

Syllabus

Instructors: Professor Jonathan Morse and mentor Dax Garcia. Professor Morse's office: Kuykendall 518 TTh 2:30-3:20 and by appointment; phone 956-8802, e-mail jmorse@hawaii.edu

The web page where class documents will be posted: jonathanmorse.net. Two documents posted there that you'll need to know about are my document "Classroom Policies" and the university's statement of student learning outcomes for English 100.

Texts: Jane E. Aaron, *The Little, Brown Essential Handbook*, seventh edition
Customized reader *English 100, Section 39*
A desk dictionary

The general idea of the course: Come to class, do what I say, and you'll see: by the end of the semester you'll probably read and write better than you do now, and with less agony for you and your readers too. There will be no exams except for a practice run toward the end of the semester, when we'll be getting ready for sophomore literature, but you'll be turning in a piece of writing about every other week: minimum length two double-spaced pages (about 500 words), maximum length five pages. Not counting in-class exercises or the exam, you'll write about 24 pages over the course of the semester, graded this way:

Paper 1, two pages, 10%

Paper 2, a three-page revision of paper 1, 15%

Paper 3, four pages, 15%

Paper 4, a five-page draft: pass-fail: pass if you do it, fail if you don't

Paper 5, revision of paper 4: five pages, 20%

Paper 6, five pages, 20%

Practice sophomore literature exam, 20%

I grade on the +/- system, with an A worth 4.0 points, an A- 3.7, a B+ 3.3, a B 3.0, etc. Dax will meet with each of you on a regular basis, and for that purpose he'll be setting up a schedule which you'll be expected to adhere to. For other requirements, see the document "Classroom Policies" on the web page.

Tentative calendar

- 1/10 Introduction and writing exercise
12 Writing exercise discussed; the idea of predication. Paper 1 assigned.
- 17, 19 Predication and sentences: Aaron parts 2 and 3. Paper 1 due January 19; sign up for conferences.
- 24, 26 No class. One at a time, per the conference schedule, you'll meet with me in my office to discuss your writing, then go home and revise paper 1 into paper 2.
- 31 Paper 2 due and discussed.
2/2 Aaron part 4. Reader: Thomas.
- 7, 9 Data and analysis. Aaron part 1. Reader: Garfield. Paper 3 assigned February 9.
- 14, 16 Description and exposition. Reader: Kapuscinski and Hills. Paper 3 due.
- 21, 23. The idea of style. We'll discuss paper 3 and, in the reader, the essay by Eiseley.
- 28 For a library orientation session, we'll meet today in Hamilton 113. Take a sweater.
3/1 Back in HIG, we'll practice documentation with some material from *The New York Times* and talk about how to get an idea for paper 4, the five-page draft.
- 6, 8 More work with paper 4. It's due on March 8. Sign up for conferences.
- 13, 15 In conference, we discuss your paper 4.
- 20, 22 Reader: we compare Eiseley's style with Garfield's. Paper 5 due March 22.
- 27, 29 Spring break.
- 4/3 Paper 5 discussed, with the reader. Paper 6 assigned.
5, 10, 12 One more pair of essays in the reader: Eighner and Rodriguez.
- 17 Paper 6 due and discussed. Reader: toward sophomore literature with Swift.
19, 24 Swift.
26 The practice sophomore literature exam, about Swift.
- 5/2 Exam discussed. Remember what Ezra Pound said: "Literature is news that STAYS news."
- No final.