**English 1023**, Composition II, Fall 2005

**Prerequisite:** Successful completion of English 1013 (with a grade of “C” or better)

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**Reading Responses:** You will write your own responses to **each assigned reading** and post it on the My NWACC message board each week before class. Keep printed copies of your submissions to include in your journal folder.

You are encouraged to dialogue with other members of the class about your reading responses within the message board.

Late responses receive a grade of zero.

In your entry, answer the questions that come after the selection **OR** follow the suggestions on pages 3-9 of *Exploring Literature*. If you answer the questions, be sure to use complete sentences and refer to the question in your answer.

Sample reading responses will be uploaded to the message board for your reference.

Additional notes on responding to literature

**1. Writing responses helps you see what you think more clearly.**

Responses can help you view and review your own ideas, and in the process help you modify and extend them in different directions. Write in your most natural voice. Don’t worry about sounding profound: try instead to pin down and express what interests or annoys you or makes you curious or confused. One of the best things you can do with your responses is to look for connections to other ideas, themes, essays, stories, poems, or what others in the class had to say about these things.

**2. Reading the responses of other readers enriches your experience.**

By seeing what your classmates think and feel about the works you read, you have an opportunity to consider other perspectives. Often someone else’s comments will help you understand something new about the work. When you reply to another student’s posting, be generous with your thoughts. Good literature has a way of connecting us as human beings, helping us appreciate our differences while recognizing what we have in common. Seek to make those connections work for you.

**3. Your responses will “build” into the material from which you derive your essays.**

If you are conscientious about writing your response, your thesis statements and essays will emerge naturally from them. The most important ingredients in your essay will not be the positions you take, but rather the evidence you bring to support those positions and the clarity with which you express them.