

Appendix 1: Grade Contract for ENG345, Spring 2019

To earn an A in the course, students should:

- Complete a substantial student-directed project; the project should be revised and edited for clarity, contain accurate information, and engage a public audience. It should contribute meaningfully to the course and to the course blog. It must meet or exceed all requirements for the project laid out in the assignment sheet.
- Post two discussion lead posts to the blog by the date and time they are due, and respond substantively to the comments made by others on those posts.
- Write and post a film review by the date you've signed up for; the review should meet all the requirements on the assignment sheet, use concepts covered in class in ways that help readers gain a richer appreciation of the film, be written in a way accessible for a public audience, and be revised and edited; responds meaningfully to reader comments, through clearly marked edits and/or as replies in the comments section.
- Go beyond the minimum requirement of one weekly response to blog posts—comment regularly on others' posts in ways that contribute meaningfully to the conversation.
- Correctly answer over 80 percent of the questions on the midterm exam.
- Write a film analysis essay that demonstrates critical thinking, exemplary use of source material, and that while building upon ideas covered in class, pushes or develops those ideas in insightful ways; the paper may engage with sources that exceed the minimum number required and/or engage with more lengthy or difficult sources. The essay must

satisfy all the requirements for the assignment, as laid out in the assignment sheet; the student may undertake substantial revisions across drafts.

- Attend both the midterm and final conferences, coming prepared and using the discussion to further revise and/or develop your work in the class.
- Submit a final reflection that engages with a range of ideas from the course and addresses your growth as a writer, communicator, and critical thinker.
- Attendance: Does not accrue more than three unexcused absences; completes alternative assignments or other make-up work to make up for days missed due to an excused absence, as laid out in the attendance policy in the course syllabus.

To earn a B in the course, students should:

- Complete a successful student-directed project; the project should be revised and edited for clarity, contain accurate information, and engage a public audience. It must meet all requirements for the project laid out in the assignment sheet.
- Post two discussion lead posts to the blog by the date and time they are due.
- Write and post a film review by the date you've signed up for; the review should meet all the requirements on the assignment sheet, be written in a way accessible for a public audience, and be revised and edited; responds meaningfully to reader comments, through clearly marked edits and/or as replies in the comments section.
- Go beyond the minimum requirement of one weekly response to blog posts—comment regularly on others' posts in ways that contribute meaningfully to the conversation.
- Correctly answer over 70 percent of the questions on the midterm exam.

- Write a film analysis essay that demonstrates critical thinking; uses source material in formally and ethically correct ways; the essay must satisfy all the requirements for the assignment, as laid out in the assignment sheet. The student may show significant revision across drafts.
- Attend both the midterm and final conferences, coming prepared and using the discussion to further revise and/or develop your work in the class.
- Submit a final reflection that engages with a range of ideas from the course and addresses your growth as a writer, communicator, and critical thinker.
- Attendance: Does not accrue more than four unexcused absences; completes alternative assignments or other make-up work to make up for days missed due to an excused absence, as laid out in the attendance policy in the course syllabus.

To earn a C, students should:

- Post two discussion lead posts to the blog by the date and time they are due.
- Write and post a film review by the date you've signed up for; the review should meet all the requirements on the assignment sheet, be written in a way accessible for a public audience, and be revised and edited.
- Meet the minimum requirement of one weekly response to blog posts.
- Correctly answer over 50 percent of the questions on the midterm exam.
- Write a film analysis essay that satisfies all the requirements for the assignment, as laid out in the assignment sheet, such as source use and length requirements.
- Attend and come prepared to both the midterm and final conferences.

- Submit a final reflection that engages with a range of ideas from the course and addresses your growth as a writer, communicator, and critical thinker.
- Attendance: Does not accrue more than five unexcused absences; completes alternative assignments or other make-up work to make up for days missed due to an excused absence, as laid out in the attendance policy in the course syllabus.
- A student-directed project is not required to earn a C for the course; however, a student who might otherwise earn a lower grade (such as due to absences or because of not completing the required blog posts and responses, for example) might negotiate with the instructor to complete a student-directed project as a way to improve their grade. A student-directed project used in this way must still meet all the requirements for the project, as laid out in the assignment sheet.

Students may earn a D for the course if they:

- Post only one discussion lead to the blog, or make posts that are off-topic, underdeveloped, or late.
- Write and post a film review by the date you've signed up for; the review might be late, and may contain significant clarity, grammatical, or typographical problems that interfere with understanding.
- Do not meet the minimum number of weekly posts, but still meet at least 50 percent of that required number.
- Correctly answer over 30 percent of the questions on the midterm exam, but less than 50 percent.

- Write a film analysis essay that shows signs of engaging with most of the requirements for the assignment, as laid out in the assignment sheet, but does not succeed at meeting them.
- Attend and come prepared to both the midterm and final conferences.
- Submit a final reflection that engages with ideas from the course and addresses your growth as a writer, communicator, and critical thinker.
- Attendance: Does not accrue more than five unexcused absences; completes alternative assignments or other make-up work to make up for days missed due to an excused absence, as laid out in the attendance policy in the course syllabus.
- A student-directed project is not required to earn a D for the course; however, a student who might otherwise earn a lower grade (such as due to absences or because of not completing the required blog posts and responses, for example) might negotiate with the instructor to complete a student-directed project as a way to improve their grade. A student-directed project used in this way might attempt to meet all the requirements for the project, but may not succeed at doing so.

Students will earn an F for the course if they:

- Post one or no discussion leads to the blog.
- Do not write or post a film review; the review may be significantly incomplete, unedited, off-topic, and/or not meet other significant assignment requirements.
- Meet less than 50 percent of the minimum required weekly responses to blog posts.
- Correctly answer 30 percent or less on the midterm exam.

- Do not complete the film analysis and/or do not meet the assignment requirements (for example, by using not enough scholarly sources; not meeting the length requirement; not engaging the topic of the prompt).
- Do not attend one or both of the conferences; or come to the conferences unprepared and remain unengaged during the conference.
- Do not submit a final reflection, or a reflection that is off topic or incomplete.
- Attendance: Miss six or more class session and/or does not make up work for excused absences, such that those absences put you over the allowable number, as laid out in the attendance policy in the course syllabus.

Plagiarism and academic dishonesty: In cases where student work and/or other conduct in class violates the university's Academic Integrity policy, consideration of that student's work will be moved outside of this grade contract and instead be responded to in accordance with the Academic Integrity Policy.