

**Composition and Rhetoric II**  
**Summer II 2014**  
**MTWThF 8:00-9:35**  
**MAB 206**

Instructor: Julie Vega  
Office and Phone: FH 212; 837-8771  
Office Hours: MTWTh 11:30-12:00 or by appointment  
email: [jvega@sulross.edu](mailto:jvega@sulross.edu)

**Required Texts:**

Crusius, Timothy W. and Carolyn E. Channell. *The Aims of Argument: A Text and Reader*. 7th Edition. Boston: McGraw Hill, 2009.

Trimmer, Joseph F. *A Guide to MLA Documentation*. 9th Edition. Boston: Houghton Mifflin Company, 2013.

**Materials:**

Plenty of loose-leaf paper for in-class notes and assignments

**\*\*Always come to class prepared with paper, pen or pencil, and text\*\***

**Course Description:**

Composition and Rhetoric II is a course which focuses on various writing methods with emphasis on exposition, critical analysis, and research techniques. In this course, students will develop their writing and reading skills through daily exposure to writing and reading exercises. Topics included in this course are: argument, annotated bibliography, documentation, critical analysis, research. Areas, which will be emphasized for essay writing, are: appropriateness, unity and focus, development, organization, and documentation.

**Course Objective:**

After completing this course, the student should be able to demonstrate competency in:

- Successfully define and recognize the various forms of argument
- Demonstrate an understanding of the concepts of a well written essay:
  - Analyze a given topic by examining the topic, by showing an understanding of the importance of audience, purpose, and occasion, and by using a language and style appropriate to the writing assignment;
  - Provide unity and focus by writing clear and precise thesis statements and topic sentences, by maintaining a central idea throughout the entire essay as well as throughout the individual paragraphs, by selecting a point of view that is appropriate to the topic, and by maintaining this point of view throughout the essay;
  - Develop a specific topic by giving the appropriate amount of specific and in depth supporting details as well as to be able to present ideas clearly and with logical sequencing;

- Show competency in matters of documentation and research:
- Write essays in which the proper MLA documentation is used
  - Create/Write a research paper that supports one main topic
  - Combine the different forms of argument to support research topic

### **Attendance Policy:**

Class attendance is mandatory and crucial to succeed in this course. You are allowed three absences by the university. After the third absence, you will be dropped from the course with a grade of "F."

### **Regulations for Academic Honesty:**

Each student must abide by rules and regulations published by the University. Following are the rules and regulations/policies for violation of academic honesty as stated in the *Student Handbook: Student Conduct and Discipline, Academic Honesty page 80.*

#### **ACADEMIC HONESTY**

The University expects all students to engage in all academic pursuits in a manner that is beyond reproach and to maintain complete honesty and integrity in the academic experiences both in and out of their classroom. The University may initiate disciplinary proceedings against a student accused of any form of academic dishonesty, including but not limited to, cheating on an examination or other academic work, plagiarism, collusion, and the abuse of resource materials.

"Cheating" includes:

1. Copying from another student's test paper, laboratory report, other report, or computer files, data listings, and/or programs, or allowing another student to copy from same.
2. Using, during a test, materials not authorized by the person giving the test.
3. Collaborating, without authorization, with another person during an examination or in preparing academic work.
4. Knowingly, and without authorization, using, buying, selling, stealing, transporting, soliciting, copying, or possessing, in whole or in part, the contents of a non-administered test.
5. Substituting for another student; permitting any other person, or otherwise assisting any other person to substitute for oneself or for another student in the taking of an examination or test or the preparation of academic work to be submitted for academic credit.
6. Bribing another person to obtain a non-administered test or information about a non-administered test.
7. Purchasing, or otherwise acquiring and submitting as one's own work any research paper or other writing assignment prepared by an individual or firm. This section does not apply to the typing of a rough and/or final version of an assignment by a professional typist.
8. "Plagiarism" means the appropriation and the unacknowledged incorporation of another's work or idea in one's own written work offered for credit.
9. "Collusion" means the unauthorized collaboration with another person in preparing written work offered for credit.
10. "Abuse of resource materials" means the mutilation, destruction, concealment, theft or alteration of materials provided to assist students in the mastery of course materials.
11. "Academic work" means the preparation of an essay, dissertation, thesis, report, problem, assignment, or other project that the student submits as a course requirement or for a grade.

All academic dishonesty cases may be first considered and reviewed by the faculty member. If the faculty member believes that an academic penalty is necessary, he/she may assign a penalty but must notify the student of his/her right to appeal to the department chair, the dean and eventually, to the Provost and Vice President for Academic and Student Affairs before imposition of the penalty. At each step in the process, the student shall be entitled to written notice of the offense and/or of the administrative decision, an opportunity to respond, and an impartial disposition as to the merits of his/her case. The decision of the Provost and Vice President for Academic and Student Affairs shall be final.

In the case of flagrant or repeated violations, the Vice President for Academic and Student Affairs may refer the matter to the Dean of Students for further disciplinary action. No disciplinary action shall become effective against the student until the student has received procedural due process except as provided under Interim Disciplinary Action.

Any violations in this course will be grounds for automatic “0” on the assignment with no possibility for makeup work. If the violation occurs a second time, student will be referred to the chair of the department for further review and action.

**ADA (Americans with Disabilities Act):** Disabilities Accommodation- It is Sul Ross State University policy to provide reasonable accommodations to students with disabilities. If you would like to request such accommodation because of a physical, mental, or learning disability, please contact Counseling and Accessibility Services Ferguson Hall, Room 112, 837-8203.

### **Course Requirements:**

- All assignments **MUST** be turned in during class on the day they are due.
- I **will not** accept any late work, under any circumstances!! **NO EXCEPTIONS!!**
- No make-up quizzes or exams will be given.

### **Assignments:**

- Annotated Bibliography
- Essays (critical analysis and argumentative)
- Research Paper and oral presentation
- Quizzes/Mid-term/Final

Your final grade for the class will be calculated as follows:

Annotated Bibliography	20%
Essays	20%
Research Paper	40%
Oral Presentation	10%
Quizzes/Mid-term/Final	10%

**Tentative Schedule**  
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**July**

- 10 Introductions; Guidelines: annotated bibliography, essays (critical analysis and argumentative), research paper, topics for research
- 11 “Lost in translation” by David Mas Masumoto~~Annotation
- 14 “Lost in translation” by David Mas Masumoto~~Critique
- 15 Meet in library classroom on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor (Books)
- 16 Meet in library classroom on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor (Periodicals)
- 17 MLA Documentation (format, works cited, in-text citation); Direct Quote/Paraphrase/Summary; **Ch. 7:** “Ethical Writing and Plagiarism;”
- 18 Meet in library classroom on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor; MLA Exercise; **Register Topic**
- 21 **Quiz #1; Ch. 1:** “Understanding Argument;” **Ch. 2:** “Reading and Argument;” **Ch. 3:** “Analyzing Argument: A Simplified Toulmin Method;” **Ch. 4:** “Writing a Critique”
- 22 **Ch. 5:** “Reading and Writing about Visual Arguments;” **Bring an advertisement to class; In-class critique of advertisement**
- 23 **Ch. 8:** “Joining the Conversation: Arguing to Inquire;” **Ch. 9:** “Making Your Case: Arguing to Convince;” **Annotated Bibliography Due**
- 24 **Ch. 10:** “Motivating Action: Arguing to Persuade;” **Ch. 11:** “Resolving Conflict: Arguing to Mediate”
- 25 Review for midterm
- 28 **Midterm**
- 29 **Ch. 15:** The Millennials: Issues Facing Young Adults~~ “Gen Y Is from Mercury;” *Chronicle of Higher Education:* “This Year’s Freshmen at 4-Year Colleges: A Statistical Profile”
- 30 **Ch. 15:** “The Promise of the Millennial Generation;” “The Economic Crunch;” “Waking Up and Taking Charge;” **Critical Analysis Due**
- 31 **Ch 11:** The Consumer Society: The Urge to Splurge~~Section 1

**August**

- 1 **Ch 11:** The Meaning of Spending; Section 2: The Messages of Advertising
- 4 **Ch 11:** Section 3: The Pursuit of Happiness
- 5 By Definition!; **Ch. 12:** Romantic Relationships: Sex, Love, and Maybe Marriage~~Section 1: Attracting and Losing a Mate
- 6 **Ch 12:** Section 2: Getting Together; **Argumentative Essay Due**
- 7 **Ch. 12:** Section 3: Attachment and Marriage
- 8 **Oral Presentations; Research Paper Due**
- 11 **Oral Presentations**
- 12 **Oral Presentations**
- 13 **Oral Presentations**
- 14 **Final Exam**