

English 104-15: College Writing and Rhetoric

Summer 2008

MTWR 10:30-1:15, MH 104

Name: Meg Thompson
Office hours: 1:30-2:30 MTW
Email: mthompson14@missouriwestern.edu

Office: Eder 222-M
Phone: 816-271-4316
Mailbox: Eder 222-A

Welcome

Before the writing comes the thinking, before the thinking comes the curiosity, before the curiosity comes the opposite of apathy, and before that comes this class. We will work together in this class to think beyond what is written on the page, to ask questions, to know that sometimes asking questions is more important than answering them.

Requirements

Handouts [\[1\]](#)

Jump/flash drive [\[2\]](#)

A reliable printer with a steady supply of ink cartridges

An open mind/ability to examine viewpoints dissimilar from your own

Assignment Overview/Grade Breakdown

You will be writing three main papers over the course of the semester. I will present a detailed assignment sheet at the start of each one.

Subculture study: 20%

Personal literacy narrative: 20%

Rhetorical analysis: 20%

In-class quizzes and informal writing: 20%

Class participation/contributions to the greater good: 20% [\[3\]](#)

Conferences

Occasionally I hold conferences several days before a paper is due in order to give you time to discuss it with me. Conferences are generally 15 minutes and held in my office. You are expected to prepare for these by having a full-length, rough draft or extensive outline. **Missing a scheduled conference counts as an absence.**

Attendance/Tardiness

During a summer session, when classes are condensed, not entirely unlike a can of Cream of Mushroom soup, we will be progressing at a quicker pace, day to day, so in missing class you will not only potentially be falling behind but also negatively affecting your participation grade.

Summer 2008 Schedule

Week 1

Monday, 6.02

Agenda: Class introduction, course outcomes

Homework: Read “Nacirema”

Tuesday, 6.03

Agenda: Introduce first paper

Homework: Read “The Dude Manifesto,” and others

Wednesday, 6.04

Agenda: Discussion of subcultures/countercultures, begin watching film

Homework: Draft a proposal of the subculture you intend to study and list of prepared questions

Thursday, 6.05

Agenda: Finish watching film, address proposals

Homework: Compose a rough draft for in-class workshop

Week 2

Monday, 6.09

Agenda: Workshop, sign up for conferences

Homework: Prepare for your conference

Tuesday, 6.10

Class cancelled for conferences

Wednesday, 6.11

Agenda: First paper due, introduce second paper

Homework: Read past student’s essay as an example

Thursday, 6.12

Agenda: Reading discussion, bildungsroman

Homework: Draft a proposal

Week 3

Monday, 6.16

Agenda: Proposal discussion

Homework: Compose a rough draft for in-class workshop

Tuesday, 6.17

Agenda: Workshop, sign up for conferences

Homework: Prepare for your conference

Wednesday, 6.18

Class cancelled for conferences

Thursday, 6.19

Agenda: Second paper due, introduce final paper

Homework: Contemplate an example of rhetoric for your final paper

Week 4

Monday, 6.23

Agenda: Examining contemporary rhetoric

Homework: Compose a rough draft for in-class workshop

Tuesday, 6.24

Agenda: Workshop, sign up for conferences

Homework: Prepare for your conference

Wednesday, 6.25

Class cancelled for conferences

Thursday, 6.26

Agenda: Final paper due

[1] Since we will not be using one, official course text, we will be reading handouts, which I will distribute in class, which you will need to be present to attain.

[2] Back up your work.

[3] Includes your critical input to discussions, preparedness for class/conferences, attendance, general alertness (read: not sleeping. I reserve the right to mark you absent if you sleep through class), contributions to group work, paying attention to your peers/me, not interrupting, not texting, exercising civility, and asking questions which spark intelligent dialogue.