ENGL 4384
Senior Seminar: Getting a Life

Required Texts:
NOTE: Materials for this class contain adult language and discuss adult situations.


Other open-source texts I may make available through Dropbox, which I encourage you to download if you haven’t already. You’ll be using it to turn in your work and can use it to share work as well.

Course Description:
This course is designed to give you the opportunity to show what you’ve learned in working your major by producing an anthology of scholarly essays on the theme “Getting a Life.”

Course Goals as Set by the Department:
• Students will understand and apply select theoretical and practical issues in the discipline of literary studies.
• Students will become conversant with representative texts and a selected issue in literary history that allows for integration of the aims of the discipline.
• Students will develop the ability to work both independently and collaboratively toward the publication of an anthology of essays by class members.
• Students will propose, research, and execute a substantive literary argument appropriate to the seminar topic.
• Students will be able to make effective oral presentations, both individual and collaborative.
• Students will participate in an end-of-semester exit interview to assess how the course and the major have served their professional goals.
• Students will demonstrate in both oral and written work a discipline-specific critical facility through convincing and well-supported analysis of related material.
• Students will demonstrate their command of academic English and the tenets of sound composition by means of thesis-driven analytical prose.

Assignments and Grades

Class participation: based on attendance and tardiness, preparation, willingness to talk, general attitude about the class and the work.
Responses: Over the course of the semester, you will be asked to write essay-length responses to your reading and editing.
Reading tests: You will have two reading tests covering both the primary and secondary material for the course.
Abstract: You will write a 250-500 word abstract of your research project for the course.
Short paper: You will write a short version of your long paper and present it in class as your final.

Annotated bibliography: You will produce an annotated bibliography of the at-least ten non-internet secondary sources (we’ll talk about what these are) you cited in your paper.

Long final paper portfolio: You will revise your short paper into a 15-18 page final paper that integrates at least ten non-internet secondary sources. When you turn in your portfolio, it will include:

1. Abstract
2. Copy of your short paper
3. Annotated bibliography of your sources
4. Photocopies of your sources
5. The long paper of about 5000 words
6. Critical preface of about 1500 words in which you describe how this final paper shows what you’ve learned (or not) over the course of your major here at UWG.

All work for this course must conform to MLA 7th edition guidelines for citation style and works cited. You have access to the guide in the library; as we move along, I’ll scan relevant passages and drop them into an MLA folder on Dropbox. Work not conforming to MLA citation style may be returned ungraded or simply marked down as I see fit. Gross violations of citation style may constitute plagiarism (forgetting parenthetical citations or not providing a works cited, for instance), so be careful out there.

Grades:
Generally speaking I offer no extra credit.

I use a standard, 10-point grading scale. I do not curve grades or drop low scores.

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