

English 306: Advanced Composition
Writing for New Media

Instructor Information

Instructor: Ana Milena Ribero
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Course Information

Course & Section: ENGL306-001
Location: Chavez 105
Meeting days/times: Mon./Wed. 3-4:15pm

Course Description

English 306 is an advanced composition course focused on writing for new media. Students will read, discuss, and write about topics in new media writing, and will develop a final project based on a topic of their choosing. Students will create blogs, presentations, digital stories, and editorials geared toward new media audiences. As a class, we will explore the implications of new media on politics, ethics, and literacy. As such, this class requires that students read assigned materials carefully and critically, write the assigned responses, and prepare for weekly class discussions.

****To be successful in this class, students must engage with the class' three main learning activities: reading, writing, discussing.**

Course Goals

1. **Students will practice writing for a variety of specific audiences.** Students will learn how to analyze the rhetorical situation that prompts their response and to tailor their content, style, and persuasive strategies accordingly.
2. **Students will analyze and write in various new media genres.** Blogs, news websites, social media platforms, online academic journals, etc. are increasingly important venues for disseminating information. As such, students will learn to analyze the exigencies of various new media genres and to write appropriate texts for each.
3. **Students will develop a new media writing style.** Students will perform stylistic analyses of new media publications and develop their own new media writing style.
4. **Students will analyze the political implications of new media writing.** Students will explore how politics, ethics, and literacy are influenced by new media writing. They will work to develop a critical perspective on new media writing and its implications to our global society.

Required Text

Because the focus of this class is on new media writing, all of our texts will be available online and linked through the class' website: <http://riberoengl306.weebly.com>.

Required Materials

Due to the nature of this class, students are required to bring a laptop to class every day unless specifically told otherwise. If you do not have a laptop that you can bring to class, you may check one out for free from the library. For more information, visit: <http://www.library.arizona.edu/services/equipment-lending>.

Assignments

New Media Genre Analysis	10%	Due Feb. 10.
Blog Analysis Presentation	10%	Individual due dates.
Digital Story	20%	Due March 26.
Web Editorial	20%	Due April 30.

Blog	20%	Due May 7.
Weebly Site Portfolio	10%	Due May 12.
Discussion Participation	10%	Throughout the semester.

Turning In Assignments

All assignments will be submitted digitally. Specific instructions will be given in individual assignment sheets.

Grading

All assignments will be graded on the standard letter-grade scale:

A = 100-90 B = 89-80 C = 79-70 D = 69-60 E = 59 or below

Grades will consider the following aspects of writing, in the context of a particular assignment: purpose, audience, content, expression, organization, development of ideas, document design, mechanics, and maturity of thought.

Reading Assignments and Responses

You are expected to complete all Reading Assignments and come to class prepared to discuss the assigned reading on the appropriate day. You are also expected to complete a Reading Response after every Reading Assignment. All Reading Responses must be posted on your blog before the beginning of class following the day in which they were assigned, unless I tell you otherwise. Also, unless otherwise stated, Reading Responses must include a brief summary of the reading and a critical response to its content.

Technology Responsibilities

Because the exchange of information and materials in this class will be largely electronic, familiarity with certain technologies is crucial for participation and success in the course. Thus, you should be able to attend to the responsibilities in the list below. If you need any assistance now or at any point during the semester, please do not hesitate to ask me.

- You are expected to back up all drafts of all files; that is, you should save *each new draft under a new filename* on flash drive or via e-mail.
- You are expected to have proficiency with your University e-mail account and web browsing.
- You are expected to know how to use a word processing program, attach files to E-mails, and upload files to the course D2L page.
- You are expected to check your E-mail on a daily basis for notices and updates.
- You are expected to become more proficient with unfamiliar new media technologies and applications, including blogging and website platforms.

The policies in this syllabus are considered contractual at the University of Arizona. If you remain in the class after day one, you have agreed to all that is required. The details of the day-by-day schedule are subject to change but not the requirements outlined in the course description and policies.