

MISSOURI WESTERN STATE UNIVERSITY
ENGLISH 104 COLLEGE WRITING AND RHETORIC
SPRING 2007
INSTRUCTOR: JOE MARMAUD

SECTION 16 9:30-10:50 T/TH MURPHY HALL 105

SECTION 17 11:00-12:20 T/TH MURPHY HALL 103

SECTION 18 2:00-3:20 T/TH MURPHY HALL 105

OFFICE HOURS: ENGLISH SUITE RM. T EDER HALL
T/TH 8:30-9:15 12:45-1:45 3:30-4:00 OR BY APPOINTMENT

E/MAIL ADDRESS: JMARMAUD1@MISSOURIWESTERN.EDU

REQUIRED TEXTS AND MATERIALS

EXPLORING LANGUAGE 11TH EDITION GARY GOSHGARIAN
LANGUAGE AWARENESS READINGS FOR COLLEGE WRITERS 9TH EDITION
PAUL ESCHHOLZ-ALFRED ROSA-VIRGINIA CLARK

2 NOTEBOOKS

COMPUTER DISKS FOR SAVING WRITING

PHOTOCOPIES OF WRITING AS NEEDED FOR PEER REVISION

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

“LANGUAGE IS THE MOST VIVID AND CRUCIAL KEY TO IDENTIFY IT REVEALS THE PRIVATE IDENTITY, AND CONNECTS WITH, OR DIVORCES FROM THE LARGER, PUBLIC OR COMMUNAL IDENTITY.” –JAMES BALDWIN

“GOOD WRITERS ARE ALSO GOOD READERS-OF THE WORKS OF OTHER WRITERS AND OF THEIR OWN NOTES AND DRAFTS. THE HABITS THEY DEVELOP AS READERS OF OTHERS-FOR INSTANCE EVALUATING ASSUMPTIONS, SCRUTINIZING ARGUMENTS AND PERCEIVING IRONY-EMPOWER THEM WHEN THEY WRITE, READ, AND REVISE THEIR OWN NOTES AND DRAFTS.” –MARCIA STUBBS AND SYLVAN BARNETT

THE ABOVE QUOTES CONTAIN, WITHIN THEMSELVES, MUCH OF WHAT WE WILL BE ABOUT THIS SEMESTER. WE WILL READ VARIOUS ESSAYS ON THE ASPECTS OF LANGUAGE GROUPED BY THEME, AND USE THEM AS WRITING RESOURCES. WE ARE AWARE, OR SHOULD BE, THAT WRITING IS A PROCESS AKIN TO ANY OTHER PROCESS ENCOUNTERED. A PROCESS IMPLIES AN ONGOING STEP-BY-STEP ACTIVITY. BRIEFLY STATED, THE WRITING PROCESS INCLUDES PREWRITING, AND WRITING, EDITING, REVISION AND DISCUSSION OF THE WRITTEN WORD.

ONE DOES NOT ACHIEVE PROFICIENCY, MUCH LESS OUTSTANDING WRITING, WITHOUT APPLYING THE PROCESS STEPS AND HAVING THE DISPOSITION TO ENGAGE THE CONTINUAL AND DILIGENT USES OF THOUGHT, WRITING, REVISION, MORE THOUGHT AND MORE REVISION.

SUCCESS WILL BE ASSURED, IF PREPARATION IS THOROUGH, UNDERSTANDING THROUGH

QUESTIONING ACHIEVED, AND THERE IS A WILLINGNESS TO WORK HARD AND COMPLETE ASSIGNMENTS ON TIME AND CORRECTLY.

COURSE GOALS:

- Read actively for greater understanding
- Use texts to understand own and others' point of view and arguments
- Respond to and analyze critically texts
- Evaluate the opinions of other writers and their ideas as expressed in essays
- Read assignments effectively and be able to summarize central ideas
- Write at greater length more usefully
- Structure writing to fit the assignment, purpose and audience
- Develop ideas and concepts with specific details, examples and references to the readings

- Craft more effective and polished sentences and paragraphs
- Recognize and develop thesis statements
- Write cogently
- Make class presentations interestingly and analytically

STRUCTURE OF THE COURSE:

This course is divided into a series of thematic issues that center on the uses and sometimes the abuses of language. Such themes include the power and awareness of language, and language of advertising, the language of the media, political language, censorship, and the like. We will use the readings in our text in these areas as springboards to class discussion and to our formal and informal writing.

Grading will be criteria based with a scoring rubric or guide for each of the four formal papers and/or presentations. Each of these will be worth 100 pts as well; points will be assigned for quizzes, summaries, in-class writing, journal entries and participation. It is of great importance that you attend every session because class work MAY NOT be made up, University policy on attendance follows and will be strictly adhered to.

It has been my experience that open-lines of communication between student and instructor is essential for success. Do not be afraid to ask questions, look for clarification for assignments or make appointments for a conference. My goal and obligation as an educator is to help you to become a better writer and more discerning reader. Therefore I will make myself available to you to achieve this goal.

POLICIES:

Attendance and Class Preparation/Participation: In order to improve student learning and to achieve compliance with federal financial aid policies, Western has a mandatory attendance policy for all 100-level courses. A student will be given an excused absence when acting as an official representative of the University, provided the student gives prior written verification from the faculty/staff supervisor of the event. A student will also be given an excused absence if he or she can provide documentation and prove that the absence was unavoidable. Please feel free to speak to me about any extenuating circumstances. All other absences will be deemed unexcused. The maximum number of unexcused absences allowed before the midterm report, March 21st, for this class is 5. Thus, when you have 6 you will be reported to the Registrar's Office, who will automatically withdraw you from this class. The Financial Aid Office will reduce financial aid as appropriate. If you exceed the allowed absences after midterm, your final grade will be affected.

STUDENT DISABILITY:

Any student in this course who has a disability that prevents the fullest expression of abilities should contact Missouri Western's special needs coordinator Michael Ritter, for possible certification of special needs and expert recommendations for assistance. You should also contact me personally as soon as possible so that we can discuss class requirements.

ACADEMIC HONESTY POLICY:

Academic honesty is required in all academic endeavors. Violations of academic honesty include any instance of plagiarism, cheating seeking credit for another's work, falsifying documents or academic records or any other fraudulent classroom activity. You will receive a grade of F (0 points) for any paper/assignment/exam that shows evidence of cheating and/or plagiarism and forfeit the opportunity to revise. You have the burden of proving that a paper showing evidence of cheating or plagiarism has in fact been written by you. You should keep thorough evidence of your writing processes for all papers so that you can meet this burden of proof. Violations of academic honesty will be reported to the Provost or the designated representative on the Academic Honesty Violation Report Forms. Please note carefully the statement on plagiarism on the departmental website and refer to the 2006-07 Student Handbook and calendar on page 21 for specific activities identified as violations of this policy and the student due process.

MISCELLANEOUS:

Civility and Cooperation-Missouri Western requires all students to help us maintain good conditions for teaching and learning. All students will treat their classmates, teachers, and student assistants with civility and respect, both inside and outside the classroom. Students who violate this policy may, among other penalties, be counted absent and asked to leave. You should review your Missouri Western student handbook for further information.