

Eng 3312:1, Advanced Composition, Sec. 1, MAB 208 at 2:00-3:15 T-Th; Fall Semester, 2008 Instructor: Nelson Sager Office: MAB 111 Office Hrs: MWF 10-11; 1:30-3:00 T-Th 9-11; Thurs 3:15-4.9 9 (by appt.) Telephone: 432/837-8153 fax: 432/837-8714 E-mail: nsager@sulross.edu

DESCRIPTION AND OBJECTIVES OF THE COURSE:

English 3312 is intended to provide an intense study of writing techniques useful to the advanced writer and an understanding of the English language for the teacher of written composition. Areas of course emphasis include composition strategies, analysis of composition structure, syntax, grammar, usage, research techniques, and style.

TEXTS:

Kolln, Martha. *Rhetorical Grammar*. 5th edition. New York: Pearson/Longman, 2007. [RG in the schedule]

COURSE OBJECTIVES: Students are expected to develop techniques for generating and composing various types of writing which effectively communicate information logically and concisely and which are free from errors in grammar, spelling, punctuation and usage. Students will also be expected to understand basic terms of grammar and the functions of various syntactical units in sentences (phrases, and clauses) and apply this understanding to the improvement of their own writing style.. In other words, students will develop a style of writing that is forceful, clear, organized, and correct, through the generation of texts that form the written assignments for this class.

WRITTEN ASSIGNMENTS: Each final copy of essays submitted for grade should be double-spaced with one inch margins, using only one side of the sheet of paper. Any hard copy assignments submitted in class should use a paper size of 8½ inches by 11 inches. Final copies of written assignments should be submitted through the Blackboard SafeAssign function.. Only in-class written assignments will be accepted hand-written. All written assignments must be accompanied by a rough draft of the final copy (rough drafts can be hand-written). Failure to submit a rough draft along with the final copy of the essay will result in an automatic ten points deduction (-10) from final grade on the essay. Essay assignments are due on the day assigned. Makeups are accepted the following week, when illness or an equivalent reason has prevented the student from turning in the assignment on time. But KEEP UP! After one week, the beginning grade for any assignment is C-(70 points). This means that the final grade on the paper will start at 70, and deductions for errors will bring down the grade even lower.

EVALUATION: Writing assignments will be graded holistically, that is, the following four elements will be considered in assigning the grade to the essay: content, organization, correctness (including techniques of research citation and bibliography), and style. In addition, each written assignment must exhibit effective use of the technique or format or the rhetorical pattern assigned for each writing exercise. The course grade will be based on the following percentages:

Exam I & II & (10% each) 20%

Five writing assignments (10% each) 50%

Team Presentation Exercise 10%

Final Comprehensive Exam 20% [This will cover everything in the class.]

ATTENDANCE: The attendance policy for this class is that stated in the current SRSU Catalog (2008-2010, pp.71) and the current *Bulletin, 2009 Class Schedule* on page 12. In Tues-Thurs classes, 9 absences of a 50 minute period is the equivalent of six absences during Tues-Thurs classes (1 hr. and 15 min. period) : that is, six absences is the basis for being dropped with a failing grade.**F**

TENTATIVE SCHEDULE OF ASSIGNMENTS:

August 21 Introduction to class; discussion of activities and assignments

August 26 Read "Introduction" and Chapter 1 of RG, pp.1-26

August 28 Methods of generating text; breaking writer's block (handouts)

September 02 Read "The Silk Parachute" (handout); discuss autobiographical material in texts and writing assignment #1

September 04 Write in-class rough draft of incident in your life which helped shape your toward some other significant person (parent, coach, employer, etc.)

September 09 Read Chapter 2, in RG, pp. 36

September 11 Read Chapter 3, in RG, pp. 37-62.

September 16 Turn in writing #1; discuss writing assignment #2

September 18 Use as library search day for finding the three articles for writing assignment #2

September 23 Read Chapter 4, in RG, pp. 63-88.

September 25 Turn in writing #2; discuss writing assignment #3

September 30 Read Chapter 5, in RG, pp. 89-106.

October 02 EXAM #1 (This covers chapter 1-5 of RG).

October 07 Read Chapter 6, in RG, pp. 107-128.

October 09 Turn in writing #3, discuss writing assignment #4.

October 14 Read Chapter 7, in RG, pp. 129-148.

October 16 Read Chapter 8 in RG, pp. 149-171.

October 21 Discuss Oral Panel Presentation: Set up topic/research procedure

October 23 Turn in writing #4; discuss writing assignment #5

October 28 Read Chapter 9, in RG, pp. 172-209.

October 30 Read Chapter 10, in RG, pp. 210-232.

November 04 EXAM #2 (This covers Chapters 6-10, in RG.)

November 06 Library Presentation on Gathering Materials for Oral Presentation and writing Assignment #5

November 11 Panel presentation #1; remaining time: Library Search Day for materials to use as support for

Panel presentation and Writing Assignment #5.

November 13 Panel presentation #2; Read Chapter 11, in RG, pp. 233-249.

November 18 Panel presentation #3; Read Chapter 12, in RG, pp. 250-269.

November 20 Panel presentation #4; Read Chapter 13 and "Glossary of Punctuation" in RG, pp. 270-292.

November 24-28 Thanksgiving Holiday Week Break

December 02 Turn in writing #5; Panel presentation #5.

December 04 Review of Class Materials for FINAL.

**December 09 FINAL EXAM at 12:30 PM in MAB 208
(This covers Chapters 1-13 and the "Glossary of Punctuation in RG.)**