The Course

English 6822 prepares beginning instructors in the theory and practice of teaching first-year composition. The course is specifically designed to provide beginning teachers with both a thorough grounding in the theory of composition and composition instruction, and provide a space for those teachers to explore new pedagogical frameworks and work through instructional issues as a peer group. The course is to be followed by MENG 6823, a mandatory practicum in which students meet as a peer-group to discuss their experiences in the classroom.

The Texts


Various handouts from Comp Tales, The Norton Book of Composition Studies, relevant journal articles, and other sources.

Outcomes

The MENG Program is dedicated to helping students master the following learning outcomes. This class focuses specifically on LO 4 and LO 6.

- Learning Outcome 1: Gather, analyze, and communicate information effectively as well as think creatively and critically.
- Learning Outcome 2: Cultivated skills in close reading, critical thinking, logical argument from evidence presented, creative expression, and persuasive writing.
- Learning Outcome 3: Apply various theoretical perspectives and literary terminology to interpretations of literary texts to showcase an understanding of theoretical perspectives.
- Learning Outcome 4: Acknowledge and articulate the significance of key primary text(s) in one specific literary genre, period, culture or style.
- Learning Outcome 5: Demonstrate knowledge of an interaction with current scholarly criticism.
- Learning Outcome 6: Ability to employ academic conventions and protocols for written or multimodal presentations, including the application of appropriate conventions, citation formats and style manuals.

The Assignments

Theory

Teaching Philosophy One (5 points)—A description of your guiding principles as a teacher, including your goals, dominant theories informing your practice, and your interests. Minimum 500 words. (Meets LO 6)

Bibliographic Essay (35 points)—Each student will construct a bibliographic essay focused on the current theoretical situation of composition instruction. 15 pages. (Meets LO 4, 6)

Practice

Emulation Summary (5 points)—Students will complete the first summary assignment required of their students in order to alert instructors to the difficulties their students might experience as well as make concrete the choices the instructor would make when faced with this assignment. 2-3 pages. (Meets LO 6)

Canvas Course (50 pts)—You will create your upcoming course in Canvas. This will include your syllabus, schedule, all major assignments, and rubrics for each assignment. (Meets LO 1, 6)
Grading
You may check your grade on Canvas any time during the semester. However, do not trust the Final Grade column until all assignments have been entered. I will use the following grade scale:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>94-100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A-</td>
<td>90-93.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B+</td>
<td>87-89.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>84-86.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B-</td>
<td>80-83.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C+</td>
<td>77-79.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>74-76.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C-</td>
<td>70-73.9</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Policies
Attendance: Because we only meet once a week, attendance is essential.

Assignments: Late work will not be accepted unless you have made arrangement with me before the due date. Assignments will be submitted via Canvas unless otherwise indicated. Please do not submit assignments via email unless prior arrangements have been made. This is for your protection. Because of the volume of email I receive, your assignment might be lost.

In-class expectations: If you cell phone goes off in class (or any other device makes an audible noise), you will be expected to bring donuts to the next class.

Plagiarism: Plagiarism is a violation of the WSU Student Code. To plagiarize means to pass off someone else’s work as your own or to improperly or insufficiently document your sources. If you plagiarize, you will receive an E for the assignment. If it happens again, you will fail the class, and I will notify university authorities about disciplinary action.

WSU subscribes to TurnItIn.com, an electronic service that verifies the originality of student work. Enrollment in this course may require you to submit some or all of your assignments to TurnItIn.com, and documents submitted to TurnItIn.com are retained, anonymously, in their databases. Continued enrollment in this course constitutes an understanding of an agreement with this policy.

ADA Policy: Any student requiring accommodations or services due to a disability must contact Services for Students with Disabilities (SSD) in room 181 of the Student Service Center. SSD can also arrange to provide course materials (including this syllabus) in alternative formats if necessary.

Core Values Policy: Weber State University recognizes that there are times when course content may differ from a student's core beliefs. Faculty, however, have a responsibility to teach content that is related to the discipline and that has a reasonable relationship to pedagogical goals. If you believe that the content of the course conflicts with your ability to pursue a topic, you may request a resolution from the instructor with the understanding that s/he may or may not provide an accommodation. (Please see WSU policy 6-22 for further clarification on this policy.)

Contingency Plans: In the event of campus closure (snow day!), instruction will be provided via email and Canvas. It is imperative that you check your email and Canvas on a regular basis.

Disclaimer: Contents of this document are tentative and subject to change.