ENGL 1102: Composition and Literature
Section 1F, CRN 20408
Section 2F, CRN 20409
Phone: (912) 344-2607
Email: Nancy.Remler@Armstrong.edu
Office: Gamble 205
Course Dates: January 13, 2014-May 2, 2014
Each week begins on Monday and ends on Friday with informal assignments due by midnight on Sunday.

Tech Support: (912) 344-2518

Course Description: The AASU catalog describes Composition and Literature as “a composition course that develops writing skills beyond the levels of proficiency required by ENGL 1101, that emphasizes interpretation and evaluation, and that incorporates a variety of more advanced research methods.” Therefore, in addition to enhancing your writing and research skills, you will exercise your abilities to read literature critically and share your conclusions about literature with others. You’ll learn to write a literary analysis, and you will discuss literature and share your writing knowledge with the rest of the class. You will also use computer technologies as a communications, writing and research tool.

Prerequisite: Grade of C or higher in ENGL 1101 or its equivalent.

Dr. Remler’s Instructional Note: This course will be offered completely online. While the online delivery of this course may seem attractive because of convenience, you should remember that taking online courses requires strict personal discipline, time management, and independent study. This course requires extensive reading, and it requires you to be proficient in using computer technologies, particularly Desire2Learn, Armstrong’s learning management system. Many students work while going to college, which necessitates much time management. If you are in that situation, please note that an online course—depending on your learning style—can sometimes be more time consuming than a face-to-face course. If you feel at all uneasy about taking this online course, you should speak to Dr. Remler before continuing with it.

Texts and Materials: You will need the following texts for this course:
- Robert DiYanni, Literature; Approaches to Fiction, Poetry, and Drama, most recent paperback edition
Both of the above texts are available in the campus bookstore, but I don’t care where you get them. You can order them from online suppliers if you’d like, but you must have your required texts when you need them. You will have access to other texts in the form of .pdf files, .html files, and screencast video, from me. Note: Many students
attempt to proceed through this course without purchasing textbooks. Lately, a number of students have opted not to purchase the *Little Penguin Handbook*. I can’t make you buy a book. At the same time, I’ll be teaching you required content that comes from that book, and if you don’t have the text, your work will show it, and your grade will suffer.

You will also need ready access to online technologies. Such technologies are available to you at no charge in university computer labs. I will communicate with you regularly by e-mail using your student e-mail address.

**Performance Objectives:** As a result of taking ENGL 1102, students should be able to do the following:

- Analyze and interpret fiction, drama, and poetry from a diverse range of authors.
- Compare and contrast themes, characters, plots and other literary devices among various texts.
- Write analytically about literature.
- Apply literary principles and use literary terms in writing and in discussion.
- Search literary databases for relevant primary and secondary sources to support analytical essays.
- Quote, summarize and paraphrase information from sources into analytical essays.
- Document primary and secondary sources in MLA style.
- Evaluate samples of analytical writing and recommend revision.
- Use computer technology as a writing, research and communications tool.

**Attendance Verification:** In order to distribute Title IV funding (federal student aid), student attendance verification is required. In an academic course, Armstrong students must post a Self-introduction in the Week 1 Discussion Board in the Desire2Learn eClassroom under Discussions by 11:59 PM, ET, Thursday, January 16, 2014. Armstrong students who do not post their self-introductions will be dropped from the class for nonattendance and will not receive credit or a grade for the class.

**Attendance Policy:** I take attendance by checking your online discussions each week. Although you will earn course credit by way of your discussions, you also demonstrate your class participation through them. My attendance policy is as follows:

- When you participate in each discussion according to the topic’s instructions, you are counted as in attendance that week.
- Students who have perfect attendance in discussions will be rewarded: I will raise your lowest essay grade by one letter.
- Students who miss one discussion will be rewarded by replacing the lowest informal grade with an A.
- Students may miss three discussions with no penalty.
Assignment Policies
All assignments should be composed as specified in written assignment descriptions, provided in Desire2Learn online learning management system. All reference to primary and secondary sources should be documented appropriately in MLA documentation style as outlined in the Little Penguin Handbook. Failure to document sources will be considered plagiarism, a violation of AASU’s honor code. Because all students and faculty are required to be familiar with and abide by the honor code and code of conduct, I will address cases of plagiarism according to the code as outlined in the university catalog and on the university web site at http://www.armstrong.edu/Departments/office_student_affairs/student_affairs_honor_code

Assignment Submission: All literary analysis essays will be submitted using the Desire2Learn dropbox tool, according to the essay guidelines. Informal assignments will also be submitted in Desire2Learn using the system’s various learning tools. Specific instructions will accompany each informal assignment.

Filenames: Assignment file names will follow this protocol: first name, last name, course prefix and number, hyphen, assignment description. For example, my file name for the first analysis essay would be as follows: nancyremlerengl1102-firstessay.
I do not accept late assignments. I establish deadlines at the beginning of the semester to give you enough time to complete your work. If I change a deadline, I will do so in writing with sufficient advanced notice for you to adjust your plans.

Technical difficulties are not a valid reason for missing deadlines. Keep in mind that hard drives crash, viruses abound, and computer labs get crowded. In the Savannah area, the power goes out frequently. Therefore, it’s imperative that you save multiple copies of your work and do so often. If you choose to do your work at the last minute, that’s your business, but you should deal with Murphy’s Law on your own.

Assignments
You have several kinds of assignments to conduct this semester. Those assignments are categorized below with the percentage of the course grade each category comprises. I will give you more specific guidelines for each assignment as the appropriate time comes this semester:

• Informal Assignments: These assignments are assigned for each module during the semester. Some are quizzes; others are quotation exercises; still others are brief written assignments. All assignments are designed to evaluate your
comprehension of the concepts covered during each module. These informal assignments constitute 40% of your course grade.

- **Literary Analysis Papers**: These essays will pose a claim about works of literature and support that claim with evidence from the literary work. Some of these essays will require that you cite primary and secondary sources for evidentiary support. Sources must be documented in correct and current MLA style. The literary analysis papers will constitute 50% of your course grade.

- **Discussions**: Your discussions are how you participate in the class. They’re also a way that you demonstrate how you’re making meaning of the literature and how you’re expressing your analysis in written form. I take attendance in the class by way of these discussions (see the attendance policy), but you will also earn course credit through them. Your discussions are 10% of your course grade.

I will return graded work to you before you have another assignment due. I take great effort to grade work in a timely manner so that you will always be aware of your status in the class. If you ever wish to discuss your grades, I invite you to contact me via phone or email (see my contact information above).

**Core Assessment**: The last literary analysis paper, the one covering drama, will be submitted for part of the core assessment of the Department of Languages, Literature, and Philosophy.

**Grades**

Your work will be graded on a percentage scale, which correspond to letter grades in the following manner:

- 90% - 100% = A
- 80% - 89% = B
- 70% - 79% = C
- 60% - 69% = D
- 50% or lower = F*

Where essays are concerned, if a student earns an F, the student will earn a 0. This policy comes from some students’ tendency to turn in sloppy work for the sake of earning something rather than nothing. Take note that I do not take kindly to students wasting my time, so any student who turns in a paper showing little to no effort should not expect me to exert effort attaching a number to that paper.

Also take note of the following with respect to grades:

- It is **my** responsibility to grade your work in a timely manner.
- It is **my** responsibility to communicate your grades to you in a timely manner.
- It is **my** responsibility to communicate to you specific feedback on your work so that you understand why your work earned the grade it did.

At the same time...
• It is your responsibility to check your grades once you’ve received them.
• It is your responsibility to keep up with your progress in the class.
• It is your responsibility to let me know if you don’t understand something about your grades.
• If you want to know what your average is during the course, it is your responsibility to do the math and figure that out on your own.

The grades tool in Desire2Learn is a nice convenience, but it’s just that. In the past students and I have discovered some small glitches in D2L’s grading tool. Your grades appear on all the assignments you receive back. You will be smart to keep track of those grades on your own. I keep a hard copy grade book in my office, and that grade book is the official copy of your grades.

You’d be surprised how many students don’t check their grades at all during the term. Some of them are surprised at their course grade at the end of the semester. Don’t be one of those students. Check your grades regularly and let me know if you have concerns.

**Important Information for Students**

**Students with Disabilities:** According to the Americans with Disabilities Act, students with disabilities may request accommodations for those disabilities (including extended time on tests or in-class writing assignments) by contacting Kelly Woodruff in Student Affairs at 344-2744. Ms. Woodruff can assist you with obtaining an advocacy letter, which permits you to receive accommodations for those disabilities. If you have any questions about such accommodations, you may consult me.

This course may include website links and electronic documents to support teaching, learning, and engagement. If any of the website links or electronic documents are inaccessible to you because of a disability, please contact me as soon as possible.

**Writing Center:** The writing center, located in Gamble 109, is available to provide constructive feedback and writing assistance on written assignments for any class. All good writers seek out constructive feedback on their work. For that reason I encourage you to consult the writing center on a regular basis. Writing center services are free, and they are available by appointment. The center’s hours of operation are posted on the Writing Center door.

**Technology Services:** Student technology services is available to assist you with computer applications. The help desk is located in the Academic Computing Center. The local phone number is 344-2518.

**Course Schedule**
The following is a sketch of what we’ll accomplish this term. For a detailed course schedule, view the lesson plans provided in the “Important Documents” folder of D2L.

- **First day of class:** January 13
- **Last Day of class:** May 5
- **Midterm:** March 3
- **Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday:** January 20
- **Spring Break:** March 17-March 23

You’ll find a schedule for what you should do each week in the lesson plan for each module. **Do not consult the D2L calendar for daily activities.** Follow the lesson plan.