HU101T-R2  A Course in Reading and Writing

Fall 1999; 11:05-11:55 MWF; Walker 143
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Office Hour: Th 1-3 pm (Walker 142)
Class Website: http://www.hu.mtu.edu/~hsun/hu101t/fall.html
Class Listserv: hu101t-l@mtu.edu

Course Description: HU101t introduces you to academic writing, with an emphasis on how to read complex, academic arguments. It is one of the two courses that will fulfill your "general education communications requirement." The second course is titled "Revisions: Oral, Written, and Visual Communication," which you will take next year.

The theme of this course is selves and identities. We start with the ordinary world that surrounds us and the common everyday life. For most of us, these familiar experiences often seem to go without saying. In this course, you will read and discuss the stories and arguments in the diverse, mass-mediated, multicultural realities of contemporary America. By rereading our culture critically, you are expected to consider many different perspectives of common culture and become a deliberative thinker through the analytical reading and deliberative writing processes in this course.

Some objectives of this course:
- To learn "rhetorical analysis"
- To learn how to discover the author's intention and the audience for a piece of writing
- To learn how to analyze various strategies used in a piece of writing
- To begin to learn how to write an extended argumentative paper

Books to Read:

Course Work:
Portfolio that includes 1) a 5 page textual analysis paper on The Tiger's Bride (pp247-260) that analyze the author's argument, intention, audience and central strategies; 2) a 4-5 page annotated bibliography that reflects your library research on your topic for final paper; 3) a final, 8 page argumentative paper on a subject you put together from the essays in the textbook and your own library research; 4) all of your responses such as reading, peer and written responses.

Netforum (http://www.hu.mtu.edu/cgi-bin/netforum/hu101t-r2/a/) is both an online discussion space and an online journal about the theme of this course. You're required to post your reading responses before the class. Twice in the term you're asked to print out your messages of reading response and put them into your portfolio together with other writings.

Short written response Occasionally you will be required to do some writing in or after the class.

Peer responses will help you develop a sense of audience during your writing process.

Grading
Writing (essays and responses): 60%  Participation: 25%  Netforum: 15%
You must complete all assignments to receive a passing grade in this course.
Attendance
Attendance is strongly recommended. If you cannot make it to class, please notify me before class; otherwise I will take it as an unexcused absence. An unexcused absence will make a difference in your final grade.

Course Schedule and Due Dates

week 1 9/8 Introduction
9/10 Rhetoric concepts and rhetorical analysis

week 2 9/13 Discuss Fashion pp49-72: intention/argument
9/15 Discuss Fashion pp73-83: symptomatic reading
9/17 Discuss Fashion pp86-101: underlying assumptions—ethos, pathos, and logos

week 3 9/20 Discuss Tales pp194-226: intention/structure/audience
9/22 Discuss Tales pp226-247: intention/structure/audience
9/24 Visuals: rhetorical analysis

week 4 9/27 Movie: To Die For
9/29 Textual Analysis and Portfolio Due; Movie: To Die For
10/1 Rhetorical analysis of movie

week 5 10/4 Conferences
10/6 Conferences
10/8 mid-term evaluations

week 6 10/11 Discuss Myth pp338-343, pp365-372: contents and argument
10/13 Discuss Myth pp374-394: contents and argument
10/15 Read pp3-7, pp13-48, Guidebook pp45-47: deliberative writing

week 7 10/18 Library Tour
10/20 Writing Workshop: finding your topic
10/22 Library Research

week 8 10/25 Annotated Bibliographies Due; Peer Response
10/27 Writing Workshop: style, mechanics, and audiences
10/29 Draft 1 of Argument Paper Due; Peer Critique

week 9 11/1 Conferences
11/3 Conferences
11/5 Conferences

week 10 11/8 Writing Workshop
11/10 Writing Workshop
11/12 Writing Workshop and Goodbyes

finals 11/15 Draft 2 of Argument Paper and Portfolio Due

(All the readings mentioned above are in Reading Our Histories, Understanding Our Cultures.)

Note: I reserve the right to revise the syllabus and/or course schedule to better serve students needs.