

EXPOSITORY WRITING

Fall 2010

Instructor: John Holliday
Office: ARC 322
Office Hours: MW 12:30 – 1:30

COURSE DESCRIPTION & GOALS

Expos is an introduction to academic writing that focuses on analysis and argument, practices that carry across disciplinary lines and into professional writing. These practices of critical inquiry are fundamental to the work you will do at Rutgers and later in your careers, as well as in reflecting on your own beliefs and intuitions. We will read and write about a variety of texts concerning a range of contemporary issues with goals of helping you read and think critically, express those thoughts effectively, and create your own independent arguments that synthesize multiple sources.

REQUIRED TEXTS

Miller, Richard E., and Kurt Spellmeyer, eds. *The New Humanities Reader*, 3rd ed. Boston: Houghton Mifflin, 2009.

Kirszner, Laurie and Stephen Mandell. *The Pocket Wadsworth Handbook*, 4th ed. Boston: Wadsworth, 2009.

Note: You are advised to retain the *The Pocket Wadsworth Handbook*, as it is used in all courses in the Writing Program.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

- Read six selections from *The New Humanities Reader*.
- Write a two–three-page close-reading assignment based on the first reading.
- Write five out-of-class papers, at a minimum of five typed pages each.
- Write a rough and final draft for each paper.
- Give three brief oral presentations in class.
- Complete an in-class midterm exam (essay format, graded pass or fail).
- Pass an in-class final exam (essay format, graded pass or fail).
- Keep all rough and final drafts in a folder for two folder reviews.
- Regularly check the Sakai course site at sakai.rutgers.edu.
- Regularly check your Rutgers email account to receive class notices.

Note: All work should be typed unless stated otherwise. Please double-space, use Times New Roman, 12-point font, one-inch margins, and follow MLA parenthetical citation guidelines.

GRADING

- The final course grade will be determined by your highest rate of sustained achievement at the end of the term.
- For each paper, one half of a letter grade will be deducted per class for late rough drafts, and one full grade will be deducted per class for late final drafts.
- The lowest passing grade for a paper and for the course is C.
- You must submit all five papers and the close-reading assignment, complete the midterm, and pass the final to pass the course.
- All grades are subject to departmental review.

POLICIES

- Attendance of all classes is expected. After four absences you *risk failing the course*.
- Punctuality is important. Lateness of twenty minutes or more counts as half an absence.
- Texting or fiddling with your phone is unacceptable.
- If you are two assignments behind—for any reason—you automatically fail the course.
- Papers that exhibit significant errors of punctuation, grammar, spelling, or syntax (generally, three or more errors per page) risk failing.
- All papers must be submitted at the beginning of class and as a hard copy. Emailed work *will not be accepted*, even if your printer is broken or out of ink or whatever.
- Review and abide by the Rutgers Policy on Academic Integrity (academicintegrity.rutgers.edu).
- You cannot drop Expos 101 without a dean's permission.

EXPECTATIONS

- Read and take notes on all readings.
- Participate in class discussions and activities, and take notes.
- Review all comments on rough and final drafts thoroughly, and revise accordingly.

SPECIAL NEEDS & SITUATIONS

If you require accommodations or service due to a disability, please see me during office hours and make an appointment with the Office of Disability Services (studentaffairs.rutgers.edu/disability). In order to receive disability-related accommodations or services, you must provide appropriate documentation.

READINGS

Gregory Stock, "The Enhanced and the Unenhanced."

Peter Singer and Jim Mason, "Meat and Milk Factories."

Annie Dillard, "The Wreck of Time: Taking Our Century's Measure."

Tim O'Brien, "How to Tell a True War Story."

Jon Krakauer, "*Selections from Into the Wild*."