Instructor Information:
Instructor: Katherine Aho
Office: 315 Walker
Office Hours: W 11:30-1:30 or by appointment
Phone: 487-3238
Email: kgaio@mtu.edu

Course Description and Purpose:
According to Michigan Tech, UN 2001-Composition: Written, Oral, and Visual is a “is a sophomore-level writing course. Students learn to apply rhetorical principles to compose effective, supported arguments in written, oral, and visual modes.” While this is a required course, my goal is to make you rhetorically aware of the information and communication you come across. This class is what YOU make of it.

As a class, we will explore various elements of rhetoric and many forms of communication during the semester. We will engage in assorted writing workshops, homework, class discussions, presentations and readings. We will also extensively write and revise as a class. It is my hope that the revision process will help the class and its students grow as writers and learn editing and rhetorical skills that can be used throughout college.

Course and Student Goals:

- Intellectual habits and values for UN 2001-
  - Write well-crafted and persuasive arguments.
  - Analyze audience, purpose, and context; adjust communication strategies and modes based on assessment of individual and situational differences.
  - Develop research skills and demonstrate ability to choose reputable sources to support written, oral, and visual arguments.
  - Seek out feedback to aid in revising and editing written, oral, and visual arguments.

- Intellectual Skills for UN 2001-
  - Write and speak clearly and persuasively.
  - Demonstrate ability to use appropriate citation practices with academic integrity.
  - Present findings in a public forum.
  - Develop proofreading and editing skills to improve written, oral, and visual arguments.

- Content knowledge and critical thinking for UN 2001-
  - Demonstrate ability to evaluate evidence.
  - Use evidence, logical inquiry, and reasoning to support arguments and draw conclusions.
  - Demonstrate ability to analyze progressively complex arguments and to explain argumentation strategies used.
  - Strengthen the ability to thoughtfully consider others’ ideas and positions.
  - Develop rhetorical approaches to engaging complex questions.
  - Understand expectations of academic integrity.

My Thoughts on Teaching, Writing, and the Learning Processes:
The only unanswerable questions are the ones that are not asked.

"The great thing about writing: stay with it...ultimately you teach yourself something very important about
"yourself." - Bernard Malamud

**Expected Behaviors:**
This is a college course and you are expected to:

- arrive on time and come prepared for class.
- be an active member and treat others with the respect you want to receive.
- keep your laptops closed.
- shut off and store your cell phone or ipod.
- remain awake and be ready to learn.

**Textbooks:** Two are required for this class. They will be used a great deal in class and must be brought to class every day.

**Required:**

**Materials:** Pencils, pens, lined paper, folder, a three ringed binder, stapler and staples, three hole punch, paperclips, money, and an I.D. to print copies of your essays.

**Grades and Assignment Sequence:**
Your final grades will be based on the following Assignment Sequence, Homework, and Attendance and Participation:

**Assignment Sequence:**

- **Project #1: Mysterious Solutions Project (235 Points)**
  o Group Proposal and Design Plan (25 Points)
  o Group Annotated Bibliography (10 Points for Draft; 20 Points for Final)
  o Individual Research Paper Rough Draft (20 Points)
  o Individual Research Paper Final (75 Points)
  o 25 Minute Group Presentation (75 Points)
  o Individual Reflective Essay (10 Points)

- **Project #2: Something I Want (210 Points)**
  o Design Plan (20 Points)
  o Rhetorical Critique of Advertising and Consumer Ratings (50 Points)
  o Mini Annotated Bibliography (40 Points)
  o Analysis of Want Paper (30 Points Draft; 50 Points Final)
  o Individual Reflection (20 Points)

- **Project #3: Visual Secrets (155 Points)**
  o Design Plan (20 Points)
  o Visual First Draft (15 Points)
  o First Draft Explanation (20 Points)
  o Visual Final Draft (50 Points)
  o Final Draft Explanation (25 Points)
  o Reflection (25 Points)
Digital/Electronic Portfolio: (100 Points)
  o You MUST keep electronic copies of: a letter of reflective summary; a research-based written project; a project in visual communication; and one written project chosen by the student for inclusion.
  o The portfolio process has changed this year and will be in a digital only format. More information will come at a later date.
  o Also, these four files/copies must be put into .PDF format.
  o One last thing, Drafts and revisions of some written projects may be submitted, with names and identifying information removed, to the UN 2001 Program Director for assessment purposes.

Attendance and Participation: (150 Points)
  o To earn all points you must demonstrate behavior which adds to the course. If you just show up, you will earn the bare minimum for showing up.

Homework: (150 Points)
  o To earn all homework points, you must hand the assignments in on the dates due. The assignments also must demonstrate that you understood what was asked of you and you were able to make a well-thought out and rhetorical response.

More detailed information about each assignment will follow. Reminder: Please do not E-mail me copies of projects, drafts, or assignments.

Grading Scale:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Points</th>
<th>Grade</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>930-1000</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>880-929</td>
<td>AB</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>830-879</td>
<td>B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>780-829</td>
<td>BC</td>
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<tr>
<td>730-779</td>
<td>C</td>
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<td>680-729</td>
<td>CD</td>
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<tr>
<td>600-679</td>
<td>D</td>
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<tr>
<td>590 and Below</td>
<td>F</td>
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Reminder: You must complete all required assignments, papers, visuals, and projects to receive a passing grade in UN 2001.

Attendance and Participation: You are an active player in your education and the education of others. In this class, you are expected to be an active and prepared participant. This means that you will be expected to do the readings, participate in group discussions and writing workshops. Your attendance and participation will also be considered as a portion of your final grade. You will be allowed to miss 2 days of class without conferring with me.
and not worry about a penalty. After the 3rd absence, your grade will be penalized a step. That means a “C” in attendance and participation will go to a “C-.” You can also come to me if you experience a problem.

**Late Work:** All assignments are due on the dates listed in the course schedule. You are responsible to make up any and all assignments that you miss. If you miss class due to illness or because of an unforeseen emergency, please meet with me in order to find out what you have missed, what you can make up, and when it is due. You may also need to present documentation (i.e. a doctor’s note or obituary) in order for me to excuse the absence.

Emergencies and illness constitute excused absences. If you missed class and the absence is not excused, you may be required to do extra work to recoup the points that you lost for that day or that assignment. For example, if your first essay rough draft is late, I would give you an extra week to hand it in. After that, any late assignments would require double the work.

**Computers:** are not to be used as toys or for entertainment. In class, they are to be used for UN 2001 related activities only. Do not check email, message friends, play games, watch movies or listen to music on my time. If you are using your computer inappropriately during class, you will be asked to leave and you will receive a zero (0) for the day. If there are repeated instances, students computer usage will be **banned from class.**

**Michigan Tech’s Policy on Academic Integrity:** According to Michigan Tech’s policy, “knowingly copying another’s work or ideas and calling them one’s own or not giving proper credit or citation” is plagiarism and cheating. The assignments in this class should be entirely your own work. Plagiarism has the possibility of harming your grades and academic standing. You will be shown what proper MLA citations are in this class. If you have any questions, please ask. Plagiarism has serious academic consequences, which range from a failing grade on an assignment to being expelled from school. It’s not worth the risk. Please refer to the following website if you have any questions concerning Michigan Tech’s Statement of Integrity.

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

You can also speak with a tutor at the Multiliteracies Center (487-2007) if you have any questions.

**Michigan Tech’s Policy on Discrimination and Harassment:** Michigan Tech complies with all state and federal laws and regulations concerning discrimination, including the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) of 1990. If you have a disability and need accommodation for equal access to education or services at Michigan Tech, please call Dr. Gloria Melton, Dean of Students (487-2212). For other concerns about discrimination, contact your advisor, department chair, or the Affirmative Action Office (487-3310).

**Tentative Schedule- This schedule will change at the discretion of the instructor.**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Dates</th>
<th>Topic/Assignments</th>
<th>Homework</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>#1</td>
<td>8/31 T</td>
<td>Inros and Syllabus Fun</td>
<td>Read Syllabus and EAA Ch 1. Respond to question #4 pg 36 and Pick 2.</td>
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<td>Chapter 1 Recap and Communication</td>
<td>Read Ch 2 and Ch3 EAA. Respond to pg 51 question #1 and pick 2 quotes.</td>
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<tr>
<td>#2</td>
<td>9/7 T</td>
<td>Chapter 2 and 3 Recap</td>
<td>Read Ch 4 EAA and respond to question #1 on pg 93; pick 2 statements.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>9/9 R</td>
<td>The Rhetorical Triangle.</td>
<td>Pick three topics from Project #1 Sheet for further research. Read</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Chapter 4, Visual Communication, and Project #1</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>#3</th>
<th>9/14 T</th>
<th>Project #1 Groups and Pitches, Topics, and Plans; Chapter 5 Recap Draft Design Plan Due and Critique</th>
<th>Draft Design Plan</th>
</tr>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>9/16 R</td>
<td>Draft Design Plan Due and Critique</td>
<td>Read Ch 18 and 19 EAA. Answer the following: “What is the difference between a quotation and a paraphrase?” Final Design Plan due Tue.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>#6</td>
<td>10/5 T</td>
<td>Final Research Paper and Presentation Work Day. Final Papers due on Thurs. Presentations are on Thurs and Tues.</td>
<td>Final Papers due on Thurs. Presentations are on Thurs and Tues.</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>10/7 R</td>
<td>Final Research Papers Due. Presentations.</td>
<td>Final Papers due on Thurs. Presentations are on Thurs and Tues.</td>
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<tr>
<td>#7</td>
<td>10/12 T</td>
<td>Reflections. Presentations. Write Individual Reflections for Project #1 due Thurs.</td>
<td>Write Individual Reflections for Project #1 due Thurs. Write Design Plan for Project #2.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>#8</td>
<td>10/19 T</td>
<td>Rhetorical Analysis Bibliography</td>
<td>Find Ads and Consumer Ratings for your item.</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>10/21 R</td>
<td>Rhetorical Analysis Bibliography</td>
<td>Find Ads and Consumer Ratings for your item.</td>
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<td>Portfolios are Due by 5:00 PM on Blackboard. Evaluations.</td>
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