ENGL 5372.B01 Composition Theory and Pedagogy
Spring 2013
Blended Course Meets In-Class Mondays 5:30-6:45 and Online Wednesday
Tentative Schedule

Susan Garza, PhD, Instructor

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<tr>
<th>Contact Info</th>
<th><a href="mailto:susan.garza@tamucc.edu">susan.garza@tamucc.edu</a></th>
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<td>FC 267</td>
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<td>361-825-2483</td>
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<tr>
<th>Office Hours</th>
<th>Monday 3:30-5:30 and Tuesday/Thursday 1:45-3:30</th>
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<td>Appointments can be arranged at other times with advanced notice.</td>
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Course Description: A study of works by contemporary rhetoric/composition specialists, with special regard to the theoretical basis of composing and its pedagogical implications.

Student Learning Outcomes: Upon completion of the course, a student will be able to

- Describe the (recent) historical development of contemporary rhetoric/composition as an academic field of study.
- Describe a variety of theoretical approaches that have informed and continue to inform contemporary composition pedagogy.
- Identify the myriad ongoing professional conversations that constitute the field and participate in one or more of the conversations.
- Apply “ways of reading” and ways of talking about/writing about a variety of scholarly and professional writing.
- Discuss the wide range of resources available for inquiry and research in the field.
- Examine critically and reflectively the various works we read.
- Examine critically and reflectively the ways that theory and practice shape and are shaped by one another.
- Construct thoughtful, reflective responses to the current questions being examined within the study of “Composition Theory and Pedagogy.”
- Perform critical and purposeful readings, and written/oral/multimodal discussion of one major topic.
- Use writing for various purposes and audiences and in various contexts.
Graded Activity (20% each)

- **Discussing/Engaging** – For the assignments that you read each week, you will post reading responses in the Wiki Discussion area. You will be required to post a response after reading. You can receive up to 10 points for this activity.

- **White Paper** – You will choose a current conversation in the field of rhetoric/composition and develop a white paper on the topic. The paper will be a minimum of 5 pages, single-spaced, 1-inch margins, 12-pt font, minimum 10 current sources.

- **Book Review** – From the discussion you developed in your White Paper, you will choose one current text and write a book review for a specific journal audience. The review should run roughly between 3-5 pages, single-spaces, and should follow the journal conventions and requirements for the journal you choose to possibly submit your review to.

- **New Media Project** – In order to define New Media and discuss its pedagogical implications in the composition classroom, you will work in a group to develop a new media project related to the readings we have been discussing. The projects will be presented to the class upon completion.

- **Supplemental Work** – Reading, homework and in-class activities will be built into each major assignment. For in-class work I expect students will practice respect and responsibility as a part of this learning community. For each day that you are present in class, if you participate in class work and discussions, and complete work assigned in class you will receive a full 10 points. If you only come to class but do not participate or turn in your work, you may receive only 1 point. If you are active in class and complete the work then you will get full credit.

Graduate Studies Standards
The instructor assumes that seminar members are good-faith graduate students. Bona fide graduate-school behavior is distinguished in at least four ways.

- Students read weekly assignments on time and come to the seminar with serious response and a willingness to discuss.

- Students do not assume that an assignment is legitimate only if it will be “tested.” The work is done for its own learning value.

- Students expect that they will attend 100% of the time and do not assume there are a certain number of allowable absences. (I come to class because I want to share a learning experience with students. If you are not there and I am not aware of your situation, then I will not feel that sharing is occurring. This will make it more difficult for me to discern your experience in this course when it comes time to write down a “final grade.”)

- Students assume that open and equitable discussion and critique is the soul of a graduate seminar. Everyone participates. Everyone is respectful of others’ thoughts. Students don’t put the burden on the teacher or on other students to originate or maintain discussion. They take on the responsibility to keep some seminar members from dominating others, and they do it by offering their share of talk.

- Students give their attention to the discussion and whoever is speaking. This means looking at whoever is speaking with your hands nowhere near the computer keyboard.

Policies
**Late work** will not be accepted without prior approval. Prior approval means that you have contacted me within an appropriate amount of time. Prior approval does not mean that you call or email at the last minute to tell me something else has come up. I also will not accept any work for major projects that I have not seen drafts of over the course of the semester. In other words, if you turn in a major project at the end of the semester on the day it is due and I have never seen any of the work prior to that time, I will not accept it. I will not accept any of the homework assignments late. If you do not get the work turned in
when it is due at the beginning of class you will not receive credit for that work. As long as you turn your work in on time, you will be given opportunities to rewrite any work that needs extra attention, so turning your work in on time works very much to your advantage.

**Graduate Student Academic Integrity:** English graduate students are expected to “conduct themselves in accordance with the highest standards of academic honesty” (Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi Graduate Catalog). The Student Code of Conduct defines Academic Misconduct as cheating, plagiarism, multiple submissions, complicity, fabrication, falsification, and misrepresentation; in addition to “any behavior specifically prohibited by a faculty member in the course syllabus or class discussion” (*Student Code of Conduct*). Academic misconduct is a serious offense that will result in the professor assigning a serious penalty, possibly including failure for an assignment, failure in a course, or recommendation for dismissal from a program. (See Office for Student Affairs website fmi.)

**Attendance and tardiness** can affect your final grade. If you miss more than 3 class meetings (2 for summer, night and graduate courses) I will deduct up to one full grade from your final grade. Save your absences for important things that come up, things you have no control over. This does not mean that you should schedule other appointments during class. If you do need to miss class for an appropriate reason, please let me know as soon as possible.

**Required Statements**

- **Notice to Students with Disabilities:** Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi complies with the Americans with Disabilities Act in making reasonable accommodations for qualified students with disabilities. If you suspect that you may have a disability (physical impairment, learning disability, psychiatric disability, etc.), please contact the Services for Students with Disabilities Office, located in Driftwood 101, at 825-5816. If you need disability accommodations in this class, please see me as soon as possible.

- **Academic Advising:** The College of Liberal Arts requires that students meet regularly with an Academic Advisor and Faculty Mentor. The College's Academic Advising Center is located in Driftwood 203E, and can be reached at 825-3466.

- **Grade Appeal Process.** As stated in University Rule 13.02.99.C2, Student Grade Appeals, a student who believes that he or she has not been held to appropriate academic standards as outlined in the class syllabus, equitable evaluation procedures, or appropriate grading, may appeal the final grade given in the course. The burden of proof is upon the student to demonstrate the appropriateness of the appeal. A student with a complaint about a grade is encouraged to first discuss the matter with the instructor. For complete details, including the responsibilities of the parties involved in the process and the number of days allowed for completing the steps in the process, see University Rule 13.02.99.C2, Student Grade Appeals, and University Procedure 13.02.99.C2.01, Student Grade Appeal Procedures. These documents are accessible through the University Rules Web site at [http://www.tamucc.edu/provost/university_rules/index.html](http://www.tamucc.edu/provost/university_rules/index.html). For assistance and/or guidance in the grade appeal process, students may contact the Office of Student Affairs.
Supplies
• Thumb Drive to save computer files.

Texts/Readings
• *Concepts in Composition* (2011) by Irene L. Clark. Routledge
• And other assigned readings

Provisional Course Outline

Week 1
• Review Syllabus

Week 2
• Read Chapters 1 & 2 in Clark and supplemental readings
• Complete Reading Responses

Week 3
• Read Chapters 3 & 4 in Clark and supplemental readings
• Complete Reading Responses

Week 4
• Read Chapters 5 & 6 in Clark and supplemental readings
• Complete Reading Responses

Week 5
• Read Chapters 7 & 8 in Clark and supplemental readings
• Complete Reading Responses

Week 6
• Read Chapters 9 & 10 in Clark and supplemental readings
• Complete Reading Responses

Week 7
• Read Chapter 11 in Clark and supplemental readings
• Complete Reading Responses

Week 8
• First draft of White Paper due

Week 9
• Complete Reading Responses

Spring Break

Week 10
• White Paper due

Week 11
• Complete Reading Responses

Week 12
• Work on New Media Project

Week 13
• Work on New Media Project

Week 14
• Work on New Media Project
Week 15
  • Book Review Publication Workshop
Week 16
  • Turn in final version of Book Review

Final – Submit reviews of Book Reviews