115-05/06 Rhetoric

Anne McCarty
mccartya@xavier.edu

Follow this and additional works at: http://www.exhibit.xavier.edu/english_syllabi_fall_2014

Recommended Citation
http://www.exhibit.xavier.edu/english_syllabi_fall_2014/27

This Restricted-Access Syllabus is brought to you for free and open access by the English Syllabi 2014 at Exhibit. It has been accepted for inclusion in English Syllabi Fall 2014 by an authorized administrator of Exhibit. For more information, please contact exhibit@xavier.edu.
Rhetoric 115  
3 Credit Hours  
Fall Semester 2014
Instructor: Anne McCarty  
Office: Hinkle 218
Office phone: 745-3034  
Office Hours: T/TH 11:30-12:45 & after 4
E-mail: annemccarty@hotmail.com or mccartya@xu.edu

Required Texts:
--Gerald Graff’s *They Say, I Say* third edition.

Course Description:
Since English 115 is an honors course, students should have a good working knowledge of grammar and writing skills. This course is designed to build on those skills. You will refine your writing and persuasive skills by utilizing the rhetorical devices modeled in the works we read. We will concentrate on using a variety of persuasive modes of expression. Since this class is more of a workshop than a lecture course, your participation in in-class writing, discussion, group work and exercises is essential to its success.

Plagiarism:
Plagiarism is the use of words or ideas as if they were your own. The university considers this a serious offense, and penalties for plagiarism, which would include failure of the course, are outlined in the Xavier catalog under the heading Academic Honesty. If you have any questions, please ask me. In your papers, ideas brought up in class may be included, but don't write a paper that is merely a transcription of your class notes. All work for this class must be original and completed specifically for this course.

Grading:
Writing Assignments, Presentations, Responses turned in as homework packets, Final Exam, Quizzes: 14%
First Paper, Rhetorical Analysis: 23%
Second Paper, Exploratory Research: 20%
Third Paper, Research/Speculating About Causes: 23%
Fourth Paper, Description/Profile: 20%

Grading Scale:
94-100: A  
87-89 B+  
77-79: C+  
67-69: D+
90-93: A- 
84-86: B  
74-76: C  
64-66: D
80-83: B-  
70-73: C-  
60-63: D-

A half-letter grade will be taken of final paper if there is no rough draft on rough draft day. Late papers will only be accepted under unusual circumstances pending my approval. Half-grade penalty each day a paper is late.
**Format of Papers:**

Each essay should have two drafts, the rough and the final. Drafts may be hand written. The final must be typed or word-processed, double spaced, 12 font size. No title page is required; instead, put this information, on separate lines, in the left corner of your first page: your name, your instructor's name, course name and number, and the date. Make sure your name is on each page. Put your title, without underlining, in the center of the page. This format is standard MLA. For my class only: label as final or rough draft; include the name of the assignment. Staple pages together; use a paper clip to connect the rough and final.

**Drafts and Revisions:**

Your rough draft will be checked to see it's done on due date. At least one rough draft must be turned in with your final. Since revising is an essential part of the writing process, there should be significant revisions. You may, but are not required to, revise ONE of your papers to improve your overall grade. This revision will be due at the end of the semester. The revised grade will replace the initial one. You may not change your topic without consulting me first.

**Attendance Policy:**

If you must miss a class, it is your responsibility to check with another student to keep up with what you have missed. All absences are equal: there are no excused or unexcused absences. Still, it is considerate to let me know, when possible, if you will be absent. Three absences will not affect your grade directly, but any missed class work cannot be made up. After the third absence, the final course grade will be lowered by half a grade per absence. On the seventh absence, you will need to drop the course or receive an F. (Sleeping or texting counts as an absence. Tardiness and leaving class early may be counted as absences.) I will pass out an attendance sheet every day--if you forget to sign in, you will be counted as absent. Attendance in class is very important, as the class is less of a lecture and more of a writing workshop. No incompletes will be given.
Rhetorical Analysis

T 8/26: Hand out syllabus. Course Introduction.
TH 8/28: In-class practice of analyzing rhetoric.

Writing: one-paragraph imitation of MLK’s style.
TH 9/4: Readings: “Gnawing at History” & Kristof column.
Writing: response.

T 9/9: Discuss writing fallacies.
Writing: argue for an issue you are against.
TH 9/11: Reading: Orwell’s “Politics and the English Language.”
Writing: “This I Believe” statement.

T 9/16: Reading: “Bits and Pieces.”
Writing: Rough Draft due of Analyzing Rhetoric Essay. Bring three copies to workshop in class.
Reading: *They Say* 42-54 & 172-183
Writing: Homework Packet #1.


Exploratory Research

TH 9/25: Reading: handout.
Writing: response.

T 9/30: Reading: handout.
Writing: response.
TH 10/2: Reading: *They Say* 30-41 and 55-67. Research day.

T 10/7: Reading: *They Say* 55-77.
Writing: Rough Draft of “Exploratory” essay due. Bring three copies and a separate copy of your thesis to workshop in class.
TH 10/9: Fall Break: No Class

Reading: *They Say* 1-41.
Writing: Homework Packet #2.
Classical Argument

T  10/21: Reading: “The Practical University.”
Writing: response.
TH 10/23: Reading: selections from Academically Adrift: Limited Learning on College Campuses.
Writing: response.

T  10/28: Reading: selections from Our Underachieving Colleges: A Candid Look at How Much Students Learn and Why They Should be Learning More.
Writing: response.
TH 10/30: Writing: Rough Draft of Classical Argument essay. Bring three copies and a separate copy of your thesis to workshop in class.
Reading: They Say 78-104.

T  11/4: Reading: They Say 105-120.
Writing: Homework Packet #3.


Profile

TH 11/13: Readings: “Soup” and “The Last Stop.”

T  11/18: Writing: Describe a person without adjectives and adverbs.

11/24: last day to withdraw from class

T  11/25: Reading: “Homeplace.”
Writing: response.
TH 11/27: No Class: Thanksgiving Break

T  12/2: Writing: Rough draft due of Profile essay. Bring three copies to workshop in class. Bring short example of description.
TH 12/4: Reading: They Say 121-162.
Sentence Workshop. Presentations.
Writing: Optional Revision

Writing: Homework Packet #4.