UN 2001 - Composition: A Rhetorical Odyssey

Instructor: Kelsey Boldt  
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Office Hours: M 10-11am, W 10 – 11am, by appt.  
Meeting Time: 9:35- 10:50 am

Course Description - What the Heck is UN 2001 Anyway?
Welcome to UN 2001 Composition! In general this course will provide you with the essential tools used in effective communication. Verbal, visual, and written communications are all a part of the course however, written communication is the backbone.

More specifically, I have designed the course in a different way than my fellow instructors. Some of your friends may be taking the same course this semester but they will certainly not have the same experience. Each section of this course is unique. My section will use film and entertainment media as a theme. We will analyze and study the art of filmmaking and use this theme as a vehicle for studying effective communication.

Overview - The Level of Brilliance You Will Acquire in This Class
We will first establish a common vocabulary using the required text Everything’s An Argument. We will have daily free-writes, discussions and small in-class assignments that will better help you understand the topics discussed in the text. A 5-8 page research paper and a reinvention of a movie trailer will be the 2 major assignments you will complete for this class. A rhetorical analysis of a film clip, an annotated bibliography and a rough draft of the research paper will be turned in prior to your final draft of your research paper. The last assignment is a portfolio including a cover letter and selected assignments from the class to be submitted online on the last day of class. Breakdowns of the grading scale as well as the due dates of each assignment are outlined below. Questions and concerns are always welcomed.
Course Requirements – You’ve Been Warned!

**Required Text:** *Everything’s an Argument.* Andrea A. Lunsford, John J. Ruszkiewicz. 5th Ed.

**My Expectations:** Attending this class as well as participation in class are important to your success. Also, doing your best on each assignment will also contribute to your success as well as lighten your work load later in the semester as the larger assignments become due. I also expect you to respect me and the students around you by not creating distractions in class. This includes cell-phone usage, inappropriate laptop use (i.e. Facebook), and speaking over others in class.

**Your Expectations:** As a student myself I expect my professors to create an environment and create assignments that give me the best possible chance at completing a course successfully. I will try my best to do this and I encourage you to let me know if you feel that I could be doing something better.

**Academic Integrity - Cheating? I Should Hope Not!**

Michigan Tech upholds the highest standard of academic integrity and as Tech students, I expect you to abide by those rules. The official policy can be found online at [http://www.studentaffairs.mtu.edu/dean/judicial/policies/academic_integrity.html](http://www.studentaffairs.mtu.edu/dean/judicial/policies/academic_integrity.html). Plagiarism, cheating of any kind, fabrication, and falsification are all explained as well as the consequences for these violations.

**MTU Multiliteracies Center (Formerly the Writing Center)**

The Multiliteracies Center is a great resource for any student. They can help you with papers and assignments in any of your classes. You can schedule appointments (recommended) but they also take walk-ins. Here is the link if you would like to do some investigating: [http://www.humanities.mtu.edu/hu_dept/wc/staff.htm](http://www.humanities.mtu.edu/hu_dept/wc/staff.htm).

**Student Disabilities Services**

If you have any learning disabilities or any disabilities that may affect your classroom performance please let me know. There is a wonderful student disabilities service right here on campus that can also help you with any accommodations you might need. [http://www.admin.mtu.edu/dos/disability.htm](http://www.admin.mtu.edu/dos/disability.htm).
Grading

Rhetorical Analysis – 50
Annotated Bibliography – 100
Research Paper – 250
Debate – 100
Movie Poster – 100
Trailer – 250
Free-Writes/Short Reflections – 50
E-Portfolio – 50
Attendance/Participation – 50

Total – 1000
Schedule

January
T, 11 – 10 min. Free-Write, Intros, Go Over Syllabus
Th, 13 – Readings and short reflections due for R.A. and Ethos Chapter
T, 18 – Readings and short reflections due for Pathos and Logos Chapter, Intro Rhetorical Analysis assignment
Th, 20 – In-class Rhetorical Analyses
T, 25 – Rhetorical Analysis assignment due, Intro Annotated Bib assignment/Research Paper
Th, 27 – Library Day (?)

February
T, 1 – Research practices (Possible Reading, TBA)
Th, 3 – Annotated Bibliography due, mini conferences
T, 8 – Writing as a process/Written Communication (Possible Reading, TBA)
Th, 10 – No Class
T, 15 – Peer Review/Rough Draft of research paper due
Th, 17 – TBA
T, 22 – TBA
Th, 24 – Final Research paper due, Debates/Oral Communication (Possible Lab Day)

March
T, 1 – Debates
Th, 3 – Debates, Reflection/Discussion of Debates, Intro Poster assignment/Visual Comm
T, 8 – Spring Break
Th, 10 – Spring Break
T, 15 – Visual Comm
Th, 17 – Visual Comm
T, 22 – Combining Visual, Oral, Written Comm
Th, 24 – **Poster due**, Intro Trailer Project
T, 29 – Brainstorming day (**all groups must have a film chosen by the end of the class period**)
Th, 31 – TBA

*April*
T, 5 – TBA
Th, 7 – TBA
T, 12 – Work Day
Th, 14 – Work Day (**Possible Lab Day**)
T, 19 – **Final Project Presentations**
Th, 21 – Wrap-up, E-Portfolio