

INTD 100
Viruses in Action
Syllabus - Fall 2005

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Office Hours: Tuesday 2:00 – 4:00 PM
 Wednesday 9:30 – 11:00 AM
 Friday 10:00 – 11:30 AM

Required Textbooks:

The Random House Handbook by Frederick Crews
The Demon in the Freezer by Richard Preston
The Hot Zone by Richard Preston
And The Band Played On by Randy Shilts
The Kite Runner by Khaled Hosseini

Recommended Text:

Dictionary

The purpose of this course is to prepare you to write college level papers. This involves a balance of critical thinking skills based on reading materials as well as being able to develop and organize your thoughts into a coherent argument that supports a thesis statement. The content upon which your papers will be based revolves around how emerging viruses have affected the human population in recent years. We will focus our attention on the nature of viruses themselves and use the specific examples of the smallpox virus, the Ebola virus, and the AIDS virus (HIV) to understand the impact of viruses on human beings.

You will be required to write four papers in this course. Each paper, except for the last paper, will have a structured revision. This will enable you to understand that writing papers is a process of revision over a period of time and that writing one draft of a paper is not adequate. By the end of the course, the process of revising your paper should be a natural part of writing papers without having a structured revision demanded by the professor. I will give you specific instructions for each paper that will explain the topic of the paper, the length of the paper, and anything else that needs further elaboration. The last paper of the semester will be a research paper that will require you to use outside sources (i.e. - journals, books, internet) to provide the information needed to write at least part of the paper.

The tentative schedule for the course is as follows. I expect that you will read the appropriate parts of each book in a timely fashion to be able to discuss the material in class. In order to ensure that you do the readings, I will occasionally require you to turn in reading notes or study questions based on the readings. There can be no discussion unless everyone is on the same page.

If you have a specific disability that qualifies you for academic accommodations, please contact Disability Services for letter of accommodation.

Tentative Schedule

- Friday (9/9) Introduction
Discussion of The Kite Runner
Homework assignment:
First paper - Due Wednesday (9/14)
Paper based on The Kite Runner
- Monday (9/12) Discussion of The Kite Runner
- Wednesday (9/14) First paper due
Proper referencing of work and Academic Honesty
- Friday (9/16) Introduction to viruses
- Monday (9/19) Return first paper
Read sample papers/Writing as a Process
Homework assignment:
Read RHH (pgs. 67-76) for Wednesday
Revise first paper – Due Friday (9/30)
- Wednesday (9/21) Thesis statement and introductory paragraph
Homework Assignment:
Read RHH (pgs. 83-91) for Friday
- Friday (9/23) Supporting thesis statement
Topic sentences and paragraph development
Homework assignment:
Write an outline – due Monday (9/26)
- Monday (9/26) Revising outlines
Transitions between paragraphs
Homework Assignment
Read The Hot Zone – part I for Wednesday
- Wednesday (9/28) Discuss The Hot Zone – part I
- Friday (9/30) Revised First paper due
Discussion of viruses
Homework Assignment:
Read The Hot Zone – part II for Monday
Second paper - Due Monday (10/10)
- Monday (10/3) Discuss The Hot Zone – part II
Homework Assignment:

Read The Hot Zone – part III and IV for Wednesday

- Wednesday (10/5) Discuss The Hot Zone – part III and IV
- Friday (10/7) Homework assignment:
Read The Demon in The Freezer for Wednesday
Something in the Air
The Dreaming Demon
- Monday (10/10) Second paper due
- Wednesday (10/12) Discuss The Demon in the Freezer
Homework assignment:
Read The Demon in the Freezer for Monday
To Bhola Island
The Other Side of The Moon
- Friday (10/14) Return second paper
Discuss revision for second paper
Concession and Refutation
- Monday (10/17) Discuss The Demon in the Freezer
- Wednesday (10/19) Revised second paper due
- Friday (10/21) Mid Semester Break! no class meeting
- Monday (10/24) Discuss The Demon in the Freezer
Homework assignment:
Read The Demon in the Freezer for Wednesday
A Woman With a Peaceful Life
The Demon's Eyes
- Wednesday (10/26) Discuss The Demon in the Freezer
Homework assignment:
Third paper due Friday (11/4)
Read The Demon in the Freezer for Friday
Anthrax Skulls
Superpox
- Friday (10/28) Discuss The Demon in the Freezer
- Monday (10/31) Writing issues
Homework assignment:
Read Band (pgs. 3-60) for Wednesday

Wednesday (11/2)	Discuss Band Homework assignment:
Friday (11/4)	Third paper due
Monday (11/7)	Revised third paper due Friday (11/11) Revising the paper Grammar
Wednesday (11/9)	Parametric Method Homework assignment: Read Band (pgs. 61-112) for Monday
Friday (11/11)	Revised third paper due Writing an analytical paper Homework assignment: Fourth paper – due Monday (12/12) Outline of fourth paper – due Monday (11/21)
Monday (11/14)	Discuss Band Homework Assignment: Read Band (pgs. 466-503) for Wednesday
Wednesday (11/16)	Discuss Band Homework Assignment: Read Band (pgs. 405-465) for Friday
Friday (11/18)	Watch the movie “And The Band Played On”
Monday (11/21)	Outline of Research paper due Watch the movie “And The Band Played On”
Wednesday (11/23)	Watch the movie “And The Band Played On”
Friday (11/23)	Thanksgiving Break!!
Monday (11/28)	
Wednesday (11/30)	
Friday (12/2)	
Monday (12/5)	
Wednesday (12/7)	

Friday (12/9)

Monday (12/12) Fourth and final paper due

Grading:

Papers	70%	- paper 1	= 10%
		- paper 2	= 15%
		- paper 3	= 20%
		- paper 4	= 25%
Other Assignments	30%		

Academic Honesty and Plagiarism:

“When we engage in scholarship, we seek answers to questions we care about; we learn from others’ work, and we add our contributions to a growing body of knowledge. By citing sources whose work has helped to shape our own, we identify ourselves as members of a community made up of fellow seekers of knowledge. However, we cannot honestly value that knowledge unless we also value truth. Acts of academic honesty are lies.” (Whittier College Catalog, pg. 25)

You are expected to do your own work and write your own papers, and to properly cite other works if ideas or facts from other people are used to support one’s arguments. Failure to do so is plagiarism. Depending on the severity of the offense, plagiarism will result in a one letter grade deduction for minor offenses (unintentional or improper citations) to an F for the paper for major offenses such as not citing large sections of the paper or turning in a paper that you did not write to an F in the course for multiple offenses.