Rhetoric 105: Principles of Composition
Section L4
8:00 - 9:15   T/R   English 108

Instructor: Patrick Fadely
Email: patrick.fadely@gmail.com
Office: 413
Office Hours: Tuesdays 9:15 - 10:15 or by appointment
Mailbox: 144

1. Required Texts and Materials:

*Writing at the University of Illinois* by Pendergrast, Nardi, and Holding. (ebook).
*SF Compact* by Ruszkiewicz, Friend, and Hairston. (ehandbook).

These texts can be purchased, and later accessed, through the following url:

[ http://www.pearsoncustom.com/il/rhetoric_illinois/ ]

The instructor will distribute all additional course materials either as handouts or via the web.

2. Other Resources:

The OWL @ Purdue website: http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl
The Writer's Workshop: http://www.cws.illinois.edu/workshop
University of Illinois Code of Policies and Regulations:
http://www.admin.illinois.edu/policy/code
Illinois Digital Environment for Access to Learning and Scholarship (IDEALS):
http://www.ideals.illinois.edu
COMPASS
http://compass.illinois.edu

**Students are also encouraged to maintain a personal Google account for the duration of the class.**

3. Course Description:

Principles of Composition is an introductory course in the craft of writing expository prose from evidence-based research. Students will learn the methods and conventions of using writing for the purposes of inquiry and argumentation, and will gain practice reading and thinking critically about a variety of texts, including their own.

This particular section of RHET 105 focuses on the ways in which race, ideology, and identity inform the space of the university. Students will be exposed to a variety of texts on the subject of race in general, and will apply what they learn there to the practice of writing with a persuasive and rhetorically informed awareness of their surroundings. Students will also consult the writing of fellow researchers here at the U of I, and will in turn have the opportunity to publish the findings of their research, both via the IDEALS website, and as a part of a student conference in April. The class is taught as a part of the Ethnography of the University Initiative.
4. Assignments:

*Primary Writing Projects:* There will be a total of 4 primary writing projects in this class.

1. Qualitative Inquiry Essay 15% of final grade
2. Sources Essay 15% of final grade
3. Research Proposal 25% of final grade
4. Research Project 25% of final grade

Each of these major assignments will entail several smaller-scale assignments designed to assist and guide the student through her or his writing process. Evaluations of student performance on these major projects will take account of the completeness and quality of these preparatory and intermediary tasks.

*Reading Responses:* Students will periodically be asked to write brief (~2 page) responses to the readings we are covering in class. These will generally be posted to COMPASS, MOODLE, or Google Docs.

*In-Class Writing:* Some portion of every class will be spent doing individual or collaborative writing, which will contribute to the assessment of the student's active participation in the class.

5. Evaluation:

The 4 major writing assignments comprise 80% of the final grade; participation counts for 20%.

"Participation" includes, but is not limited to: coming to every class prepared and on time, responding thoughtfully to the work of peers, taking part in class discussions, and completing each assignment by its due date.

Grading for the major writing projects will appear as written evaluative comments. These evaluations will reflect the degree to which the student has met with the goals of the assignment in question; they are intended to guide the student in her or his writing process. At midterm, students will have a chance to confer with the instructor regarding her or his overall performance to that date. Letter grades will be assigned at the end of the term.

6. Plagiarism:

The University of Illinois has high standards of academic integrity set out in Article 1, Part 4 of the University Student Code. According to the code, using words or ideas from another source as if they were your own is plagiarism, a violation of academic integrity. Submitting your own work for more than one course without acknowledgment can also constitute plagiarism. Ignorance of the code is not an excuse, so if you have questions about the definition of plagiarism, please consult the code at the following web address:

http://www.admin.uiuc.edu/policy/code/

The University Student Code also explains the consequences of plagiarism, which can include suspension or dismissal from the university.
7. Late Work:

All assignments should be turned in by their due dates. If the student is having trouble completing a given assignment within the allotted time, it is the student's responsibility to discuss the situation with their instructor, with a view to working out a solution. Adherence to deadlines is a necessary condition for success in this class.

In quantitative terms this means: the maximum possible points for any assignment will diminish by 10% per day late, including days between class periods, weekends and holidays.

8. Disabilities:

If you qualify as a student with a disability and you have special needs as a result, please see me as soon as possible.

9. Changes to the Calendar:

Though all the policies outlined in this syllabus are binding and firm, the instructor retains the right to make changes to the calendar based on the needs of the class.

10. Classroom Environment:

It is our responsibility as a class to create an environment where everybody feels they can participate and succeed. Language or action that shows disrespect for the gender, race, religion, ethnicity, sexuality, ability, beliefs, or ideas of any member of this class is unacceptable. For this reason, it is important to be conscious of your language and actions and try to give others the respect that you would like to receive.

----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

RHET 105, Fall 2009, Section C6

I have read and understood these ten items, and I accept the terms and policies articulated in this syllabus.

Name:____________________________________

Date:____________________________________

Signature:______________________________