

Advanced Composition
Lit 3309.501 Class #23335
Course Syllabus
Spring 2013
Credit Hours: 3
Wednesdays: 7:00– 9:45
Room JO3.906

Instructor: Professor Canby
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Office: JO 5.109
Office hours: Before class and by appointment

Course Description

Advanced composition aims to enhance your connection between active reading, critical thinking, and thoughtful writing as you work on learning rhetorical strategies from the readings and applying them to your writing. This course is based on the notion that the development of ideas is a communal process. As such, you will form writing groups devoted to the peer editing process. We will explore a variety of texts including fiction, non-fiction and analyze them for audience purpose and argument. As a community of writers, we will read, discuss and react to challenging texts: write short weekly reaction/position papers; and research, compose and revise two essays of substantial length.

Texts and Supplies

Required:

Robert Scholes, Nancy Comley and Gregory Ulmer, *Text Book: Writing Through Literature*. 3rd ed. Bedford/St. Martins, 2002
ISBN: 0312-24879-2
Joseph Gibaldi, *MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers*. 7th ed. Modern Language Association, 2009.
ISBN: 978-1-60329-024-1

Recommended Textbooks:

Verburg, Carol J, ed. *Ourselves Among Others: Readings from Home and Abroad*. 4th. Ed. New York: Bedford St. Martin's, 2000.
Williams, Joseph. *Style: Lessons in Clarity and Grace*. 10th ed. New York: Pearson Longman, 2009.

Additional Required Materials

A dictionary and thesaurus (as sources of reference)
A working UTD email address. Non-UTD email address cannot be used for school-related correspondence according to UTD regulations
A grammar handbook. You can find these at Half Price Books. Usually, they have a soft cover and are spiral bound.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES: Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to do the following:

- Expand creative thinking
- Enhance ability to think critically
- Improve problem-solving skills
- Improve writing ability
- Improve communication skills
- Increase knowledge of literary modes and literature
- Learn to interact in team projects

COURSE REQUIREMENTS:

1. Assigned readings
2. One research project
3. Three Position Papers
4. Two essays
5. Creative in class assignments
7. Active class participation and cooperation in group peer review activities

METHOD OF PRESENTATION: This course will include open discussions, collaborative group discussion; video presentations, lectures and videotapes.

METHOD OF EVALUATION: Instead of a final exam that will not be taken in the classroom a Research Paper will be due the week of finals . Student’s grade will be assessed as follows below:

Grading

Essay #1	15% (15 pt)
Essay #2	15% (15 pt)
Reaction/Position Papers (3)	25% (8 pts each)
Research paper	20% (20 pts)
Homework/In class writing	25%

GRADE Scale

A+ = 100	A = 95	A- = 90
B+ = 89	B = 85	B- = 80
C+ = 79	C = 75	C- = 70
D+ = 69	D = 60	D- = 60
F = 59 and below		

Papers

In this course, you will complete two formal essays, three shorter “reaction/position papers,” and a research paper that will be an enhanced and an enlarged essay #1 or #2.

Points will be taken off if you do not include your outline, citation page, a clear thesis statement and the paper must be in MLA format.

Essay #1 – You will write an essay in your favorite rhetorical style (Cause and Effect, Narrative, Argumentative, Descriptive or Compare and Contrast). The subject can be of your own choosing. If it is a literary subject, please discuss the book with the professor. An outline of the essay is also required and should be submitted with the paper. The essay should be 5 pages in length and have a Citation page.

Essay #2- This essay will be at least seven pages in length, involve research, and address a topic from your chosen profession that you feel needs scholarly attention and will include five to eight sources (no internet sources will be allowed).

Research Paper: This paper will be an enhanced essay (#1 or #2) that will be at least 10 pages and include five sources (no internet sources) this may be on a subject of your choice or a literary discussion derived from classroom discussion or the readings from the Textbook. You must attach your original (Essay #1 or Essay #1).

Reaction/Position Papers (3)- Reaction/Position papers are essays which give you an opportunity to reflect, consider, and write subjects and themes that are in the readings or come from the discussions in the class. They are not research papers; you should draw from the assigned or the optional readings in the class to develop your viewpoints, ideas and conclusions. They must contain a clear thesis statement that states the main objective your paper. Reaction/Position papers are generally about 500-550 words or about 2 pages. If you cite sources in this paper do not forget a Citation page.

Submission Guidelines

Submit all manuscripts in hardcopy, stapled in the upper left-hand corner. Manuscripts should conform to guidelines provided in Chapter 4 of MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers (Seventh Edition). Manuscripts must be typed on white 8 ½ x 11 inch paper in either New Times Roman or Book Antigua typeface (12 point type). Please use a title page with your name, the assignment, date and the name of the course. Source documentation shall be in MLA style; citations and List of Works Cited shall conform to Chapter 5 and 6 of MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers (Seventh Edition); use italic type to indicate book and publication titles. If notes are required for clarity, they should be formatted as footnotes and consecutively numbered throughout the manuscript. No electronic submissions will be accepted, nor will submissions be accepted after the due date, unless late submission is approved by the instructor before the due date. All written work shall include a short, descriptive title.

Late Assignments:

You will lose points for each assignment; ten points for the first day the assignment is late and five points for each day thereafter.

Attendance, Participation and Related Issues

Please expect to attend EVERY class period. There is no way to make up class work, and class participation is vital to our learning community. You are expected to come to class well-prepared to participate in class discussion and group work with homework assignments completed. Please expect your final grade in this course to drop one half of a letter grade for every absence past one. Also, two tardies or leaving class early twice will count as one absence. Two bonus points will be added to student's final grades for perfect attendance.

PLEASE TURN OFF THE RINGERS OF YOUR PHONES. Vibrate is not acceptable unless you have an emergency situation. Text messaging will not be tolerated in class. If texting, you will be asked to leave the classroom and will have to have a private meeting with the instructor to gain re-entry to class on the next scheduled meeting day.

Peer Reviews/Workshops

Several class periods will have a peer editing section. Group members will bring two typed copies of their rough drafts of essays—one for peer editing and one for the instructor. Failure to turn a draft in to group members or the instructor will result in a lower final essay grade as well as point reduction for peer review. Peer edits may not be made up.

Academic Ethics:

Scholastic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to, statements, acts, or omissions related to applications for enrollment or the award of a degree, and/or the submission as one's own work material that is not one's own. Scholastic dishonesty may involve, but is not

limited to, one or more of the following acts: cheating, plagiarism, collusion, use of annotated texts or teacher's editions, and/or falsifying academic records.

Plagiarism is the use of an author's words or ideas as if they were one's own without giving credit or the source, including, but not limited to, failure to acknowledge a direct quotation, many cases of plagiarism are the result of careless documentation or faulty note taking. Unfortunately, the reader who finds the error, not knowing the writer's intent, can only assume the plagiarism is intentional or not, plagiarism in any paper will still carry serious penalties. Plagiarism, especially from the web, from portions of papers for other classes, and from any other source is unacceptable and will be dealt with under the university's policy on plagiarism (see general catalog for details). This course will use the resources of turnitin.com, which searches the web for possible plagiarism and is over 90% effective. The policy for LIT 3304.501 is that an assignment containing plagiarized material receives an automatic "F," and may be turned over to Judicial Affairs.

Student Conduct, Discipline, Academic Integrity, Handicap, and Religious Holiday information

This information is contained in the UTD publication *A to Z Guide, the Handbook of Operating Procedures and the Rules and Regulations, Board of Regents. The University of Texas System*. All of these publications are available online at utd.edu.

Useful Information

This facility provides free tutoring (Math, Writing etc.) in the Learning Resources Center located in the Conference Center (CN 1.3021). If you provide documentation that you brought your rough draft to the Writing Center, you will receive extra credit.

Disability Services; SU 1.610 (972-883-2098)

Student Counseling Center – Student Union 1.608 (972-883-2575)

UTD Writing Center – McDermott Library, 2nd floor, room 2.402 (972-883-6707)

McDermott Library reference librarian – Linda Snow (972-883-2626)

Withdrawal from Class

The administration of this institution has set deadlines for withdrawal of any college level courses. These dates are times are published in that semester's course catalog.

Administration procedures must be followed. It is the student's responsibility to handle withdrawal requirements from any class. You must do the proper paperwork to ensure that you will not receive a final grade of "F" in a course if you choose not to attend the class once you are enrolled.

Incomplete Grade Policy

As per university policy, incomplete grades will be granted only for work unavoidably missed at the semester's end and only if 70% of the course work has been completed. An

incomplete grade must be resolved within eight (8) weeks from the first day of the subsequent long semester. If the required work to complete the course and to remove the incomplete grade is not submitted by the specified deadline, the incomplete grade is changed automatically to a grade of F.

Reading Assignments and Exam/Paper Deadlines

We will change the syllabus if it is warranted and to the benefit of the student or if a situation warrants a change. *Text Book Writing through Literature* will be referred to as Text Book.

WK1 Jan16, Introduction, Brainstorming, Planning, Organizing, Writing: the Process

WK2 Jan23 Discuss Chapter 1 Text pages 29-62 Character

WK3 Jan 30, Discuss Chapter 2 Text pages 62-75 Language/Poetry

Due: Position Paper #1: How characterization is developed in a story (from Textbook)

WK4 Feb 6, Discuss Chapter 2 Text pages 75-95 Language/Poetry

WK5 Feb 13, Discuss Chapter 2 Text pages 95-142 Language/Parable/Analogy

Due: Peer Review Essay #1 bring 3 copies to class

WK6 Feb 20, Discuss Chapter 3 Text pages 150-176 Language/Parable/Analogy

Due: Essay #1 (with original essay attached)

WK7 Feb 27, Discuss Chapter 3 Text pages 176-190 Analyzing Texts

Due: Position Paper #2:Use of metaphor from a poem in Textbook

WK8 Mar 6, Discuss Chapter 3 Text pages 190-206 Analyzing Texts

Due: Peer Review Essay #2 bring 3 copies to class

Mar 13 Spring Break

WK9 Mar 20, Discuss Chapter 3 Text pages 207-229, Interpretation

WK10 Mar 27, Discuss Chapter 3 Text pages 230-239 Interpretation

WK11 April 3, Discuss Chapter 4 pages 240-276 Identification -- Roland Barthes

Due: Essay #2

WK12 April 10, Discuss Chapter 4 pages 276-312 Mystory

WK13 April 17, Discuss Chapter 4 pages 314-337 Naming

Due: Position Paper #3 subject: Archetypes in film/poetry/prose

WK 14 April 24, Discuss pages 338-352

WK 15 May 1 Discuss pages 352-376

WK 16 May 8 **Due Research Paper**

