

Syllabus, Class Policy Statement, and Schedule

Spring 2017 – RHE 306: Rhetoric and Writing

Instructor: Erica Brozovsky

Unique number:

Class Time and Place:

E-mail:

Course Website:

Office:

Office hours:

TEXTBOOKS

- *Controversies*. 40 Acres Press, 2016.
- *The Little Longhorn Handbook*. Norton, 2014.
- Other readings available on Canvas or by instructor.

ABOUT THE COURSE

UT's motto is "What starts here changes the world." In RHE 306, Rhetoric & Writing, you will take the first step in changing the world by learning how to argue effectively in the public sphere.

In this class, you will learn how to examine a public controversy, analyze various positions that people hold in that controversy, and effectively advocate your own position. You will also explore the ethics of argumentation, explaining what it means to "fairly" represent someone with whom you disagree, or how responsibly to address a community with particular values and interests. Your work in this course will help you advance the critical writing and reading skills you will need to succeed in courses for your major and university degree.

This course may be used to fulfill three hours of the communication component of the university core curriculum and addresses the following four core course objectives established by the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board: communication skills, critical thinking skills, teamwork, and personal responsibility.

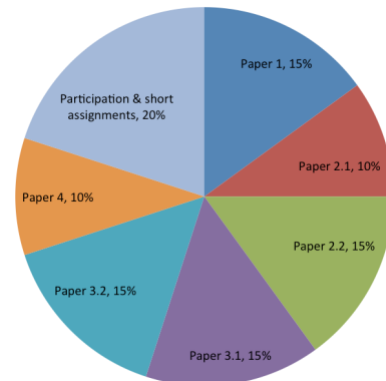
You will learn how to:

- Understand a range of positions in a local controversy
- Analyze and evaluate an argument about a local controversy, using rhetorical tools
- Argue that the controversy needs a solution and/or argue for a particular solution
- Recommend a specific, implementable solution based on collaborative research

COURSEWORK AND GRADING

You will be graded on the following assignments this term:

- Project 1: Annotated Bibliography: 15%
- Project 2.1: Rhetorical Analysis: 10%
- Project 2.2: Rhetorical Analysis Revision: 15%
- Project 3.1: Persuasive Argument: 15%
- Project 3.2: Persuasive Argument Revision: 15%
- Project 4: Infographic: 10%
- Short Writing Assignments 15%
- Participation: 5%
- Peer reviews: Mandatory



Grades

Final grades will be determined on the following scale. Please note: To ensure fairness, all numbers are absolute, and will not be rounded up or down at any stage. For example, a B- will be inclusive of all scores of 80.0000 through 83.9999. The University does not recognize the grade of A+.

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|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| • A = 94-100 | • B- = 80-83 | • D+ = 67-69 |
| • A- = 90-93 | • C+ = 77-79 | • D = 64-66 |
| • B+ = 87-89 | • C = 74-76 | • D- = 60-63 |
| • B = 84-86 | • C- = 70-73 | • F = 0-59 |

Major Assignments

You will write an annotated bibliography, two essays ranging from 4-7 pages each (above designated Rhetorical Analysis and Persuasive Proposal), and an infographic. You will also be graded on your revision of the two essays based on my feedback. In addition, you will compose five short writing assignments.

In order to receive a passing mark for the course, regardless of your performance on other assignments or total average of all your grades, all major assignments must be completed to my satisfaction.

Participation

Active participation is essential to success in the course. Simply showing up to class is your responsibility. In order to receive full credit for participation, you must take part in all group activities and in-class assignments. All in-class and homework assignments will be graded on a credit/no-credit basis. Your grade will be determined by the number of assignments you completed out of the total number of assignments. No make up work will be accepted.

SEMESTER SCHEDULE: TTH

WEEK	DAY	LESSON	ASSIGNMENTS DUE	YOU SHOULD HAVE PREPARED...
1	T 1/17	Course Introduction		
	Th 1/19	Researching a Controversy		<i>Controversies, Introduction</i>
2	T 1/24	Research Skills		<i>Controversies, Chap. 1</i>
	Th 1/26	Summarizing		<i>Controversies, Chap. 2</i>
3	T 1/31	Synthesizing		<i>Controversies, Chap 3</i>
	Th 2/2	Bias and Credibility		
4	S 2/5	No Class	Research Summary 1 due at 11:59pm	
	T 2/7	Annotations; MLA Style		
	Th 2/9	Drafting Annotations		
5	S 2/12	No Class	Research Summary 2 due at 11:59pm	
	T 2/14	Peer Review		Annotated Bibliography draft
	Th 2/16	Conferences, Style		
6	T 2/21	Introduction to Unit 2	Project 1 (Annotated Bibliography) due at 10:30am	<i>Controversies, Chap. 4</i>
	Th 2/23	Evidence		
7	T 2/28	Reasons to Trust		<i>Controversies, Chap. 5</i>

WEEK	DAY	LESSON	ASSIGNMENTS DUE	YOU SHOULD HAVE PREPARED...
	Th 3/2	Reasons to Feel; Visual Rhetoric		<i>Controversies, Chap. 5</i>
8	S 3/5	No Class	Evaluation of a Main Text (RS 3) due at 11:59pm	
8	T 3/7	Reasons to Believe		<i>Controversies, Chap. 5</i>
	Th 3/9	Evidence		<i>Controversies, Chap. 6</i>
9	S 3/12	No Class	Evaluation of a Supplementary Source (RS 4) due at 11:59pm	
	T 3/14	Spring Break	No class	
	Th 3/16	Spring Break	No class	
10	T 3/21	Audience; Drafting		<i>Controversies, Chap. 7</i>
	Th 3/23	Peer Review		Project 2.1 Draft
11	T 3/28	Revision	Project 2.1 (Rhetorical Analysis) due at 10:30am	Hard copy of 2.1
	Th 3/30	Conferences		
12	T 4/4	Revision		
	Th 4/6	Introduction to Unit 3; Argumentation	Project 2.2 (Revision) due at 10:30am	<i>Controversies, Chap. 8</i>
13	T 4/11	Rebuttals		<i>Controversies, Chap. 9</i>
	Th 4/13	Arrangement		<i>Controversies, Chap. 10</i>
14	T 4/18	Infographics	Opposition Paper (RS 5) due at 10:30am	

WEEK	DAY	LESSON	ASSIGNMENTS DUE	YOU SHOULD HAVE PREPARED...
	Th 4/20	Peer Review		Project 3.1 Draft
15	T 4/25	Integrating Sources	Project 3.1 (Proposal) due at 10:30am	
	Th 4/27	Group Peer Review		Infographic Draft
16	T 5/2	Workday		
	Th 5/4	Poster Session	Project 4 (Infographic) due at 10:30am	
17	S 5/7	No Class	Project 3.2 (Revision) due at 11:59pm	