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Course Syllabus

WRTG2010-093
Rhetoric and Writing
Spring 2013

Location: Online

Instructor: Adam Halstrom

Office Location: MLIB 1705

Office Hours: Via Canvas (online) or by appointment

Email Address: adam.halstrom@utah.edu (<mailto:adam.halstrom@utah.edu>)

Canvas login:

<http://cis.utah.edu> (<http://cis.utah.edu>) > My Classes > WRTG 2010-093 > Go to This Class

OR

<http://utah.instructure.com> (<http://utah.instructure.com>)

Overview

2010 focuses on developing college-level writing skills. But it is also a course on rhetoric—a tradition of using language and other symbol systems for persuasive purposes. Even if all of the writing you do in college from now on seems to be objective reporting, it is still intended to have effects on readers. You may need your readers to agree with you or follow through with a course of action, or you may need to upset their expectations or present “bad news.”


Even though people write in and out of universities for a wide variety of reasons, many compositional and rhetorical strategies remain consistent across genres. This course will help you learn and practice a collection of those strategies, ranging from topic selection and issue focus to whole-discourse organization to sentence rhythm and word choice.

Goals

By the end of this course, you should have

- Mastered basic rhetorical concepts useful for persuasive purposes in writing (such as argument-based invention, claim-support strategies, appeals, and sentence-level rhetoric).
- Learned how to integrate research into your writing to support arguments effectively.
- Mastered mechanics of written style (from whole-discourse organization to punctuation) that are typical in academic writing.

Required Text

The only required textbook is *Open2010* (<https://utah.instructure.com/courses/217076/files/28517444/download?wrap=1>)  (<https://utah.instructure.com/courses/217076/files/28517444/download?wrap=1>), available to you with free-of-charge content. If you choose to print the textbook, here is some information you may find useful: <https://utah.instructure.com/courses/217076/files/28517444/download?wrap=1>, https://utah.instructure.com/courses/217076/discussion_topics/560572/ (https://utah.instructure.com/courses/217076/discussion_topics/560572/). Other readings, materials, and resources may be posted in Canvas throughout the semester.

Recommended Texts

- A good college-level dictionary
- A grammar/style handbook. Ask me for specific recommendations.

General Requirements

Participate in class. There are two good reasons why:

1. A significant amount of learning occurs in peer and near-peer interactions. There will be many opportunities to interact with your classmates in group discussions and peer reviews. Take full advantage of these opportunities.
2. A key element of most rhetorical production is *kairos*, a Greek word that loosely translates to “timeliness” or “opportunity.” Although this is designed as an asynchronous online course, you should keep up with the course content to take full advantage of the active discussion boards—whether it is someone’s unusual reading of a text, someone’s response to a comment, or my own tendency to be extemporaneous and/or spontaneous. If you are not actively participating in the class discussions then everyone in class may miss the chance to benefit from how *kairos* works. It can be extremely difficult to “make up” these opportunities.

Turn in all assignments on time. If you are scurrying around to make up assignments and I am grading and returning things after their due date, that cuts into all our time. You should only consider turning in an assignment late if you have a *very* compelling reason *that you inform me about before the assignment's due date*. In the absence of such a reason, **for each day you are late (including weekends) I will deduct one full letter grade from the grade you would have earned had you turned the assignment in on time.**

Be respectful. The Code of Student Rights and Responsibilities (the “Student Code,” viewable at <http://www.regulations.utah.edu/academics/6-400.html> (<http://www.regulations.utah.edu/academics/6-400.html>)) guarantees that all students at the U have the right to a “climate conducive to thinking and learning.” The Student Code also protects all members of the university community—including instructors—from intentional disruption of classes and other university activities and from intentionally

disrespectful and threatening behavior or language.

In WRTG 2010, this policy means that you have the right to a full range of expression, which is particularly important to the extent that you will write about and discuss controversial topics. However, the policy also means that no one in our class is free to use language intended to be inflammatory, insulting, or discriminatory. The U prohibits discrimination, harassment, and prejudicial treatment on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity/expression, age, disability, or status as a veteran. While you will certainly write and talk about arguable issues—and invent controversial claims—you may not allow your claims to degenerate into personal attacks at any time. Section III of the Student Code outlines actions that any member of the university community may take in response to inappropriate classroom behavior.

Grades [1]

Participation: 10% of total course grade

Style Unit: 15%

Argument I: 15%

Argument II: 20%

Repurposing: 20%

Portfolio: 20%

Appeals/Comments

Please note that this course is staffed and administered by the University Writing Program (“UWP”). If you have comments about the course that you are not comfortable sharing with me, or if I cannot respond to your course-related comments adequately, please contact Professor Jay Jordan at jay.jordan@utah.edu (<mailto:jay.jordan@utah.edu>) or 801.585.0980.

Please direct all questions about grades on specific assignments to me: UWP **will not** accept grade appeals on individual assignments—only on course grades and only after the end of the semester.

Content Accommodations

Some of the assignments in this course may include material that conflicts with the core beliefs of some students. Please review the syllabus carefully to see if the course is one that you are committed to taking. If you have a concern, please discuss it with me at your earliest convenience.

Disabilities

The University of Utah seeks to provide equal access to its programs, services and activities for people with disabilities. If you will need accommodations in this class, reasonable prior notice needs to be given to the instructor and to the Center for Disability Services, 162 Olpin Union Building, 801.581.5020 (V/TDD) to make arrangements for accommodations. Also see <http://disability.utah.edu> (<http://disability.utah.edu>).

Drop/Withdrawal

To learn more about the University's Drop/Withdrawal Policy, go to <http://www.acs.utah.edu/sched/handbook/wddeadlines.htm> (<http://www.acs.utah.edu/sched/handbook/wddeadlines.htm>).

Academic Honesty

At all times in this course, you should document and be prepared to prove where you get information you use—especially when you write that information into your own assignments. Willfully copying another's work and presenting it as if it were your own constitutes **plagiarism**, which is an offense the U, the University Writing Program, and I take very seriously. If you fail to act responsibly, you will most likely receive a failing grade (E) for the assignment in question, and you will possibly fail the course.

We will talk about effective and ethical source use in class. If you have questions about how to avoid specific instances of plagiarism, feel free to ask me. If you have questions about the U's plagiarism policy, please refer to sections II and V of the Student Code.

University Writing Center

The University Writing Center offers one-on-one assistance with writing. Tutors can help you understand your writing assignments, work through the writing process, and/or polish your drafts for all the courses in which you are enrolled. Sessions are free of charge, and you can meet as often as you need. To make an appointment, call 801.587.9122. The Writing Center is located on the second floor of the Marriott Library. Visit the website at <http://writingcenter.utah.edu> (<http://writingcenter.utah.edu>).

Canvas

We will use Canvas to conduct this fully online course. You will be required to access Canvas throughout the semester to, among other things, complete assignments, collaborate with your fellow students, and learn about changes to the course schedule. You may access Canvas using any computer with an internet connection, including those in the computer labs at the Marriott Library and across campus. You may contact the UOnline Help Desk at 801-585-5959 or the Campus Help Desk at 801-581-4000

for technical support.

[1] See individual assignment descriptions for more details. **You must earn an overall course grade of at least C- to pass 2010.**

Course Schedule

The course schedule is subject to, and most likely will, change. The due dates for all of the graded assignments are included below. I will release the course content and weekly assignments two weeks at a time. That means that every week you will have access to the content and weekly assignments for the next two weeks. All of the weekly assignments will be due on Wednesdays at 11:59pm, and responses to weekly discussion posts will be due on Fridays at 11:59pm.

Date	Details	
Fri Jan 11, 2013	Assignment Week 1: Cover Note (https://utah.instructure.com/courses/217076/assignments/903952)	due by 11:59pm
Wed Jan 16, 2013	Assignment Week 2: Original Response (https://utah.instructure.com/courses/217076/assignments/946141)	due by 11:59pm
Wed Jan 23, 2013	Assignment Week 3: Cohesion (https://utah.instructure.com/courses/217076/assignments/972586)	due by 11:59pm
	Assignment Week 3: Sentence Patterns (https://utah.instructure.com/courses/217076/assignments/972592)	due by 11:59pm
Wed Jan 30, 2013	Assignment Week 4: Revision (https://utah.instructure.com/courses/217076/assignments/990954)	due by 11:59pm
Wed Feb 6, 2013	Assignment Week 5: Style Unit Assignment (https://utah.instructure.com/courses/217076/assignments/997359)	due by 11:59pm
	Style Unit Due (https://utah.instructure.com/calendar?event_id=363496&include_contexts=course_217076)	11:59pm
Wed Feb 20, 2013	Assignment Week 7: Topic/Issue Proposal (https://utah.instructure.com/courses/217076/assignments/1007685)	due by 11:59pm
Wed Feb 27, 2013	Assignment Week 8: Enthymeme Outline (https://utah.instructure.com/courses/217076/assignments/1011144)	due by 11:59pm
Wed Mar 6, 2013	Assignment Week 9: Source Summary (https://utah.instructure.com/courses/217076/assignments/1015634)	due by 11:59pm
Wed Mar 20, 2013	Argument I Due (https://utah.instructure.com/calendar?event_id=363497&include_contexts=course_217076)	11:59pm
	Assignment Week 11: Original Draft (https://utah.instructure.com/courses/217076/assignments/1020550)	due by 11:59pm
Sun Mar 24, 2013	Assignment Week 12: Peer Review (https://utah.instructure.com/courses/217076/assignments/1024866)	due by 11:59pm
Wed Mar 27, 2013	Assignment Week 12: Final Draft (https://utah.instructure.com/courses/217076/assignments/1025436)	due by 11:59pm
Fri Apr 5, 2013	Assignment Week 13: Topic/Issue Proposal (https://utah.instructure.com/courses/217076/assignments/1029734)	due by 11:59pm
Wed Apr 10, 2013	Assignment Week 14: Intermediate Draft (https://utah.instructure.com/courses/217076/assignments/1033150)	due by 11:59pm
Wed Apr 17, 2013	Argument II Due (https://utah.instructure.com/calendar?event_id=363498&include_contexts=course_217076)	12am
	Assignment Week 15: Final Draft (https://utah.instructure.com/courses/217076/assignments/1033152)	due by 11:59pm
Wed Apr 24, 2013	Assignment Week 16: Repurposing (https://utah.instructure.com/courses/217076/assignments/1040936)	due by 11:59pm

Date	Details	
	Repurposing Due (https://utah.instructure.com/calendar?event_id=363500&include_contexts=course_217076)	11:59pm
Wed May 1, 2013	Portfolios Due (https://utah.instructure.com/calendar?event_id=363501&include_contexts=course_217076)	12am
	Final Exam Week: Portfolio (https://utah.instructure.com/courses/217076/assignments/1040963)	due by 11:59pm