

ENL 409 M1
M 6:40 - 9:10 pm
Briggs 245

Listserv

ENL 409 Modern American English: The Teaching of Writing

In this course, we will treat the notion of a "modern American English" as writing itself. Because the majority of the students in this class are Education or English majors, and because these two academic disciplines are concerned largely with issues related to writing and writing instruction, this course will investigate what it means (or might mean) to treat the broad notion of writing as English itself.

A great deal of the work we do in this class will involve efforts to "reform" writing instruction. We'll examine a number of approaches to educational and writing reform and conclude with a discussion on technology. Because technology is a major concern in education today, we will also work extensively with technology: e-mail and the Web.

Even though you will work with computers in this

class, you don't need any prior knowledge of the computing resources we will use. Everything you need to know, you will learn in class.

Instructor

Texts

Rules

Schedule

Bands

Resources

***As if Learning Mattered* - Richard Miller**

***Internet Invention* - Greg Ulmer**

***A Writer's Reference* - Diane Hacker**

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Rules and Requirements:

1. Attendance is mandatory. Class discussion depends on the entire class being present. Because this course only meets once a week, you are allowed one unexcused absence throughout the course. After that, your final grade will drop by one letter grade for each additional absence. Prolonged absences due to illness or absences due to having to attend a university sponsored event (athletics, theater, music, field trip) will be excused if you provide me with proper documentation from an appropriate authority. You are responsible for all work due for any missed class as well as for the homework for the following class. You are also responsible for any work covered during the class you missed. You should get the phone numbers of a couple of your classmates in case you miss a class. You can also contact me by e-mail.
2. Don't be late to class. The class depends on your presence in order to conduct peer review and other in class activities. Three tardies will count as one unexcused absence.
3. Assignments are due on the class day they have been assigned for. Late work will not be accepted.
4. All assignments (unless otherwise noted) must be typed on white 8 1/2 X 11" paper, be double spaced, have 1" margins, and be according to MLA style.
5. All students are expected to honor the University's Honor Code. All work must be your own. Copying work without giving credit is considered plagiarism. Evidence of plagiarism will be dealt with according to the university's regulations.
6. Turn off your cell phones when you come to class. There is zero tolerance for cell phones going off in class and points will be deducted from your final grade if your phone does go off.
7. Many different opinions will be expressed in this class. Students are expected to respect the views of other students. Sexist and racial hate speech will not be tolerated. A difference of opinion will naturally result and is expected and encouraged. But

students must still respect the view points of the other students in the class.

Grades:

Grades are calculated as follows:

1. Essays (100 points each): There will be two class essay/projects assigned throughout the course. Each essay/project will be approximately 3,000 words long.
 - Synopsis of a major composition theory (the study of discipline). This assignment you will post on the Web into your web account.
 - Electronic Assignment: Mystory (the hypertext experiment)
2. E-Mail (100 points): We will have an e-mail list for this class. You will be required to participate in e-mail discussion about class readings and assignments. Each week, you will have to post at least two e-mail responses/replies. E-mail will help facilitate discussion and assist you in your readings. E-mail posts that don't contribute to discussion, that are frivolous (i.e. "class was good today" or "the readings were interesting") don't count for credit.
3. Homepage (20 points). Early in the semester you will create a homepage. The homepage will serve as your first work in web writing as well as a place for you to put ideas you have about class work.

How to set up your web account:

- You need to set up an "ftp account"
- Take an appropriate ID to the Student Union Lab (basement of the Student Union).
- Ask for the request form to fill out.
- Once that is done an ftp account will be created.

Make sure you do this the first week of class!

4. Panel Presentation (100 points): You will be placed in a band that will give two panel presentations on the projects you are working on. Each presentation = 50 pts.
5. Participation (100): Participation is essential in this class. Be prepared to discuss the readings as well as to ask questions.

Without participation, the class will be boring, and you will find yourself not progressing in your work. Through participation, we (you and I) will learn more about the writing process and how to express ourselves in a clear and coherent manner that is convincing and persuasive.

The maximum amount of points you can receive is 600. The grading scale is as follows:

470-520 points A

420-470 points B+

370-420 points B

320-370 points C+

270-320 points C

220-270 points D

< 220 points F

ENL 409 Modern American English: The Teaching of Writing

Week One January 6

Intro

Week Two January 13

Uptaught

Week Three January 20

A Guide to Composition Pedagogies

Week Four January 27

A Guide to Composition Pedagogies

Week Five February 3

Presentations

Week Six February 10

Peer Review

Discuss date for 1st Project to be due

Week Seven February 17

As if Learning Mattered

Week Eight February 24

As if Learning Mattered

Week Nine March 3
Spring Break
No class

Week Ten March 10
Internet Invention

Week Eleven March 17
Internet Invention

Week Twelve March 24
Internet Invention

Week Thirteen April 1
Presentations

Week Fourteen April 7
Peer Review

Week Fifteen April 14
Peer Review

Week Sixteen
April 21 -26 Final Exam Week
2nd Project due

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Bands

During the semester, you will give two presentations on the projects you are working on. The purpose of the presentation is to give you the opportunity to teach the class about your work, how you are approaching the assignment, and how others might do the same. However, because teaching is a collaborative process, you will do so in bands; i.e., groups. This doesn't mean your final project is a group project. What it does mean is that as a group you will collaborate on developing approaches to doing the project (i.e. you're creating a methodology). Hopefully, you will each learn from one another during the planning of your presentations, and hopefully, you will teach the class what you've

learned about your own methods.

Keep in mind the following when you prepare for your presentation:

- Be interesting. Don't bore the class by merely stating: I'm doing "x"; I'm doing "y."
- Demonstrate how you are using the class readings and outside sources to approach the problem posed by the assignment. What do the readings teach us about form? About presentation? About content?
- Sustain the class' attention for as long as possible. Involve the class if possible. Group presentations should occupy most of the class time. Each band should take about 15 minutes to talk.
- Prepare. Don't come in and talk off the top of your head. Have a game plan. Being unprepared is inexcusable and will result in a grade of 0 points.
- Experiment. You cannot get a low grade for trying something out even if it doesn't provide the results you expected. You can, however, receive a low grade for displaying little effort.
- Remember: the readings are to teach us something about writing. Each assignment asks: How can we use the readings as models for our own writing? What are you taking from the readings?
- The metaphor we use for the presentation is the band. Since you are in bands, how will you perform together?
- Bands, like rock bands, jazz bands, blues bands, etc., work together. Work out your presentation together so that, in the end, you create music and not noise.
- Sometimes it's necessary for band members to go solo. Other times, you play in harmony. Bands do improvise as well. But they have something to play.
- Give your band a name.

Bands:

Each presentation is worth 50 pts

Band 1:

Shunta Brown

Band 2:

Antoinette ("Toniweaver") Cunningham

Elissa Clemons Alisa Davis
Andrea Buter Christina Griffin
 Jillian Holloway

Band 3: Band 4:
Brenda Johnson Doris Porterfield
Krystle Smith Geraldine Wheeler
Melissa Straub
Dacia Williams

See class schedule for dates of presentations

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Mystory

My instructions for the Mystory (and beginning of example)

Greg Ulmer's instructions for the Mystory

HTML Resources

Dreamweaver

NWE Dreamweaver Help

Dreamweaver Tutorial

Webmonkey's Dreamweaver 4 help

Intranet's Dreamweaver tutorial

Dreamweaver 101

Other Good HTML Resources

Networked Writing Environment Web help

Great tricks for HTML layers

NCDesign HTML Design Guide

How To Design With Frames

Netscape's Intro to Frames

All You Need To Know About HTML Tags

Mapedit for making image maps

Search Engines

Google

Google Image Search

Hot Bot

Ilor
Dogpile
Wisnut
Teoma
Vivisimo

Other Stuff

FTP

If that link doesn't work, click: FTP

Textpad HTML editor