Fall 8-15-2007

ENG 3001-003: Advanced Composition

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About the Course

This course should give you experience with the reading, writing, and research skills used by professionals in your field, skills you will apply to specific writing situations throughout the semester. To succeed in this course, you must be willing to work without constant teacher intervention. You will work independently on individualized and group projects and problem solving, and make continual self-assessments as you go. You should develop the following skills this semester: 1) how to give and receive constructive criticism to improve your writing, 2) how to work independently and in groups to meet a deadline, 3) how to employ research processes effectively, 4) how to revise in order to improve the effectiveness of your writing.

Required Texts

Fulwiler, *Blair Handbook*, 5th/e
Ramage, *Writing Arguments*, 5th/e

Course Requirements/ Evaluation

1) Independent Research Project 30%
2) Collaborative Research Project 30%
3) Annotated Bibliography 10%
4) Two Presentations 10%
5) Class participation 20%

There will be no final exam in this class.

Note: You may choose to submit an essay from this course to your Electronic Writing Portfolio. For more information, see me and/or the assessment website (www.eiu.edu/~assess)
Policies

1) The reading/writing/research load for this course is heavy, so make sure you allow yourself plenty of time to complete assignments. Much of what you will learn in this course will come from collaborative work in class so your presence in (and engagement with) the class are essential. Coming to class unprepared will lower your participation grade. It will also lower your grade on any project we are working on in class.

2) Assignments must be typed and must be handed in on the day they are due unless we have worked out a prior arrangement. Work handed in after that time will lose half a letter grade for each calendar day it is late. No work will be accepted a week after the deadline. If you must miss a class, you are still responsible for preparing all work required for the next meeting.

3) You must complete all work for the course in order to receive a passing grade.

Plagiarism Policy

The following is the English department's statement concerning plagiarism:

"Any teacher who discovers an act of plagiarism—'The appropriation or imitation of the language, ideas, and/or thoughts of another author, and representation of them as one's original work' (Random House Dictionary of the English Language)—has the right and the responsibility to impose upon the guilty student an appropriate penalty, up to and including a grade of 'F' for the course, and to report the incident to the Judicial Affairs Office."

While I assume I'll have no need to impose penalties for plagiarism, the ones I consider appropriate are that the student fail the course and be reported to the Judicial Affairs Office. If at any point in your writing for this course (or for another, if you like) you're uncertain about whether you're using sources appropriately, please come to talk to me.

Students with Disabilities

If you have a documented disability and wish to receive academic accommodations, please let me know and please contact the Coordinator of the Office of Disability Services (581-6583) as soon as possible.
Syllabus

I’ll notify you in advance of any changes. Unless otherwise indicated, all readings are from Ramage and Bean’s *Writing Arguments*.

Week 1: (Aug 20-24)
   Ch 4: Core of an Argument

Week 2: (Aug 27-31)
   Ch 2: Reading Arguments

Week 3: (Sept 3-7; no class Mon for Labor Day)
   Ch 5: Logical Structure of Arguments

Week 4: (Sept 10-14)
   Workshops on independent projects

Week 5: (Sept 17-21)
   Ch 7: Moving Your Audience
   Ch 8: Accommodating Your Audience

Week 6: (Sept 24-28)
   Conferences for Independent Projects

Week 7: (Oct 1-5)
   **Independent Projects are due: mini presentations**

Week 8: (Oct 8-12; no class Fri 12 for Fall Break)
   Discuss annotated bibliographies
   Ch 14: Proposal Arguments

Week 9: (Oct 15-19)
   Project groups meet

Week 10: (Oct 22-26)
   Ch 10: Categorical and Definitional Arguments
   **Annotated Bibliographies are due**

Week 11: (Oct 29-Nov 2)
   Ch 11: Causal Arguments

Week 12: (Nov 5-9)
   Ch 12: Resemblance Arguments
Week 13: (Nov 12-16)
   Ch 13: Evaluation Arguments

Week 14: (Nov 19-23)
   No classes: Thanksgiving Break

Week 15: (Nov 26-30)
   Workshops on Final Projects

Week 16: (Dec 3-7)
   Project presentations
   Final Projects are due