

MARC C. SANTOS		OFFICE: HEAV 415
ENGLISH 106		OFFICE HOURS: W & F 9:30- 10:30
INTRODUCTION TO COMPOSITION		OR BY APPOINTMENT
FALL 2005		EMAIL: MGSANTOS@PURDUE.EDU
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COURSE MATERIALS AND REQUIREMENTS:

1. Lawrence Lessig's *Free Culture: The Nature and Future of Creativity* (New York: Penguin Books, 2004). Book can be ordered from various stores on-line; free copies available @<http://www.free-culture.cc/freecontent/>
2. 5 Blank CD/R's with cases.
3. Access to your Purdue Career Account and University computers (software: Macromedia's Fireworks & Dreamweaver).
4. An active email address and Blogger account (we will set up you Blogger account during the first week of conferences).
5. Pencils, pens, and paper.
6. A fully functional human brain.

ASSESSMENT:

This course has two major projects, each containing three core parts. Thus, your semester grade is based on these six components along with one additional one:

Project One:		
	Part One:	10%
	Part Two:	15%
	Part Three:	15%
Project Two:		
	Part One:	10%
	Part Two:	25%
	Part Three:	10%
Instructor's Assessment:		15%

My assessment is based upon the following factors: attendance, class participation, preparation for conferences, effort (measured chiefly by a student's out of class activities, such as office hours visits or trips to the writing lab), and the quality of a student's blogs.

LATE WORK AND REVISIONS:

Late work will be severely penalized—assignments will lose one letter grade for every day (not class session) late. Work will not be accepted after five days.

Revisions constitute a major reworking of the logical structure and components of an argument (not the mere correction of surface changes). I will accept one revision of an assignment provided a student does the following:

1. The student meets with either myself or a member of the writing lab to discuss changes before revising.
2. The student writes a one page cover letter detailing the changes they made.

ATTENDANCE:

Attendance is mandatory. Given that this class is performative in nature (that is, the learning that takes place is experiential in nature—its about doing and engaging rather than reading and receiving), it is vital that you are in class with all required materials. That said, I recognize that life happens and that you can't make every class. You may miss three class sessions (this includes conferences) without penalty. You need not give me an excuse. After this, you will be penalized one letter grade per absence.

PLAGIARISM & INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY:

Plagiarism can be loosely defined as the appropriation of another person's intellectual property without proper permission or citation—in other words stealing someone else's work without giving them credit. I consider this the highest of academic crimes, and so does this university. Offenders will automatically receive a zero on the assignment and will be reported to the dean. I will also push for further disciplinary action.

More information can be found at the Dean of Student's "Academic Integrity: A Guide for Students" page:

<http://www.purdue.edu/ODOS/osrr/integrity.htm>

DISABILITY:

If you have a disability that requires special accommodations, please see me privately within the first week of class to make arrangements.

CONFERENCES:

One of the unique aspect of Purdue's program concerns its emphasis on close student/instructor interaction. This concern has led to the conference format: every other week (after the first two weeks) you will meet with me and one other student for ten minutes to work together on whatever project we are currently engaged. You are expected to bring materials to conferences (ideas for projects, difficult reading passages, drafts of papers, specific technology questions, etc.).

The first week of class I will meet with every student on their conference day (either Tuesday or Friday—check your schedule). After that, we will arrange a schedule and meet bi-weekly.

"The very existence of flame-throwers proves that some time, somewhere, someone said to themselves, You know, I want to set those people over there on fire, but I'm just not close enough to get the job done"

--George Carlin, *Napalm and Silly Putty* WHY ARE WE HERE?

This course introduces students to the basic principles of rhetoric and composition.

This course introduces you to the fundamental principles of rhetoric and composition.

The course teaches you the basics of rhetoric and composition.

This course will help you become a sophisticated writer.

This course will help you become a more sophisticated writer.

This course is all about argument.

That sentence is true. If you know how I define argument.

If we all tried to define “sandwich,” then we would all define it differently.

These sentences break logical development.

Pronouns are scary.

This course teaches students to recognize and enact rhetorical strategies.

This course presupposes that “word choice” doesn’t merely augment meaning, it creates it.

Students will leave English 106 armed with the epistemological and functional tools requisite for civic participation in our evermore digital and networked world.

This course will redefine what it means to “write.”

This course is not a crook.

This course is off the hook.

This course recognizes the importance of a strong thesis.

This course stresses all aspects of the composition process: research, contextualization, introspection, revision, and publication.

This is not a syllabus.

This is the course syllabus.

