general information
Class times: MWF 4:05 - 4:55 pm
Classroom: Walker 144
Listserv: revisions14-1@mtu.edu
Instructor: Shaughn Kern
Email: skern@mtu.edu
Office: Walker 149
Office Hours: Wednesday 2:00-4:00 pm, or by appointment
Office Phone: 487-3280

required books


what we’ll be doing
This course will serve to improve your skills in composition and rhetoric using many forms of communication. We will also focus on elements such as drafting, peer editing, and research. Your work will culminate toward a substantial piece of argumentative writing supported by research.

Since knowledge is collective – and therefore social – my approach to this course will focus on discussion and active participation of students rather than lecturing and busywork. You can expect assignments that encourage both creativity and precision in order to facilitate effect learning of the material.

earning grades
Grades are broken down the same as in other classes:

- A 935-1000
- AB 865-934
- B 795-864
- BC 725-794
- C 665-724
- CD 595-664
- D 540-594
- E ...not sure what happened to this letter
- F 0-539
You must complete all assignments to receive a passing grade in this course.

Tentative point lineup:

- 200 Class Participation
- 100 Rough Drafts
- 100 Project #1
- 200 Project #2
- 300 Project #3
- 100 Portfolio

**showing up to class**

You are expected to attend class on a regular basis, arrive prepared to discuss the material, and be ready to engage in discussion relating to the curriculum.

You are permitted to miss 3 classes per semester; subsequent absences will affect your grade.

Should you miss a class, it is your responsibility to contact either myself or a classmate to fill you in on what we covered. Late work will not be accepted for grading, but will nonetheless need to be turned in so that you may pass the class.

**using technology**

Active electronic devices, such as cell phones, PDAs, laptops, etc. will be allowed in the classroom. While we live in the age of electronic communications, these do not contribute to an effective learning environment, and will be treated as such. Failure to regard this policy will result in an absence for the day.

While technology makes our lives easier, it is not infallible. Having a printer problem, losing a file, or not being able to open an obscure file extension is not an acceptable excuse for late work. A good student backs up files, and works enough spare time into their schedule where they can avoid such problems.

By participating in my class, I have assumed that you have read and consented to the policies presented in this syllabus. If there are any problems, please contact me.

I reserve the right to modify this syllabus as appropriate in order to better suit the needs of the class.
university policies

don’t cheat

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).

http://www.studentaffairs.mtu.edu/dean/judicial/policies/academic_integrity.htm

don’t discriminate

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 the Dean of Students (7-2212). For other concerns about discrimination, you may contact your advisor, department chair, or the Affirmative Action Office (7-3310)

Disability Services:
http://www.admin.mtu.edu/urel/studenthandbook/student_services.html

Equal Opportunity: