Revisions: Rhetoric in Oral, Written, and Visual Communication

UN2001 R10
Fall 2007
MWF 3:05—3:55, Walker 143

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Textbook and Required Materials:

This text will be referred to as cda in this syllabus.

You will also need a three-ring binder for your final portfolio assignment.

Course Description:
Welcome to Revisions: Rhetoric in Written, Oral and Visual Communication. This course is designed to strengthen students' abilities in critical thinking, analysis, production, and communication. Whether we are analyzing already-produced texts or creating our own, we will view them from a rhetorical and critical perspective. In addition to learning and applying rhetorical principles, this course will ask you to develop interesting and challenging questions for independent research. We will then use these questions in order to produce texts that effectively demonstrate our positions using elements of visual, written, and oral communication.

Grading Policy:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignments</th>
<th>Grading Scale</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3 Rhetorical Analyses</td>
<td>10%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Project 1</td>
<td>AB 92.99-88.0</td>
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<td>Project 2</td>
<td>B 87.99-80.0</td>
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<tr>
<td>Project 3</td>
<td>BC 79.99-72.0</td>
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<tr>
<td>Final Portfolio</td>
<td>C 71.99-66.0</td>
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<tr>
<td>Critical and Social Engagement</td>
<td>CD 65.99-58.0</td>
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<td></td>
<td>D 57.99-51.0</td>
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<td>F 50.99</td>
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(You must complete all assignments to receive a passing grade in this course.)
Final Portfolio Assignment:
Please remember to keep all of your work, including drafts and final Projects. These items will make up your final portfolio. Also, please keep separate electronic files of all of your work by naming each draft a different filename. This will help you produce a final portfolio that includes all of the necessary pieces from the semester. It is a good idea to email any work you complete to yourself, so that you have a back-up electronic file.

Attendance Policy:
If you are not in class, you are not able to effectively participate, which will affect your work and your critical and social engagement. Students are permitted to miss two classes per semester; subsequent absences will cause your grade to drop significantly. Any student missing more than eight days of class will not receive a passing grade for the course. No absences will be excused without notification from the Dean of Students (906.487.2212, studentaffairs@mtu.edu). Three late days will equal an absence. We will discuss our class tardiness policy together. What should our tardiness policy be?

Students are responsible for any work missed in class. Please contact a classmate in order to find out what was covered in class and any assignments you may have missed. (You will want to get a classmate's e-mail or phone number immediately.)

Classroom Policies:
We will discuss together in class what will cause disruptions to our classroom environment. What policies can we put into place that will make sure we maintain respect for one another during class discussions and other work throughout the semester? (Think about how late is "late," laptops, iPods, food, drinks, raising hands, group work, etc.)

I will not accept any formal assignments through e-mail. Please turn in hard copies of all assignments. Please see me if you will have difficulties printing your work for class this semester.

Late work will not be accepted more than one class day after the assignment is due.

No incomplete grades will be given for this course.

MTU Policy on Academic Integrity:
Plagiarism and cheating are serious academic offenses. They are defined by this policy as "knowingly copying another's work or ideas and calling them one's own or not giving proper credit or citation," and this policy covers copying sections or entire papers from printed or electronic sources as well as handing in papers written by students for other classes or purchasing academic papers. Plagiarism and cheating not only are dishonest but cheat you out of learning, the prime reason you are here. If you ever have questions about this issue, please talk with your instructor or consult a coach in the Writing Center (7-2007).

MTU Policy on Discrimination and Harassment:
MTU complies with all federal and state laws and regulations regarding discrimination, including the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) of 1990. If you have a disability and need reasonable accommodation for equal access to education and services at MTU, please call Dr. Gloria Melton, Dean of Students (7-2212). For other concerns about discrimination, you may contact your advisor, department chair, or the Affirmative Action Office (7-3319).
Course Calendar
(I reserve the right to revise the syllabus and/or course schedule to better serve student needs.)

Week 1
9/5  Introduction to Rhetorical Analysis
     For next class: Read syllabus, Read pages 23-29, 34-47 (from Chapters 1+2) in cda

Week 2
9/10 Syllabus Review, intro to textbook
      For next class: Find your own text for analysis, read pages 67-76 (from Chapter 3) in cda
9/12 Rhetorical Analysis (Part 1) purpose, context, audience
      For next class: Find your own text for analysis and bring it to class, read pages 80-86 (from Chapter 4) in cda
9/14 Rhetorical Analysis (Part 2) strategies, medium, arrangement
      For next class: Write a rhetorical analysis of your chosen text (see pages 320-323 for an example)

Week 3
9/17 Introduction to Project 1: Elements of Visual Communication, topic development
      For next class: Read pages 272-311 (from Chapter 9)
9/19 Elements of Visual Communication
      For next class: Look over poster examples (on web and in cda Chapter 10)
9/21 Ethos, Logos, and Pathos in Posters
      For next class: Look over comic and instruction set examples (on web and in cda Chapters 15 and 12)

Week 4
9/24 Comics, Instruction Sets
      For next class: Read pages 347-379, (from Chapter 11) in cda
9/26 Documentary Photography, or Visual Essays
      For next class: Design Plan for Project 1 - how can you find answers to your research question visually? Read pages 52-54 and 104 in cda.
9/28 Group Work with Project 1 Design Plans
      For next class: Revise Design Plan based on feedback, complete Initial Draft of Project 1

Week 5
10/1 Group responses to Initial Drafts (groups 1 and 2)
     For next class: Revision Plan for Next Draft
10/3 Group responses to Initial Drafts (groups 3 and 4)
     For next class: Revision Plan for Next Draft

Week 6
10/8 Group responses to Initial Drafts (groups 5 and 6)
     For next class: Revision Plan for Next Draft
10/10 Panic session for Final Drafts of Project 1
     For next class: Final Draft of Project 1
10/12 Introduction to Project 2, Elements of Written Communication
     For next class: Write a reflection on Project 1

Week 7
10/15 Rhetorical Analysis of a (Primarily) Written Text
      For next class: Read pages 188-212 (from Chapter 7) in cda
10/17 Elements of Written Communication
| Week 8 | 10/19 | The Essay  
For next class: Complete Rhetorical Analysis assignment |
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| Week 8 | 10/22 | Research Strategies Session, Design Plan Development for Project 2  
For next class: Design Plan for Project 2 - how can you find answers to your question through writing? (Review pages pages 52-54 in cda.) |
| Week 8 | 10/24 | Group Work with Project 2 Design Plan  
For next class: Revise Design Plan based on feedback |
| Week 9 | 10/26 | Library Research  
For next class: Work on research, Annotated Bibliography |
| Week 9 | 10/29 | Documentation Workshop  
For next class: Work on initial draft |
| Week 9 | 10/31 | Fine Tuning Drafts  
For next class: Bring works in progress to class |
| Week 10 | 11/2 | Proofreading Techniques  
For next class: Complete Initial Draft of Project 2 |
| Week 10 | 11/5 | Group responses to Initial Drafts (groups 1 and 2)  
For next class: Revision Plan for Next Draft |
| Week 10 | 11/7 | Group responses to Initial Drafts (groups 3 and 4)  
For next class: Revision Plan for Next Draft |
| Week 11 | 11/9 | Group responses to Initial Drafts (groups 5 and 6)  
For next class: Revision Plan for Next Draft |
| Week 11 | 11/12 | Panic Session for Final Drafts  
For next class: Complete your project. |
| Week 11 | 11/14 | Turning in your final drafts  
For next class: Write a reflection on your project. |
| Week 11 | 11/16 | Introduction to Project 3: Elements of Oral Communication  
For next class: Read pages 225-233, 238-245, 251-255 (from Chapter 8) in cda, have a great Thanksgiving break! |
| Week 12 | 11/26 | Oral Texts  
For next class: Design Plan for Project 3 - how can you present your research orally? (Review pages page 251 in cda.) |
| Week 12 | 11/28 | Group work with Design Plans  
For next class: be prepared to test your design plan in class |
| Week 12 | 11/30 | Dry Run for Oral Presentations  
For next class: Complete revision plan, finalize your third project based on feedback |
| Week 13 | 12/3 | Oral Presentations, Part 1/3 |
| Week 13 | 12/5 | Oral Presentations, Part 2/3 |
| Week 13 | 12/7 | Oral Presentations, Part 3/3 |
| Week 14 | 12/10 | Overflow from Oral Presentations?, Reflection on Project 3  
For next class: Review Portfolio Requirements |