Course Information:
English 201: English Composition II, Section 985
Murray 1006, Mondays 4-6 p.m.
Spring 2011

Instructor Information:
Dr. Kelly O. Secovnie
Office: N 714
Office hours: Mondays 12 p.m. - 2 p.m. and Tuesdays from 1-2 p.m. or by appointment
Office phone: 212-220-8000 ext. 5131
Email: ksecovnie@bmcc.cuny.edu

Prerequisites:
Students must have passed English 101 or its equivalent to enroll in this course.

Course Description:
As the second part of English 101, English 201 will build on students’ reading and writing skills through the use of literature. Students will read and respond to literature written in a variety of genres from poetry, to fiction, to essays and plays. In addition, students will read and respond to literary criticism and theory that addresses the content and form of the various literary pieces they read. Students will build skills in analysis and argument, using research and correctly-cited MLA form documentation of their research. In this way, students will find themselves prepared for college-level reading and writing, and they will become overall better critical writers and thinkers.

The Nature of a Hybrid Course:
This course may be a bit different from those you have experienced in the past. Instead of having all of our class meetings in person, we will be meeting both in a physical classroom and via Blackboard (online course software). This means that you will need to have access to a computer with a reliable internet connection on a daily basis as well as the means and ability to come to class in person on assigned class days. These days are laid out in the course schedule. In addition, you will be expected to participate in class discussions and blogs on Blackboard. These are an integral part of the course, just like the major essay assignments, and you are expected to keep up with the work of the course as it is laid out in the course schedule. If you have any questions about how the course works, please contact me via Blackboard under the Communication tab, or via email at ksecovnie@bmcc.cuny.edu.

Required texts:

Important Note: please purchase the listed editions (4th edition of Legacies and Norton Critical Edition of Things Fall Apart), as you will need to use the supplementary essays and materials in your research and writing.
**Course Schedule:**
Pay close attention to the course schedule. On it, you will find all of the topics addressed in class, the homework assignments, and the due dates for your four major essays.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>English 201 Learning Outcomes:</th>
<th>Means of assessment</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Acquire a critical appreciation of the nuances and complexities of a variety of literary texts</td>
<td>Student blogs, discussion board posts, essays 1-4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Define and apply literary terms to analyses of texts within several literary genres</td>
<td>Student blogs, discussion board posts, essays 1-4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Write at least four well-developed, thesis-driven argument and analysis essays that use evidence from literary texts and incorporate research, and are comprised of clear, grammatically-correct, effective sentences in well-organized paragraphs</td>
<td>Essays 1-4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Frame research questions; plan research strategies; find and evaluate sources using the BMCC Library and the BMCC Library Website; present the results of research</td>
<td>Research proposal, annotated bibliography, participation in Library research day, Essays 3 and 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Correctly use the conventions of MLA documentation and citation, including a “Works Cited” page</td>
<td>Essays 2-4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>General Education Outcomes:</th>
<th>Means of Assessment</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Communication Skills—students will express ideas clearly in written form, employ critical readings skills to analyze written material, and exhibit active listening skills.</td>
<td>Student blog and discussion board posts and responses, class discussions, Essays 1-4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Values—students will demonstrate awareness of their own values and beliefs while showing respect for the ideas, values and beliefs of others; demonstrate an appreciation of social and cultural diversity; appreciate personal and social responsibilities; and demonstrate commitment to lifelong learning.</td>
<td>Student blog and discussion board posts and responses, responses to culturally-diverse texts in Essays 1-4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Arts &amp; Humanities—students will develop knowledge and understanding of the arts and literature by critiquing various works of literature.</td>
<td>Student blog and discussion board posts and responses, Essays 1-4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Information &amp; Technology Literacy—students will collect, evaluate, and interpret information and effectively use information technologies by conducting research using appropriate research strategies.</td>
<td>Effective use of Blackboard course software, participation in Library day, research proposal, and annotated bibliography</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Course Requirements and Evaluation of Students:**
This course is graded A through F based on attendance, discussion board and blog assignments, research assignments, and four formal essays you will write throughout the semester. A minimum of four formal essays is required, for a total of 15 to 20 typed graded pages, and one cannot pass the course without having completed all four essays assignments.
Breakdown of Grades:

Attendance: (total of 70 points)
We will have seven in-person meetings worth 10 points each (2 points will be docked for lateness).

Essays: (total of 700 points)
Essays #1 and #2: 150 points each
Essays #3 and #4: 200 points each

Research Assignments: (total of 90 points)
Research proposal: 30 points
Annotated bibliography: 60 points

Discussion Board and Blog assignments: (total of 140 points)
Seven discussion board assignments at 10 points each
Seven personal blog assignments at 10 points each

Grand total: 1,000 points. At the end of the semester, I will drop one attendance grade, and I will drop the lowest discussion board and blog assignment grade.

Academic Adjustments for Students with Disabilities:
Students with disabilities who require reasonable accommodations or academic adjustments for this course must contact the Office of Accessibility (Room N-320, phone: (212) 220-8180). You may also see their website at http://www.bmcc.cuny.edu/disabled/Office of Students with Disabilities. BMCC is committed to providing equal access to all programs and curricula to all students.

BMCC Policy on Plagiarism and Academic Integrity Statement:
Plagiarism is the presentation of someone else’s ideas, words, or artistic, scientific or technical work as one’s own creation. Using the idea or work of another is permissible only when the original author is identified. Paraphrasing and summarizing, as well as direct quotations require citations of the original source. Plagiarism may be intentional or unintentional. Lack of dishonest intent does not necessarily absolve a student of responsibility for plagiarism.

Students who are unsure how and when to provide documentation are advised to consult with their instructors. The library has guides designed to help students to appropriately identify a cite work. The full policy can be found on BMCC’s web site. For further information on integrity and behavior, please consult the college bulletin (also available online).

One Final Note:
If at any time during the semester you find that you are struggling to complete assignments, need clarification about the work you’re doing, or would like extra feedback on your writing, I am happy to meet with you outside of class time, either during my office hours or by appointment, to help you. My goal is to offer you tools to learn to be a better writer and I am happy to help in any way I can to work with you to accomplish that goal. Please do not wait until you have become overwhelmed to contact me. Instead, know that this course will be challenging and that you may require additional help from time to time. This is a normal part of the process, and I am happy to help, though I cannot help you if you do not let me know of your difficulties.