ENGL 102-Section 23
Spring 2009
Hume 112
MWF 12:00-12:50

**Instructor Reserves The Right To Alter This Syllabus At Any Time**

Required Texts:

*Ecology of a Cracker Childhood*, Janisse Ray
*The World Without Us*, Alan Weisman
*Hot, Flat, and Crowded*, Thomas L. Friedman
*Eating Animals*, Jonathan Safran Foer

*The Curious Researcher*, Bruce Ballanger
A DICTIONARY

Course Objectives:

After completing the course, students should be able:

- to read, think, and write critically with regard to the assigned texts.
- to organize ideas using a variety of strategies.
- to revise, edit, and improve writing through multiple drafts.
- to employ efficient study and time management skills.
- to write an effective research essay.

Course Requirements:

This course requires a significant amount of reading as well as writing. We will examine the assigned texts for content, form, comparison, and ways in which the strategies of the authors might be applied to your own writing.

Grades for this course will be determined on a 300-point scale.

In Class Participation (50 points): You will be required to participate in class discussions on a daily basis. You cannot participate in discussions if you have not completed your daily reading. Completion of reading assignments is PARAMOUNT to your success in this course. You will also have opportunities to gain participation points by bringing your dictionary to class every day.

Attendance: You are allowed three (3) absences in this course with no penalty. THE DEPARTMENT DOES NOT DIFFERENTIATE BETWEEN EXCUSED AND UNEXCUSED ABSENCES. After your third absence, you will lose ½ a letter grade for each subsequent absence. If you are absent 10 times or more, you fail the course. If an
extenuating circumstance arises contact me immediately, and I will attempt to work out a reasonable solution.

**Quizzes (60 points):** You will have two unannounced quizzes for each text worth 7.5 points each. If you are absent the day of a quiz, you will NOT have the opportunity to make it up.

**Responses (60 points):** For each text, you will turn in a one-page, single-spaced response to the text worth 15 points each. These responses are informal, but they should reflect thought and time.

**Essay (130 points):** Students will write three essays outside of class, and each essay will increase in length and point value. Points will be assigned as follows: Response Essay-25 points, Compare/Contrast Essay-25 points, Research Project Essay-60 points. Prior to each essay, you will receive a handout of essay guidelines that detail exactly what is expected of you for each essay.

**Plagiarism (0 points):** Plagiarism will NOT be tolerated in this classroom. Instructors now have many resources at their disposal with regard to plagiarism. If you choose to attempt to pass off the work others as your own, I will catch you. You will automatically receive a 0 for the assignment and, depending on the severity of the offense, you may receive a failing grade for the course and/or be reported to the university for Academic Dishonesty.

**Students with Disabilities:** Please note that it is the responsibility of any student with an authenticated disability to contact the Office of Student Disability Services in Martindale Hall (915-7128) to arrange for classroom accommodations. Such students need to acquire a form from that office to deliver to me early in the semester so appropriate measures can be taken.

**Internet Access and Technology:** It is important that you have access to the internet and that you activate your webmail accounts if you have not done so. Check your email regularly! Information crucial to your academic success is transmitted through this channel on a daily basis.

While I appreciate that we are living in a technological age, I ask that you refrain from using your cell phones for ANY reason in the classroom. Do yourselves a favor and get in the habit of turning your phones OFF when you enter ANY classroom.