop your writing skills. In improving your writing, you will be challenged to read and think critically and analytically; to express clearly your observations and ideas in organized essays; to revise continually your writing; and to master the conventions of standard written English.

Materials: A folder, which will include all of the work you do for this class. This work should be divided into four sections (make sure all the work in each section is in chronological order): 1. the syllabus and all handouts from this class, 2. your research paper and all drafts and research, 3. your twelve short argumentative essays with accompanying rough drafts and peer reviews.

Attendance: Attendance in this course is essential both for you as an individual and for the class as a whole; many of your assignments will be done in class, and much of your learning will take place through the exchange of information and ideas with your peers. Therefore, you will be allowed a maximum of **three absences**. Your final grade will drop one-third of a letter for each absence after the third. **I do not distinguish between excused and unexcused absences.**

Deadlines for Assignments: Papers are due in class on the assigned date. Papers must be turned in on time. Late assignments will be marked down a letter grade for each day they are late.

Plagiarism: All work submitted in this course must be your own and be written exclusively for this course. The use of sources (ideas, quotations, paraphrases) must be properly documented using MLA format. Remember that you are to adhere to the Oxford College Honor Code and that your signature on any assignment submitted in this class indicates that you have neither given nor received unauthorized information on the work.

In order to fulfill the requirements of this course, you will complete the following tasks:

- 1 Research paper of five-seven pages, including an annotated bibliography and one revision.
- 1 final exam essay.
- 12 two-page argument papers
- In-class writings, class and online discussions, peer editing
- A portfolio which will contain everything you write for this class in chronological order (all drafts of essays, peer memos, and reading responses)

Essay Guidelines: You will compose twelve argumentative essays during the course of the term. Several of the essays will be based on a careful reading of the assigned texts. Most essays will consist of two versions with the first version going through peer review. You will write some of the essays in class. Topics for your essays will come from assigned questions following the readings. Sources for your papers will include both the essays you read for class and the papers and reading responses of your peers. Each time you turn in an essay, you must include all earlier versions and peer responses.

Research Paper: You will write one research paper on Krakauer's *Into the Wild*. The grade for this paper will include a working annotated bibliography, at least one revision, and any other research and preparation leading up to the final draft.

Format For Papers: All final essays must be typed either on a typewriter or on a word processor. They must be double-spaced and stapled. I will not accept folded or paper-clipped papers. In the top left-hand corner of the front page, place your name on the first line, your section number and my name on the second line, and the date on the third line. All essays must have titles. You will find revision is easier if

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documents are word processed because you will not have to retype the entire essay. Drafts of essays and most assignments written outside of class must also be typed.

Grading Criteria: Generally, your writing will be evaluated according to the development of ideas, adherence to structure, sentence style and diction, grammar, usage, spelling, and minor punctuation, in that order. The realities of the institution demand grades; learning to write calls for both practice doing unfamiliar things and risk-taking. Therefore, all your work counts and all assignments are required, though not all of it will receive traditional grades. I grade harder as the term progresses. I will grade based on the plus/minus scale.

60%	12 Short Essays
20%	Research Paper
5%	Annotated Bibliography
15%	Paper and Revisions
20%	Final Exam and Portfolio

Other things to know:

Throw nothing away.

If I am late and there is no notice at the door, you should wait fifteen minutes before leaving. Prepare the next day's assignments for the next meeting.

I reserve the right to amend or modify anything on this statement by means of future hand-outs.