Topics in Writing (WRTG/PWR 3020)
Heroism: From Troy to Vietnam

COURSE DESCRIPTION AND REQUIREMENTS

Dr. Fredricksmeyer
Email/Office Hours/Phone: see opposite side

COURSE DESCRIPTION
This course uses a variety of material, from Homer's Odyssey to Lt. Col. Dave Grossman's On Killing, as starting points for four critical essays that address a variety of questions concerning the nature of both male and female heroism.

REQUIRED BOOKS
Available at the CU Book Store in the Student Union.
—Homer's Odyssey, trans. Lombardo
—Sophocles. The Three Theban Plays, trans. Fagles
—Euripides IV, trans. Grene et al.

RECOMMENDED BOOK
Webster's Collegiate Dictionary (or a comparable, unabridged, college-level dictionary)

ELECTRONIC BULLETIN BOARD
You will post your papers electronically. To do so, you need to have an e-mail account, and possess some basic computer skills, including the ability to:

(1) use a text editor such as Word,
(2) go to a web site, register your name and email address, and
(3) use that site's electronic bulletin board.

I will give a tutorial on (2) and (3), but you need to be either comfortable with such uses of the web or willing to learn them.

WEB SITE
For downloading any handouts you miss in class: http://spot.colorado.edu/~fredrice.
Click link for Topics in Writing, and then for Handouts.

GRADING
(1) Each of your four papers counts for 21.25% of your semester grade, or 85% altogether.

(2) Class participation, i.e. your contribution in class to the work of other students, and minor writing assignments count for 15% of your total grade.

(3) Each paper is graded as follows: 25% of the paper's total grade for the first draft, 25% for the second draft, and 50% for the final draft.

(4) 5 points will be subtracted from an essay's final score for every day a first or second draft is late, unless the student can provide a doctor's note for the day on which the draft was due. (Wardenburg has walk-in appointments every day).

(5) No late final drafts are accepted.

(6) There is no Final Exam.

(7) There are no extra credit assignments, and no curve.
WORKSHOP FORMAT
You will develop and revise each of your essays with the help of every other student and me through class discussions.

ATTENDANCE
Since it is especially important in a workshop format for all members of the class to participate in discussion, each absence over three (unless explained by a doctor’s note) will lower your final grade one point (A to A- to B+, etc.). Six absences count as an F for the semester grade.

BEING ON TIME
Late arrivals disrupt the class and are discourteous to your fellow students and me. Therefore, please be on time. If you arrive late, do not walk across the front of the classroom. Three late arrivals count as an absence.

NO CELL PHONES OR FOOD, PLEASE!

PLAGIARISM
Since you write several drafts of each essay, and we discuss your writing at every stage, plagiarism is virtually impossible. But if it does occur, severe sanctions provided by University rules will be imposed.

EMAIL/OFFICE HOURS/PHONE
Please email me (fredrice@colorado.edu) only in emergencies. Normally, it is best for us to speak in person, before or after class, or during my office hours. If you do email me, you should consider it formal communication. Consequently, if you email me:
1) address me in the body of your message (Dear Dr. Fredricksmeier),
2) use upper- and lowercase letters, as appropriate,
3) check your spelling and grammar.
I will read only those messages that follow these conventions.

My office hours are TTR 9:30-11 in TB1-202. My phone number is 303-492-3606.

SPECIAL NOTES
If you qualify for accommodations because of a disability, please submit to me a letter from disability Services in a timely manner so that your needs may be addressed. Disability Services determines accommodations based on documented disabilities. (303-492-8671, Willard 322, www.Colorado.EDU/disabilityservices)

I will make every effort to reasonably and fairly accommodate students who, because of religious obligations, have conflicts with scheduled exams, or required attendance. Please make sure to speak with me about such matters well beforehand.