

CO150 Course Overview

In order to give you a better idea of what's to come this semester, I offer here a brief description of each assignment along with tentative due dates. These are followed by a tentative day-by-day syllabus for the entire semester. Some shifts may occur in that syllabus as the semester progresses. I will let you know about changes as far ahead of time as I possibly can. Happy planning ☺.

Observing Essay, 5%

The ability to develop your writing via descriptive prose will be critical to your success on each and every paper this semester! Your aim in this assignment is to **show** (not tell!) how specific -- and relevant -- observed details create dominant ideas about a particular person, place, object, or event.

Length: 2-4 pages, typed and double spaced.

Tentative Due Dates➔

Workshop version: Wednesday, Feb. 2

Final draft: Monday, Feb. 7

Personal Discourse Narrative, 10%

In this personal narrative, you'll explore an experience within (or outside of) a particular social or cultural group or *discourse community*. Some of the questions you'll attempt to answer: What are some of the verbal, physical (meaning what clothes do you have to wear, what way do you need to cut your hair, what way do you have to walk, etc.), or perhaps written or spoken conventions that make a you an accepted member (or keep you out) of this discourse community? How do these conventions include, or exclude, certain people? In what ways do you have to adapt your language and behavior whenever you (try to) enter this social or cultural group or *discourse community*

Length: 2-4 pages, typed and double spaced.

Tentative Due Dates➔

Workshop version: Monday, Feb. 21

Final draft: Friday, Feb. 25

Summary Response Essay, 15%

In the Summary Response Essay, an academic style essay, you'll learn better ways to understand a written argument and some strategies for communicating that knowledge to others. This essay is typical of the kind of writing you will be expected to do within the academic discourse community of CSU.

Length: 3-5 pages, typed and double spaced.

Tentative Due Dates➔

Workshop version: Friday, March 17

Final draft: Wednesday, March 22

Evaluating Essay, 15%

In the Evaluating Essay, you'll draw upon all of the skills you've honed in the previous essays to critique a film or television show. Your goal will be to go beyond simply stating an opinion about a movie or television show to performing a systematic evaluation designed to convince a specific audience to accept your judgement. You'll need to establish specific and clear *criteria* by

which to evaluate your subject AND you'll need to find, and use, specific *evidence* to develop and support your judgement.

Length: 3-5 pages, typed and double spaced.

Tentative Due Dates➔

Workshop version: Monday, April 3

Final draft: Friday, April 7

Arguing Essay Brief, 5%

Among other things, in the Arguing Essay Brief, you'll establish a position, work toward crafting a specific thesis, examine, analyze and work toward understand the specific audience at which you'll be aiming your Arguing Essay, briefly outline what kinds of persuasive appeals you might use, and anticipate what kind of research you'll need to do.

Length: 2-3 pages, typed and single spaced.

Tentative Due Date➔

Final draft: Friday, April 21

Arguing Essay Annotated Bibliography, 5%

An annotated bibliography is simply a fancy name for a list of possible sources in which you briefly, but accurately and usefully, summarize AND evaluate the information contained in each of those sources. Your annotated bibliography must indicate that you've searched for a variety of solid, quality, diverse sources AND that you've sufficiently familiarized yourself with the sources in order to do a solid summary and evaluation of those sources.

Arguing Essay, 25%

In the *Arguing Essay*, you'll begin with a specific, debatable claim and attempt to persuade a *specific*, real-life audience of the validity of that claim. In the past, many students have chosen to pursue a topic that is closely related to their field of study or major for this essay.

Length: 5-7 pages, typed and double spaced.

Tentative Due Dates➔

Workshop version: Wednesday, May 3

Final draft: Tuesday, May 9 (This will be your CO150 final!)

In-class/Homework Journal, 10%

The best way to become a better writer is to write -- a lot. The goal of the In-Class/Homework Journal is to give students as much practice writing as possible. Journal assignments are designed to work hand-in-hand with other longer written assignments. For instance, throughout the semester you will be asked to write short, one-page responses to a variety of essays. You may incorporate these responses into some of your formal essays. You will also be expected to compile all dailies written during class and hand them in each time journals are due.

Tentative Due Dates➔

First Journal Collection: Monday, March 13

Second Journal Collection: Wednesday, April 26

Class Participation, 10%

The final 10% of your semester grade will be based upon workshop participation, in-class discussions, and attendance.

Tentative day-by-day syllabus

Class Date	In-class Activities	Homework for <u>Next</u> Class	Final Paper Due?
Wed., Jan. 19	Introduction to course/Course overview	Read Chaps. 1&2 in PHG. Answer No. 2, pg. 12.	
Fri., Jan. 21	Confronting writing myths/The writing process	Read pg. 47-56 in PHG. Answer one of questions 1-9, pg. 55-56.	
Mon., Jan. 24	Introduce Observing Essay/Go over observing techniques.	Read pg. 63-67, 75-97 in PHG. Answer No. 4, pg. 97.	
Wed., Jan. 26	Shaping strategies/brainstorming ideas/write-to-learn	Three workshop copies of Observing Essay due.	
Fri., Jan. 29	Class Cancelled		
Mon., Jan. 31	Class Cancelled		
Wed., Feb. 2	Discuss sample workshop version/model workshoping.	Exchange workshop drafts with three classmates and workshop them.	
Fri., Feb. 4	Discuss revisions to essay/Go over grading criteria/Exchange workshop comments.	Final copy of Observing Essay in a two-pocket folder	
Mon., Feb. 7	Introduce Personal Discourse Narrative/Go over key terms: context, convention, etc.	Read pg. 99-106 in PHG. Answer No. 7, pg. 106.	Observing Essay due on this day!!
Wed., Feb. 9	Context and writing/Compare love letter to term paper/Critical reading	Read Mike Rose essay, pg. 135 in LL and type one-page response.	
Fri., Feb. 11	Discuss Rose/Model critical reading/Review PDN basics.	Read Barbara Mellix essay, pg. 80 in LL and type one-page response.	
Mon., Feb. 14	Discuss Mellix/Model critical reading/Brainstorming narrative ideas.	Read Richard Rodriguez essay, pg. 98 in LL and type one-page response.	
Wed., Feb. 16	Discuss Rodriguez/Model critical reading/Review PDN basics.	Read and critique sample PDNs.	
Fri., Feb. 18	Critique two student sample essays.	Three copies of a workshop draft of Personal Discourse Narrative due.	
Mon., Feb. 21	In-class workshop day	Workshop fellow classmates' narratives.	
Wed., Feb. 23	Work on problems class is having on narrative.	Final copy of Personal Discourse Narrative due in two-pocket folder.	
Fri., Feb. 25	Introduce Summary Response essay/Go over summary response basics.	Read pg. 147-159 in PHG. Bring an ad to class.	Discourse Narrative due on this day!!
Mon., Feb. 28	Review S/R basics/summarize and respond to ads/Go over MLA form and plagiarism.	Read pg. 183-201 in PHG. Answer question No. 6, pg. 201.	
Wed., Mar. 1	S/R organizational strategies/approaches to writing a response	Read Deborah Tannen essay, pg. 284 in PHG and type one-page response.	
Fri., Mar. 3	Discuss Tannen essay/Model S/R chart.	Read Neil Petrie essay, pg. 37 in PHG and do S/R chart. <i>First Journal due!!!</i>	
3/4-3/12	Spring Break!!!		
Mon., Mar. 13	Discuss and analyze Petrie essay/Review S/R basics/Go over S/R no-no's.	Read Mark Crispin Miller essay, pg. 307 LL, and do a s/r chart.	1st Journal due on this day!!
Wed., Mar. 15	Discuss Miller/Workshop sample S/R.	Three workshop copies of a Summary Response essay.	
Fri., Mar. 17	Discuss paper revision/In-class workshop	Workshop classmates' Summary Response essays.	
Class Date	In-class Activities	Homework for <u>Next</u> Class	Final Paper Due?

Mon., Mar. 20	Discuss and work on class-wide problems with S/R/Exchange workshop comments.	Final copy of a Summary Response Essay due in a two-pocket folder.	
Wed., Mar. 22	Introduce Evaluating Essay/Evaluating basics	Read pg. 319-340, 346-360, 371-373 in PHG. Answer No. 3, pg. 330.	Summary Response due on this day!!!
Fri., Mar. 24	Model and explain 3-column log/3-column log group exercise	Track down review of movie or t.v. show and bring to class.	
Mon., Mar. 27	Group exercise on 3-column logs using reviews	Complete Evaluating Essay Topic Proposal Sheet.	
Tue., Mar. 28	Optional 1-on-1 conferences		
Wed. Mar. 29	Illustrate and model Evaluating Essay shaping strategies.	Read and critique sample essay.	
Fri., Mar. 31	Collectively workshop and discuss sample Evaluating Essay.	Three copies of a workshop draft of Evaluating Essay due.	
Mon., Apr. 3	Explain revisions to sample essay/In-class workshop	Workshop classmates' Evaluating Essays.	
Wed., Apr. 5	Work on class-wide problems with Evaluating Essay. Exchange comments.	Final copy of Evaluating Essay due in two-pocket folder.	
Fri., Apr. 7	Different approaches to argument/Introduce Arguing Essay.	Read pg. 431-446 in PHG. Answer No. 2, pg. 446.	Evaluating Essay due on this day!!!
Mon., Apr. 10	Define key arguing terms/Key elements of good Arguing Essay	Read pg. 375-382 in PHG. Answer one of questions 1-6 on pg. 382.	
Wed., Apr. 12	Tailoring to audience/Advertising as form of persuasion aimed at specific audiences	Read pg. 539-545, 557-575, 583-592, 599-613 in PHG.	
Fri., Apr. 14	How to construct a brief/Review MLA form/Avoiding plagiarism.	Arguing Essay Topic Proposal Sheet due.	
Mon., Apr. 17	Quality of sources/research strategies/audience	Arguing Essay Brief due on coming Friday (April 21 st)	
Wed. Apr. 19	Library research day Class in the library!!	Arguing Essay Brief due.	
Fri. Apr. 21	Explain Annotated Bibliography/MLA form	Read Martin Luther King, Jr. (handout!!) essay and complete worksheet.	Arguing Essay Brief due on this day!!!
Mon. Apr. 24	Unpack MLK essay/Possible Arguing Essay organizational strategies	Read Postman essay, 394 in PHG and complete worksheet. 2 nd journal due.	
Tues., Apr. 25	Optional 1-on-1 conferences		
Wed., Apr. 26	Unpack and analyze Postman essay/Review MLA form.	Annotated Bibliography due. ALSO, read pg. 468-479 in PHG!!!	2nd Journal due on this day!!!
Fri., Apr. 28	Logical fallacies	Read and critique sample essay.	Ann. Bib. due on this day!!!
Mon., May 1	Collectively workshop sample essay.	Three copies of a workshop draft of an Arguing Essay due.	
Wed., May 3	Explain revisions to sample essay/In-class workshop	Workshop fellow classmates' Arguing Essays.	
Fri., May 5	Problems class is having with Arguing Essay/Exchange workshop comments.	Final draft of Arguing Essay due in two-pocket folder.	
Tues., May 9	There is no final! Your Arguing Essay is your final! Due no later than 4 p.m.!!!		Arguing Essay due on this day!

