Jeremy Tirrell

English 106—Introductory Composition

Time: 7:30am–8:20am M-F

Fall 2004

Office: Heav 208

Office Phone: 43702

English Office Phone: 494-3740

Office Hours: T,R 11:00am–12:00pm

MWF 2:00–3:00 pm

Syllabus

Welcome to English 106, the First-year Composition course at Purdue. We will be working in three different spaces this semester—a traditional classroom, a conference room, and a computer classroom. We will be engaging in challenging activities that will involve reading, writing, group work, visual design, and rhetorical/creative uses of technology.

Texts

Faigley, George, Palchik, and Selfe—*Picturing Texts*

Additional readings will be provided

Recommended

A good college dictionary

A college writing handbook

Course Rationale

When we communicate we use language and text, but also we use visuals, from simple images to sophisticated video and film. For this reason, literacy and effective communication are somewhat different from what they were formerly. How we read and write, and the tools and techniques we use, have expanded to incorporate electronic and visual forms. The major goals of this course are to help you achieve this sophisticated, contemporary form of literacy and become an effective communicator in a digital and visual society.

In essence, English 106 is designed to help you get involved in writing critically and creatively. From the beginning, we also will push the boundaries of what "writing" means, producing unfamiliar textual forms, incorporating elements of visual design, building a webpage. We also will be reading a variety of texts from *Picturing Texts*—essays, photo portfolios, ads, and everything in between—that challenge us to re-think how messages reach us, how we respond to them, and how we create them. Finally, we will be doing a bit more than firing up Microsoft Word. Our projects will ask us to experiment with different ways of creating and delivering a message, from creating portraits, to researching sustained arguments, to building websites. Regardless of your level of familiarity with any particular program or piece of equipment, we will all face challenges in thinking through how we can creatively and effectively utilize something as simple as a photograph or a hyperlink or even a different typeface to add dimension to a message, engage and excite a reader, and get some satisfaction out of the writing that we do.

Conferences

Half of you are scheduled to meet with me in Heavilon 225 on Mondays, the other half in Heavilon 225 on Thursdays. You will not attend conferences every week. You will be broken into groups of 5 corresponding to a color (Red, Blue, Yellow, Green), but your conference will be individual (with rare exceptions). You will come to conferences every other week. Conferences are mandatory; they are not optional. During the first week, we will acclimate ourselves to the rooms and cover the conferencing guidelines. The conferences are your opportunity to discuss with me a question or concern you have about your work and/or reading for the class. For each conference, you will need to bring one of the following:
  • A half-page, typed, single-spaced sheet that discusses a part of your current project and describes what you are trying to do, how it relates to the larger project, or why you have questions or confusion about it.
  • A half-page, typed, single-spaced sheet that offers a question or comment about something we have read for class.
  • A half-page, typed, single-spaced sheet that offers a question or comment about an activity we have

done in or out of class.

The purpose of the pre-conference writing is to get you to work through some specific ideas, issues, or insights beforehand so that we can get the most out of our conference time, and do so in a manner tailored to your specific needs. If you do not show up at your scheduled time or you do not bring your half-page you will be counted absent.

Assignments and Grades
You have three major projects to do throughout the semester. Each of these projects will include several parts and involve composing in various mediums. These will be the main focus of the course. However, other, short homework and writing assignments will be integral to the composition of the larger projects, and I will be making such assignments regularly. Discussion is also an important element of the class, so attendance and participation are mandatory. Attendance and participation make up 10% of your total grade. For each unexcused absence, you will lose 2% of the attendance and participation component of your grade. This means that if you miss 5 meetings, your grade will drop by a letter. If you come to class without the required materials (such as homework or drafts) you will be counted absent. Missing a conference also counts as an absence.

Percentage breakdown of total grade:
- Project 1=20%
- Project 2=20%
- Project 3=30%
- Short Writing=20%
- Attendance and Participation=10%

Late Work
Late work will not be accepted.

Disabilities
If you have a disability that requires special accommodations, please see me privately within the first week of class to make arrangements. I and the university will make every effort to accommodate disabilities.

Tentative Schedule
This schedule will change during the semester. I will keep you informed about all changes. Days tell you what will be covered in class, so reading assignments must be completed before their corresponding discussion day.

Aug. 23   **conferences do not meet (email conference red and blue groups)**
Aug. 24   Course introduction and student information
Aug. 25   *Picturing Texts* 2-19
Aug. 26   Conference yellow and green groups
Aug. 27   In-class writing

Aug. 30   Conference red group
Aug. 31   *Picturing Texts* 22-55 (particularly the 11 terms discussed in the reading)
Sep. 1   Applying terms to images
Sep. 2   Conference yellow group
Sep. 3   Applying terms to images cont.
             Project 1 introduction

Sep. 6   **conference do not meet** (email conference blue group)
Sep. 7   CORE and DLC websites
Sep. 8   Discuss annotated bibliography
             Picturing Texts 98-115
Sep. 9   Conference green group

Sep. 10	*Picturing Texts* 98-115 cont.
Sep. 13	Conference red group
Sep. 14	Webmonkey (image manipulation tutorial)
	Picturing Texts 152-168
	Annotated bibliographies workshop
Sep. 15	Annotated bibliographies workshop cont.
Sep. 16	Conference yellow group
Sep. 17	*Picturing Texts* 169-227
	group work (analyzing texts)
Sep. 20	Conference blue group
Sep. 21	**Annotated bibliography due**
	Picturing Texts 434-463
Sep. 22	*Picturing Texts* 477-493 cont.
Sep. 23	Conference green group
Sep. 24	Portrait analysis
Sep. 27	Conference red group
Sep. 28	Portrait analysis cont.
Sep. 29	Portrait analysis cont.
Sep. 30	Conference yellow group
Oct. 1	Reflective paper workshop
Oct. 4	Conference blue group
Oct. 5	**Project 1 due**
	Project 2 introduction
Oct. 6	Project 2 introduction cont.
	Picturing Texts 384-398
Oct. 7	Conference green group
Oct. 8	Aronowitz Reading
Oct. 11	**conferences do not meet** (email conference red group)
Oct. 12	**class does not meet**
Oct. 13	Readings reading
Oct. 14	Conference yellow group
Oct. 15	Florida reading
Oct. 18	Conference blue group
Oct. 19	Basic web design
Oct. 20	DLC class
Oct. 21	Conference green group
Oct. 22	Argument discussion cont.
	MLA documentation
Oct. 25	Conference red group
Oct. 26	Short student presentations and class feedback
Oct. 27	Short student presentations and class feedback cont.
Oct. 28	Conference yellow group
Oct. 29	Short student presentations and class feedback cont.
Nov. 1	Conference blue group
Nov. 2	Web design revisit
	Project 2 peer review
Nov. 3	Project 2 peer review cont.
Nov. 4	Conference green group
Nov. 5	Project 2 peer review cont.

Nov. 8	Conference red group
Nov. 9	**Project 2 due**
	Project 3 introduction
Nov. 10	*Picturing Texts* 318-331
	Group work with *Picturing Texts* images on 374-381
Nov. 11	Conference yellow group
Nov. 12	Flusty reading
Nov. 15	Conference blue group
Nov. 16	"America Looks More Right," "Outside View," and "Reach Out and Sneer" online articles
Nov. 17	Gibbian reading
Nov. 18	Conference green group
Nov. 19	Debord reading and "Good Country People"
Nov. 21	(optional extra credit)
Nov. 22	Conference red group
Nov. 23	Current research presentation
Nov. 24	**class does not meet**
Nov. 25	**conferences do not meet** (email conference yellow group)
Nov. 26	**class does not meet**
Nov. 29	Conference blue group
Nov. 30	Local group class
Dec. 1	National group class
Dec. 2	Conference green group
Dec. 3	Worldwide group class
Dec. 6	Conference red group
Dec. 7	Presentation of work
Dec. 8	Essay peer review
Dec. 9	Conference yellow group
Dec. 10	**Project 3 due**

Finals Dec. 13-18