Beth Flynn  
HU 6001, Special Topics in RTC  
Walker, 139  
M, W 12:35-2:20 p.m.  
Summer, 2010  
Office: 310 Walker  
Office phone: 487-3227  
E-mail:  
Office Hours: M, W 2:30-3:30 and by appointment

**Texts:**


Students are expected to read the *Chronicle of Higher Education* on a regular basis.

**Supplies:**

You'll need a file folder to hold your portfolio of written assignments.

**Purpose:**

The course is described in the catalog as follows:

The study of special topics in rhetoric, technical communication, and the humanities. We'll be focusing on professional development issues, especially the dissertation and the job search as well as interdisciplinarity within the Humanities.

**Writing Assignments:**

**Portfolio:**

For selected readings indicated on the syllabus, you should submit response statements of at least one double-spaced page. You will also be required to submit a CV, an application letter, and a conference paper proposal and (for PhD students taking the course for 3 credits) a 3-page proposal for a dissertation and (for MS students taking the course for 3 credits) a 3-page proposal for an MS thesis, project, or coursework paper. Students taking the course for 3 credits are also required to submit a *Student to Student* essay (see below).
Portfolio Analysis

Please prepare a portfolio analysis (at least a page long) that provides a commentary on written assignments. What are some strengths of your performance on these assignments? What are some limitations?

Student to Student Essay (for students taking the course for 3 credits)

In an essay of at least 5 pages (approximately 1250 pages), provide information to future RTC graduate students about the job search process, the dissertation or thesis, project, or coursework option process, or the process of submitting conference proposals and preparing conference papers. References to Semenza and the RTC Handbook would be helpful. Think of the piece as a supplement the RTC Handbook. Submit a proposal (a paragraph or two in length) for your essay week 3.

Attendance:

Attendance is mandatory. Much of the course involves conversation about course readings. If you miss those conversations, you will have missed a good deal of the course content. More than three unexcused absences will affect your grade.

Grades:

Your grade will be based on the following:

For students taking the course for 3 credits:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Weight</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Portfolio</td>
<td>50 %</td>
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<tr>
<td>Student to Student essay</td>
<td>50 %</td>
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</tbody>
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For students taking the course for 1 credit:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Weight</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Portfolio</td>
<td>100%</td>
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Other:

MTU complies with all federal and state laws and regulations regarding discrimination, including the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA). If you have a disability and need a reasonable accommodation for equal access to education or services at MTU, please call Dr. Gloria Melton, Dean of Students (7-2212). For other concerns about discrimination, you may contact your advisor, department head or chair, or the Affirmative Action Office (7-3310).

Academic Integrity:
http://www.studentaffairs.mtu.edu/dean/judicial/policies/academic_integrity.html

Affirmative Action: http://www.admin.mtu.edu/aap/

Disability Services:
http://www.admin.mtu.edu/urell/studenthandbook/student_services.html#disability

It may be necessary to alter the syllabus as the semester proceeds in order to better meet the instructional needs of the class.

Please turn off cell phones and laptops before class begins.
Course Schedule:

Week 1 (May 10, 12)
M Semenza, chap. 9, pp. 181-199.

Week 2 (May 17-19)
M Foss and Waters, chaps. 1-4, pp. 1-74, conference paper proposal due.
W Klein, chaps. 1-2, pp. 11-54. Response due.

Week 3 (May 24-26)
M Foss and Waters, chaps. 5-6, pp. 75-184. Student to Student proposal due.

Week 4 (May 31-June 2)
M Foss and Waters, chaps. 7-8, pp. 185-263. Dissertation or MS proposal due.

Week 5 (June 7-9)
W Klein, chaps. 6-7, pp. 128-175. Response due.

Week 6 (June 14-16)
M Hume, chap. 3, Vick and Furlong, chaps. I-III, pp. 5-152. Draft of Student to Student essay due.
W Klein, chap. 8, pp. 176-201. Response due.

Week 7 (June 21-23)
M Vick and Furlong, chaps. IV, pp. 152-203. Student to Student essay due. Portfolios and portfolio analysis due.
W Klein, Conclusion, 203-220.