Course Syllabus

UN 1015- Composition

Fall 2015

Instructor Information

Instructor: Vincent Manzie
Office Location: Walker: 330
E-mail: vdmanzie@mtu.edu
Office Hours: Mon/Wed: Noon – 1:00pm (and by appointment)
Cell Phone: (906) 281-8314

Course Description & Overview

In this class, you’ll examine and interpret communication practices and apply what you learn to your own written, spoken, and visual compositions. Class projects will ask you to communicate in a variety of modes and to attend to audience, purpose, and context. This semester, you will produce texts over a series of drafts in order to hone your skills as a thoughtful multimodal communicator. While writing is the core focus of our class, you will also practice composing in other modes, as well.

Course Objectives

Upon successful completion of this course, you should be able to:

• recognize and use several strategies for producing and interpreting persuasive texts that are appropriate for a particular context, audience, and purpose;
• know how to develop an organized text in written, aural, and/or visual modes and demonstrate a basic understanding of the conventions of a genre or discipline;
• develop carefully crafted arguments informed by research, critical reasoning, and persuasive techniques.

This course is designed to meet two of Michigan Technological University’s Student Learning Goals: Communication (Goal 5) and Information Literacy (Goal 6). To learn more about these two learning goals, please see the rubrics posted at http://www.mtu.edu/assessment/program/universitylearninggoals/

Required Readings & Other Materials

Alfano L. Christine and Alyssia J. O'brien. Envision: Writing and Researching Arguments. 4th Edition
Assignments & Grading

- Participation / Drafts / Informal Writing / Other Assignments (20%)
- Research Process Evaluation - EXPANDED Annotated Bibliography (15%)
- Researched Argument Essay (25%)
- Multimodal Project (25%)
- Rhetorical Analysis Essay (15%)

Grading Scale

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Letter Grade</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>93% &amp; above</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AB</td>
<td>87% - 92%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>82% - 86%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BC</td>
<td>76% - 81%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>70% - 75%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CD</td>
<td>65% - 69%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>60% - 64%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>59% and below</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

NOTE: Final grades shall be a sum total of all points acquired from all assignments/participation/drafts/homework etc. in the course.

Attendance Policy

Uninterrupted attendance at class meetings and in conferences with the instructor is mandatory. More than 4 absences is grounds for failing the course. If you have extenuating circumstances that will interfere with consistent attendance in class, please communicate your concerns with me and/or the Dean of Students at 9064872212 or deanofstudents@mtu.edu.

Requests for absences few minutes or hours to class time may be considered an absence. In order to earn a good grade for participation, you need to come to class on time, and prepared to actively take part in all activities.

Late or Missing Work

Students must turn in complete, final drafts of ALL major assignments in order to receive a passing grade in this course.

Late submission results to points deduction and in some cases, a fail grade, unless the student can convince the instructor that circumstances beyond control interfered with the work.

Permission for late submission may be granted upon proof that circumstances beyond your control might not allow you meet the due date.

University Policies

Michigan Tech has standard policies on academic misconduct and complies with all federal and state laws and regulations regarding discrimination, including the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. For more information about reasonable accommodation for or equal access to education or services at Michigan Tech, please call the Dean of Students Office, at (906) 487-2212 or go to http://www.mtu.edu/ctl/instructional-resources/syllabus/syllabus_policies.html

I reserve the right to revise this syllabus to meet specific goals of the class.
Plagiarism
Plagiarism, which Michigan Tech defines as “knowingly copying another's work or ideas and calling them one's own or not giving proper credit or citation,” is a violation of the academic integrity policy: <http://www.admin.mtu.edu/usenate/policies/p109-1.htm>. In this class, we will discuss the practical and ethical aspects of source attribution so you can learn how and why to avoid plagiarism in your academic work. It is crucial that you take care to acknowledge the sources of your written, audio, or visual material in this and other classes. Instances of plagiarized work will be handled according to university procedures, which includes a reporting of the incident to the Office of Student Affairs. http://www.admin.mtu.edu/usenate/policies/p109-1.htm

Assessment: Student work products (exams, essays, projects, etc.) may be used for the purposes of university, program, or course assessment. All work used for assessment purposes will not include any individual student identification; therefore, students should remove their names, teachers' names, course and section identifiers before submitting work for assessment.

Classroom Policies
Cell phones, Blackberries, iPods, PDAs, or any other electronic devices are not to be used in the classroom. However, these devices are to be used only if the course material or lessons necessitate their use such as during specific class activities. In this case, the instructor will announce their applicability in class.