Program for Writing and Rhetoric:
WRTG 3020: The Politics of Writing About Ethnicity

Fall 2007
Tony Ruiz

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As a prerequisite to taking this course, students acknowledge and accept all policies listed on this syllabus.

Required Texts
The Craft of Research Wayne C. Booth

Major Semester Assignments for Grade

Assignments: All documents submitted for grade must be original and drafted in this course.

I:  Quizzes & Writing Prompts  15%
(points accumulated in reading and content quizzes and all short writing)

September
II: Essay #1: "Difference" and Socio-Ethical Reflection  15%
(Employing Minow's claims) (4-5 pgs.)

October
III: Essay #2: "Ethnicity": Borders and Limits  20%

November
IV:  Essay #3: Topic in the Cultural Politics of Ethnicity (2-3 drafts; 7-9 pgs.)  30%
With Annotated Bibliography

December
V:  Oral Presentation (Groups)  10%
(2-3 in groups; present common questions, issues, and problems explored in research topic)
Collaboration: workshops, presentations and other participation: 10%

(Grade based on accumulation of points received for in-class participation, and cannot be earned otherwise.

Grading:
Course grades are based on individual and group written work, oral presentation, and participation in all phases of project planning and implementation. I use the standard numerical scale detailed in your student handbook to calculate final grades (3.0= 3.3=, etc.).

Late Papers Grade Reduction: All drafts of essays or short papers are due at scheduled date. For each day late, papers will incur a .10 grade point reduction (e.g., a paper that grades 3.0 and is two days late, will receive a 2.8). Papers received in my mailbox same day will not be counted late. Each day thereafter will count as late. I do not accept papers by email. All late papers must be placed into my mailbox PWR lobby with time and date of submission noted.

Attendance Policy

NO EXCEPTIONS TO ATTENDANCE POLICY.

Participation in a workshop type course includes classroom discussion, writing workshops, in-class exercises, group work, and so on. In addition, much of the writing instruction occurs in class, in group exercises, and on the blackboard or projector (participation cannot be "made up").

My attendance policy is clear--if you choose to miss classroom meetings, expect final course grade to reflect your choice.

- 2 absences are allowed with no change in course grade. These days allowed for unplanned events or religious observance only.
- 3 absences: semester grade no higher than B+
- 4 absences: semester grade no higher than B-
- 5 absences: semester grade no higher than C
- 6 absences: semester grade no higher than C-
- 7 ABSENCES: Automatic "F" grade. You must stop attending class. Following university policy, if absences are the result of illness or injury, with a doctor's note explaining why you were unable to attend class on the specific dates, you may receive an "IF" (Incomplete Failure) grade and retake the course at another time.
- When class is rearranged for conferences: Missing a scheduled conference--for what ever reason--will count as 1 - absence.

General Policies

Permission to Use Work:
Enrollment in a course offered through the Program for Writing and Rhetoric implies permission to reproduce and use student writing and media work for educational purposes. In special circumstances, a student may request an exception to this policy. All student writing and media will be presented to classroom anonymously.

CU Honor Code: In WRTG 3020, the honor code informs your conduct in class, group projects outside of class, and your written work submitted for grade. All essays submitted for grade must be original and drafted in this course. The Code is based on the ideals of honesty, trust, fairness, respect and responsibility. It is my policy in all my classes to fail anyone who engages in “academic dishonesty.” For detailed information, visit the University of Colorado’s Honor Code website for further information: http://www.colorado.edu/academics/honorcode/

Students and faculty each have responsibility for maintaining an appropriate learning environment. Students who fail to adhere to behavioral standards may be subject to discipline. Faculty have the professional responsibility to treat students with understanding, dignity and respect, to guide classroom discussion and to set reasonable limits on the manner in which students express opinions. See policies at http://www.colorado.edu/policies/classbehavior.html and at
Plagerism: Simply put, plagerism is taking credit as yours someone else's writing and ideas--whether from professional writing or student essays. Plagerism will result in an automatic "F" grade and report to the Student Honor Committee.

Special note to students with disabilities:
If you qualify for accommodations because of a disability, please submit a letter to me from Disability Services in a timely manner so that your needs may be addressed. Disability Services determines accommodations based on documented disabilities. Contact: 303-492-8671, Willard 322, or www.Colorado.EDU/disabilityservices

Special Note to students who speak English as a second language:
If you speak English as a second language, you should contact me before the third class meeting so that I can better assist you in the course, advise you about special ESL courses, and/or refer you to appropriate services on campus.

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