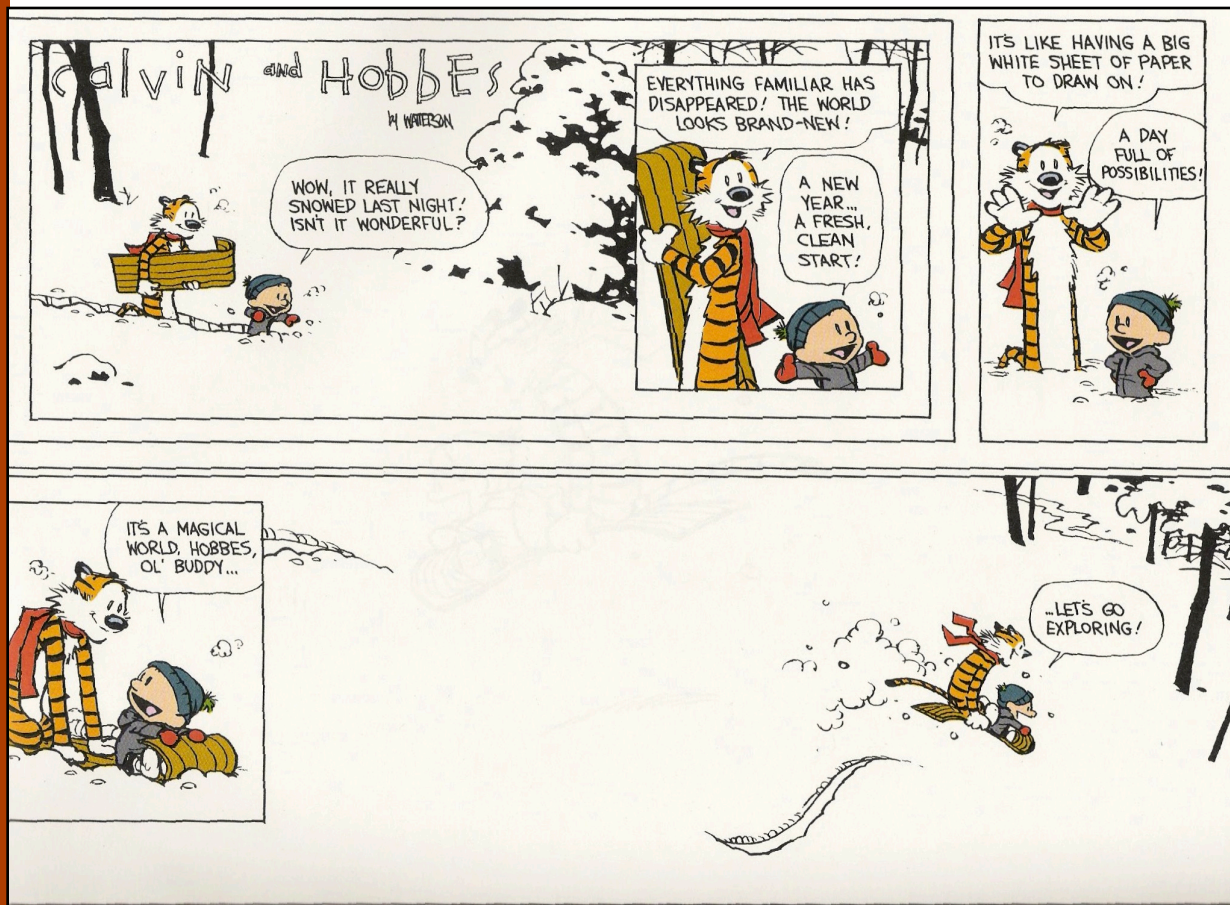


CURIOSITY EXPRESS

ENGLISH 101-1287

"I write because I don't know what I think until I read what I say."

Flannery O'Connor



Why I teach

By Howard Ibach



I teach to inspire curiosity. To provoke it, instill it, awaken it, even re-awaken it. Curiosity is the engine of inquiry, a catalyst of self-awareness, the train-whistle-in-the-dead-of-night that calls you irresistibly to a new adventure.

It seems impossible, to me, to be a student of any kind and lack a basic curiosity about the world around you. When I meet someone who appears to care about nothing in particular, I ask myself, "How did this happen?" It is as if this person had lost a limb. Something is missing. Ignite curiosity, give it breathing room and the tools to thrive, and you have given birth to a life-long learner.

Everything begins with a

question. A question you ask I will challenge you to answer yourself. An answer you offer I will question. Certainties you lay at my feet I will kick away with skepticism. Doubts you raise I will help you explore. My objective is to show you how to hone more penetrating questions, fuel sharper examination, generate deeper understanding.

Wait...this is a writing class? Precisely. *Clear writing begins with clear thinking.* In my class, you will discover that the Socratic Method drives everything we do, from one-on-one conferences to writing and homework assignments, from group work to class discussions, which I call Socratic Seminars. Even reading assignments couple questions about content with

questions about how you read the content. You will be challenged to think about *how* you think so that you begin to think *more clearly* about everything.

Not so curiously, this study takes place in an environment I call a Safety Zone for Learning. You will play a role in establishing the parameters for our class, but its broad definition is the freedom to make mistakes without fear of judgment or ridicule. Every question is welcome. Silence is not. I encourage you to take risks, be courageous, stretch yourself.

I have an unshakeable belief that each student in every class I teach has the capacity to grow and improve.

That means you.

The basics

Glendale Community College

Course Number: 101-1287

Term: Spring 2014

Class Hours: M 6:55 – 10:05 pm

Class Location: AD243

Instructor: Howard Ibach

Email: hibach@glendale.edu

Follow me on Twitter: <http://twitter.com/howardibach> or @HowardIbach

My blog & website:

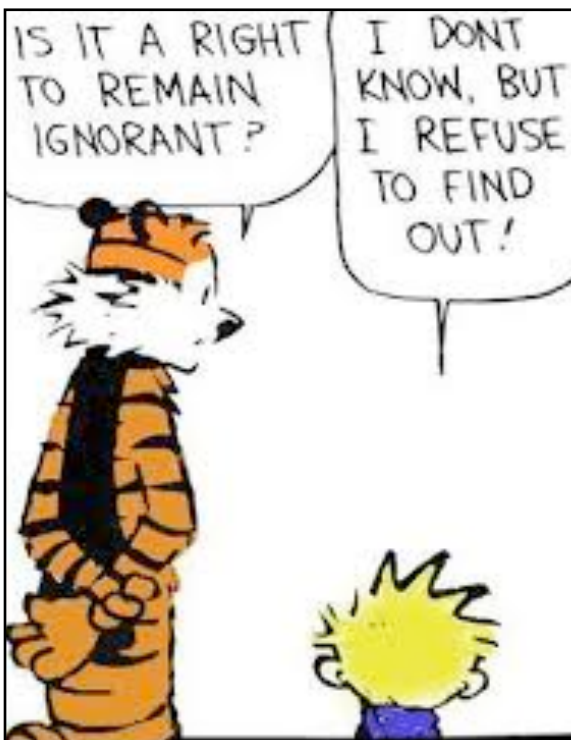
www.howardibach.com

Talk to the Prof

M 6-6:45 PM & by appt. in the Learning Center, AD232

Starbucks Sundays: 12 – 2 PM

2560 Glendale Blvd. @ Fletcher



"The art and science of asking questions is the source of all knowledge."

Thomas Berger

Student Learning Outcomes:

Reading: Critically read materials from a variety of perspectives in order to draw logical interpretive conclusions based on textual evidence.

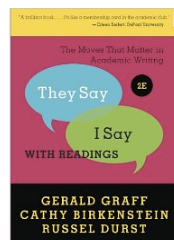
Writing: Write thesis-based essays that demonstrate critical thinking skills through a variety of rhetorical and analytical strategies appropriate to the academic context, and that incorporate appropriate tone, style, evidence, and semantics.

Research: Prepare an essay organizing, synthesizing, evaluating, and applying research

materials, employing quotation, paraphrase, and summary as effective means of support and using proper documentation and format.

Required Texts

Graff, Gerald, Cathy Birkenstein and Russel Durst, *They Say I Say With Readings: The Moves That Matter In Academic Writing*. W. W. Norton & Co. New York. 2nd Edition. Print.



Strunk, William Jr. and E.B. White, *The Elements of Style*. 4th ED. Pearson Education, Inc. New York. Print.



Required Materials

A *notebook* to take notes in class and outside of class.

A *folder* to hold class handouts, printout from our Moodle page.

Pens or *pencils* to facilitate the above.

Your *brain* – fully engaged, please.

What is English 101 all about?

English 101 is a foundation course in critical reading and writing skills required of those students intending to transfer to a university. Through their readings and discussions of selected works, students learn to identify problems, examine possible solutions, recognize unstated assumptions and values, appraise evidence, evaluate arguments, draw inferences, and test conclusions. Through their

writing, students learn to analyze, synthesize, organize information logically, and propose original ideas. Lecture 3 hours.

Prerequisite: Placement is based on a composite of test scores and academic background or satisfactory completion of English 120 or ESL 151.

Transfer credit: CSU, UC (USC CAN ENGL 2)

The work

essays, reading, critiques, tweets

Essays

The bulk of your work in this class is writing. You will write a total of six (6) essays, four out-of-class essays, and two timed in-class essays. *No out-of-class essay may be submitted that has not been reviewed by Peer Editing.*

You will have an opportunity to re-write two essays for a higher grade.

Late submissions result in a loss of points.



Feedback on Your Essays

I will follow the essay rubric posted on our Moodle page when I review

and grade your essays. I strongly advise you to print out this rubric and keep it handy when you write your drafts.

If you are not accustomed to expansive comments and a thorough critique of your writing, you will be by the end of this semester. If I make the same comments from one essay to the next, I will assume you are *not* paying attention.

Group Work

You'll be assigned to groups at the beginning of the course, and in your group you'll collaborate in a variety of activities, including, but not limited to: peer editing, Socratic Seminar preparation, and class discussions.

Your group will become your support network to help you understand the

readings, essay assignments, homework and other in-class work. Exchange contact information with members of your group and stay in touch!

Midterm

There isn't one. Woo hoo!

Research Paper

I don't believe in them. Instead, you will write more shorter essays, using the same rigorous research methods, in-text citations and MLA format as you would in a longer research paper.

Twitter

Sign up. Follow me. I'll assign a hashtag for the class and ask you to tweet every week. It's about connecting to our reading.

Final Exam

You will have the opportunity to read an essay of my choosing outside of class, and we will take a part of the last class meeting to discuss your reactions and thoughts. The exam itself will consist of writing an in-class essay in response to one of at least two prompts. I may also include a bonus question for extra credit.

Rubric and Grading

Please see my separate attachments on grading and essay rubric for details.

Privileges and responsibilities

Smart Phones and Tablets

Bring 'em if ya got 'em. We'll be using them in class. You read that correctly: We will use technology in our class.

But when we don't, please use common sense. If you receive a text from your boss, you gotta respond. Go ahead, just do it quickly. If you hear from your BFF about after-class stuff, it can wait.



"Our lives are defined by opportunities, even the ones we miss."

F. Scott Fitzgerald

Plagiarism

Plagiarism involves both presenting the work of another as your own (even unintentionally), and using another's work without acknowledging that person's contribution (even unintentionally).

Plagiarizing constitutes intellectual theft and/or fraud. The consequences of plagiarizing in this class will adhere to the Glendale College policy for academic honesty (<http://gcc.glendale.edu/policies®ulations/BPweb/BP6133.htm>), and may include failing the assignment, being dropped from the course, or failing the course.

Students with Disabilities

All students with disabilities requiring accommodations are responsible for making

arrangements in a timely manner through the Center for Students with Disabilities.

"Talk to the Prof" on Sundays

I hang out at Starbucks on Glendale & Fletcher on Sunday afternoons, from noon to 2 PM. Drop in for a cup of Joe and let's talk about class, college, life, the universe. I hope to see you.

Please establish contact with me by email (hibach@glendale.edu) before the second class meets. Tell me what you hope to get out of my class, and if you can identify an area of your writing that needs work, tell me what it is and I'll pay special attention to it.

Workshops: Library & Learning Center

Your final grade is determined in part by your completion of three **mandatory** workshops either at the GCC library or at the Learning

Center. These workshops are part of your homework grade.

You must attend all three workshops by March 21, 2014.

Workshops attended for other classes in past semesters do not count toward this requirement. All

workshops are free and a great resource to use as a GCC student.

Please make sure to sign up in advance for the workshops and arrive early, as space is limited.

How you'll be graded let's get right to the point...

I use points to determine your final grade.

You will write four essays based on readings. These essays will account for the bulk of your grade.

In-class essays, Peer Editing Journals, Evidence/Interpretation Logs (E/I Logs), homework assignments and quizzes will also be assigned points. From time to time, I may offer extra credit opportunities.

ESSAYS (400 points)

- 1: Quote Integration, 100 points
- 2: Zimmerman Verdict, 100 points
- 3: Income Inequality, 100 points
- 4: GMOs, 100 points

IN-CLASS ESSAYS (50 points)

Two in-class essays: 25 points each

PEER EDITING JOURNAL (60 points)

Four Peer Editing Journals: 15 points each

EVIDENCE/INTERPRETATION LOGS (100 points)

Five Evidence/Interpretation (E/I) Logs: 20 points each (option to add logs)

SOCRATIC SEMINARS (70 points)

Weekly Socratic Seminars: 5 points each X 14 weeks = 70 points

TWITTER CONNECTS (70 points)

Weekly Twitter links and discussion: 5 points each X 14 weeks = 70 points

HOMEWORK ASSIGNMENTS (~60 points)

At least 9 homework assignments: 5 or 10 points each, with option to add or subtract

WORKSHOPS (30 points)

Three workshops: 10 points each

QUIZZES (20 points)

Four quizzes...when you least expect them

FINAL EXAM (30 points)

EXTRA CREDIT (10 points maximum)

TOTAL POINTS: 900 (including extra credit)

A = 810 and above

B = 720 to 809

C = 630 to 719

D = 540 to 629

F = 539 and below



To show or not to show, that is the question. ah, attendance

Class attendance is required and expected. Because important course work is done during each class, your presence is absolutely essential to passing this course.

If you are absent twice without an excuse, this is the equivalent of missing two weeks out of a 16-week class. I have

illness or a pre-arranged absence that you have discussed with me. Because this is an evening class, please commit to these hours and do not schedule anything that conflicts with our once-a-week meeting.

Attendance on Peer Editing days is mandatory

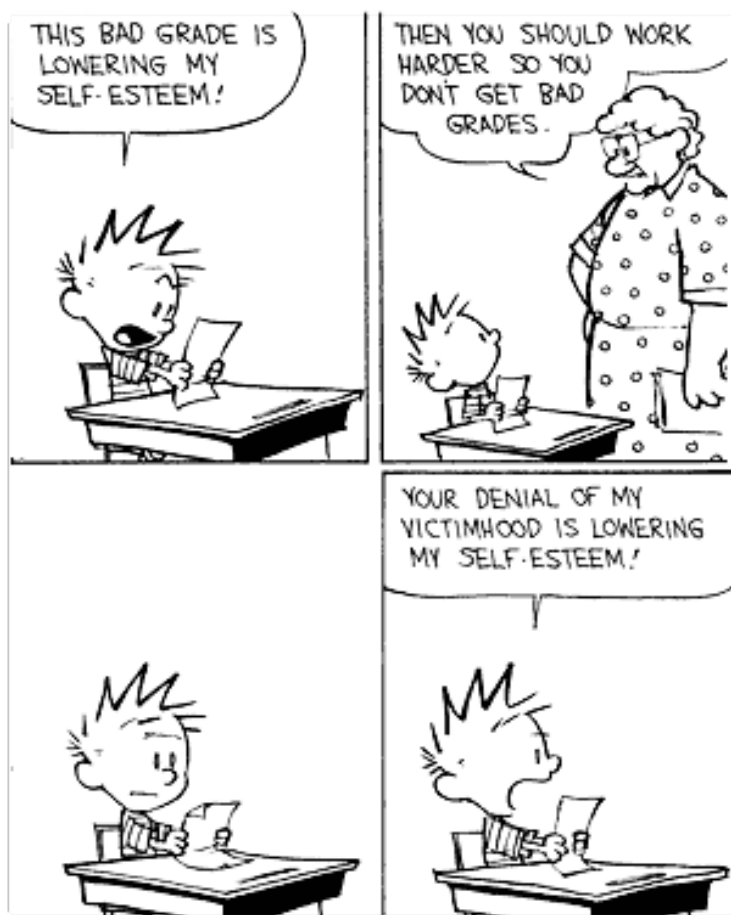
You must bring six (6) copies of your draft essay with you to class: one for each member of your group, and one to turn in to me. If you miss this day without an excuse, you will not be permitted to submit the assignment.

The fuss about Peer Editing is to ensure that you write the best essay possible *before* you submit it to me for a grade. First drafts are called first drafts for a reason! Please take another instructor's class if you do not wish to comply with this rule.

If you *are* absent, you are responsible for obtaining handouts, assignments, notes from your peers, and anything else required to complete the course work. Most of the class materials are available on our class Moodle page.

You will be graded on participation, and attendance is part of your participation. If you are tardy it is your responsibility to inform me so that I don't mark you absent. It is also your responsibility to keep track of your absences. I will not give you a warning when you've reached the limit.

The deadline to drop to receive a "W" and not a letter grade is the end of 12th week.



the option of either lowering your grade or dropping you. An excused absence is defined as an *absence notified in advance of the class you intend to miss*. Acceptable absences include a death in the family,