

Missouri Western State University
College of Arts and Sciences
Department of English, Foreign Language, and Journalism
ENG104-40 College Writing and Rhetoric
Online
Dr. Stacia Bensyl, Eder Hall 222 I
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Office hours: by appointment

Required Text:

Hirschberg, Stuart and Terry Hirschberg, eds. *One World, Many Cultures*. 7th ed. New York: Pearson, 2009.

Optional Text:

I cannot stress the importance of having a good handbook. If you already have a handbook from another class, that is fine.

Course Objectives:

This course is the first of a two-part composition requirement at Missouri Western. In this course you will begin to look at your own, your peers' and professionals' writing as ways to communicate complex ideas effectively. For the purposes of this course, let's define *rhetoric* as the art of employing specific modes, or elements, in your writing, usually with the idea of influencing your reader in some way. The term also applies to speaking, and you may have heard it used in that context.

In English 104-40 you will meet the following objectives:

- Learn the elements of four specific rhetorical modes
- Be aware of the audience for each of these papers
- Practice pre-writing as a way to organize your ideas for your papers
- Edit your own and your peers' papers
- Read essays which use each of the four modes and be able to evaluate their effectiveness

To meet these objectives you will:

- Write four papers, each of which uses one of four modes
- Share ideas with others in the class to establish a sense of audience
- Complete pre-writing assignments
- Edit your own and your peers' papers both for content and form

Grading policy:

The grading scale is as follows:

100-90% = A

80-89% = B

70-79% = C

60-69% = D

59-0% = F

Remember, you must receive a grade of "C" or above to enroll in English 108 next semester.

Each assignment you are given will be worth a specific amount of points, and the possible total points value of each assignment will be clearly indicated on the assignment.

Requirements and advice:

- Because this is an online class, I expect you to have daily access to a computer. You must have an open email account at MWSU in order to participate in this class.
- One idea some people have about online classes is that they can do the work "any time they want to." That is true, up to a point. You cannot, however, turn in work "any time you want to." I have specific due dates and time restrictions on assignments. The key to being successful in a course of this nature is keeping up with daily work and pacing yourself. Waiting until the last minute to do your work is the kiss of death.
- I will not accept late work. If you are having technical difficulties, contact me.
- Make sure you save your work to something you have access to. Don't save it to a desktop you may not be able to get to each day. NEVER save anything to a MWSU desktop. They are cleared daily and your work will disappear.
- I insist on professionalism and respect in your interactions, both with me and with your peers. Postings for class discussion should contain language your grandmother could read without blushing. This doesn't mean we can't disagree. I encourage it, as long as we are all civil

with one another. Sometimes it is difficult to convey tone effectively online.

- If you have some unforeseen problem, contact me. I cannot help you if I don't know what is going on. Students often think the problem will just go away.
- If you don't hear from me for a few days, or don't get a response to your paper, please contact me to see if there is a problem. I may not have received your work. Keep on top of our communication and I will do the same.
- Feel free to stop by my office if you wish. Just because we are online doesn't mean we have to be completely anonymous.

Paper Topics and Due Dates:

Paper #1: Process Analysis essay--Due June 11

Paper #2: Comparison/contrast essay--Due June 26

Paper #3: Cause and Effect Analysis essay--Due July 10

Paper #4: Argumentative essay—Due July 24

Attendance policy:

In order to improve student learning as well as to achieve compliance with federal financial aid policies, Western has a mandatory attendance policy for all 100 and 200-level courses. You will be given an excused absence when acting as an official representative of the university, provided you give prior written verification from the faculty/staff supervisor of the event.

All other absences will be deemed unexcused. **As this is a non-traditional class, I cannot take daily attendance. Your participation is your attendance. Thus, when you have failed to post or turn in your work during the first week of class 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.

Student Disability:

Students with disabilities (impaired hearing, vision, reading disorders, etc.) should notify me in writing of the disability before the end of the first week of class. In consultation with the Center for Academic Support, I will work out a course of study for such students.

Academic Honesty Policy:

I abide by all the regulations outlined in the Missouri Western State College Catalog and Student Handbook:

Academic Honesty Policy and Due Process

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 activity. Violations of academic honesty may result in a failing grade on the assignment, failure in the course, or expulsion from the University. When a student's grade has been affected, violations of academic honesty will be reported to the Provost or designated representative on the Academic Honesty Violation Report forms.

Please see the 2006-07 Student Handbook and Calendar on page 21 for specific activities identified as violations of this policy and the student due process procedure. This handbook is also available online at <http://www.missouriwestern.edu/handbook/index.pdf>

I will not tolerate plagiarism, cheating, or claiming another's work as your own. Please don't cheat! If I find evidence of academic dishonesty, I will automatically assign that student an "F" for the course.

Week 1	June 1	Read "Welcome" on WebCT announcements	
June 1-4		Read "Process Analysis" on WebCT assignments	
		Read "Body Ritual Among the Nacirema" page 475	
		Complete analysis of "Body Ritual" on WebCT assignments and submit (20 points)	
	June 2	Read "China Chic: East Meets West" page 508	
points)		Complete analysis of "China Chic" on WebCT assignments and submit	(20
	June 3	Read "Initiated into an Iban Tribe of Headhunters" page 142	
points)		Complete analysis of "Initiated" on WebCT assignments and submit	(20
		Take quiz over <i>One World, Many Cultures</i> readings on WebCT assessments and submit (15 points)	
		Complete prewrite #1 and submit (20 points)	

June 4 Complete prewrite #2 and submit (20 points)

Week 2
June 8-11

June 8 Complete prewrite #3 and submit (20 points)

June 9 rough draft/post peer review (50 points)

June 10 edit rough draft

Read "Editing Strategies" on WebCT assignments

June 11 final draft of paper #1 due by 11:30 p.m. (100 points)

Week 3
June 15-18

June 15 Read "Comparison and Contrast" on WebCT assignments

Read "What We Think of America" page 284

Complete analysis of "What We Think" on WebCT assignments and submit (20 points)

June 16 Read "Learning from Ladakh" page 275

Complete analysis of "Learning" on WebCT assignments and submit

(20 points)

June 17 Read "The Scent of Two Cities" page 445

Complete analysis of "Scent" on WebCT assignments and submit (20

points)

Take quiz over *One World, Many Cultures* readings on WebCT assessments and submit (15 points)

Complete prewrite #1 and submit (20 points)

June 18 Complete prewrite #2 and submit (20 points)

Week 4
June 22-25

June 22 Complete prewrite #3 and submit (20 points)

June 23 rough draft/post peer review (50 points)

June 24 edit rough draft

June 25 final draft of paper #2 due by 11:30 p.m. (100 points)

Week 5
June 29-
July 2

June 29 Read "Cause and Effect" on WebCT assignments

Read "The Little Emperors" page 64

Complete analysis of "Little Emperors" on WebCT and submit (20

points)

June 30 Read "Generation Debt" page 260

Complete analysis of "Generation" on WebCT and submit (20 points)

July 1 Read "Live Free and Starve" page 290

Complete analysis of "Live Free" on WebCT and submit (20 points)

Take quiz over *One World, Many Cultures* readings on WebCT assessments and submit (15 points)

Complete prewrite #1 and submit (20 points)

July 2 Complete prewrite #2 and submit (20 points)

Week 6
July 6-9

July 6 Complete prewrite #3 and submit (20 points)

July 7 rough draft/post peer review (50 points)

July 8 edit rough draft

July 9 final draft of paper #3 due by 11:30 p.m. (100 points)

Week 7
July 13-16

July 13 Read "Argumentation" on WebCT assignments

Read "Civilize Them With a Stick" page
Complete analysis of "CivilizeThem" on WebCT and submit (20

points)

July 14 Read "A Look Behind the Veil" page 185
Complete analysis of "A Look" on WebCT and submit (20 points)

July 15 Read "The Threat of National ID" page
Read "Why Fear National ID Cards?" page
Complete analysis of "The Threat and Why Fear" on WebCT and

submit (20 points)

Take quiz over *One World, Many Cultures* readings on WebCT assessments and submit (15 points)
Complete prewrite #1 and submit (20 points)

July 16 Complete prewrite #2 and submit (20 points)

Week 8

July 20-23

July 20 Complete prewrite #3 and submit (20 points)

July 21 rough draft/post peer review (50 points)

July 22 edit rough draft

July 23 final draft due by 11:30 p.m. (100 points)