ENGLISH 3335
DIGITAL WRITING & RHETORIC

3335-001, T/U 12:30-1:45 P.M. FERGUSON 476 AND ZOOM

In Digital Writing and Rhetoric you will study and practice writing electronic genres with consideration of audience, media and technology. We will spend the first few weeks exploring the electronic genres you may be interested in, including games, databases, interactive data displays, websites, etc. Then an independent project will allow you to focus on issues specific to language, visual rhetoric, composition and publication in the digital environment you choose. This course requires reading, short reflections, and a few small assignments to try out the concepts from your reading and play/practice in digital environments followed by a final paper or project.

GENERAL COURSE DESCRIPTION

Study of and practice in writing electronic genres with consideration of audience, media and technology. The course will focus on issues specific to language, visual rhetoric, composition and publication in digital environments.

Prerequisite(s): 6 hours of freshman ENG, ENG 131, ENG 132

REQUIRED TEXTS:

Access to SFA websites and applications including D2L Brightspace, the library, email, SFA 360, etc. Students must maintain access to readings posted on D2L through a personal laptop or handheld device or by printing out texts.

ACCOMMODATION STATEMENT

Stephen F. Austin provides students reasonable accessibility accommodation to participate in educational programs, activities or services. Students requiring accommodation to participate in class activities or meet course requirements should contact the Office of Disability Services (ODS), Human Services Building, and Room 325, 468-3004 / 468-1004 (TDD) as early as possible in the semester. Once verified, ODS will notify Dr. Parks and outline the accommodation and/or auxiliary aids to be provided.

The full policy is available at:
http://www.sfasu.edu/disabilityservices/
SFA uses Brightspace by D2L as its virtual course management system. You can locate our course website at https://d2l.sfasu.edu. Class handouts, reading links, assignment sheets, and important documents such as this syllabus will be posted on D2L Brightspace in the content tab.

Look in the assessments tab for submission folders.

Locate the site’s gradebook. You are in charge of checking the gradebook for errors throughout the semester.

Please opt in to receiving emails from D2L so that Dr. Parks can communicate with you outside of class.

**ATTENDANCE AND LATE WORK**

This course requires that we meet regularly T/U at 12:30 CST. During a global pandemic some flexibility may be required as we possibly move from mask-to-mask meetings to online Zoom synchronous meetings. We will expect disruptions.

Face-to-face meetings will be masked and socially distanced meetings. If you do not wish to wear a mask, you may Zoom in to class. If you are sick but awake, you may Zoom in to class. Please do not push yourself to attend class if you are feeling at all unwell. The Zoom link will be posted in our D2L Brightspace.

Please contact Dr. Parks in advance or as soon as possible after you have an extraordinary circumstance occur that affects your performance in this class. No penalties beyond the natural consequences of missing class meetings will be assigned.

**GRADES**

Remember: Your most important grade is the final paper or project. However, missing small assignments and reading reflections can still harm your grade.

30% - Small Assignments (includes reading reflections and small assignments that allow you the opportunity to try out writing in digital environments)  
10% - Annotated Bibliography (written to support final paper/project)  
60% - Final Paper or Project

**ACADEMIC HONESTY**

Work for any course should be newly generated by you for each assignment.

Plagiarism involves using another’s work, words, or ideas without correctly giving credit to the author. It is just as serious to plagiarize the work of another student as it is to plagiarize the work of a published author.
General Policy
Academic integrity is a responsibility of all university faculty and students. Faculty members promote academic integrity in multiple ways including instruction on the components of academic honesty, as well as abiding by university policy on penalties for cheating and plagiarism.

Definition of Academic Dishonesty
Academic dishonesty includes both cheating and plagiarism. Cheating includes but is not limited to (1) using or attempting to use unauthorized materials to aid in achieving a better grade on a component of a class; (2) the falsification or invention of any information, including citations, on an assigned exercise; and/or (3) helping or attempting to help another in an act of cheating or plagiarism. Plagiarism is presenting the words or ideas of another person as if they were your own. Examples of plagiarism are (1) submitting an assignment as if it were one's own work when, in fact, it is at least partly the work of another; (2) submitting a work that has been purchased or otherwise obtained from an Internet source or another source; and (3) incorporating the words or ideas of an author into one's paper without giving the author due credit.

Please read the complete policy at http://www.sfasu.edu/policies/academic_integrity.asp

Withheld Grades
Ordinarily, at the discretion of the instructor of record and with the approval of the academic chair/director, a grade of WH will be assigned only if the student cannot complete the course work because of unavoidable circumstances. Students must complete the work within one calendar year from the end of the semester in which they receive a WH, or the grade automatically becomes an F. If students register for the same course in future terms the WH will automatically become an F and will be counted as a repeated course for the purpose of computing the grade point average.

Other University Policies Apply
See these links for some other university-wide policies and explanations:
- Student athletes and representatives in sponsored events.
- What University letter grades mean.
- What University credit hours mean.
- How to appeal a grade.
- How to request a medical withdrawal.
- What happens when you don’t follow the SFA rules.
- Your professor is a mandatory reporter for Title IX.

General Schedule
Please refer to our full schedule. This is just the required syllabus outline.
Every date indicates a class meeting.

Unit Theme: Exploring the Rhetoric of Digital Environments
Aug 25 & 27 – Introduction to digital writing
  Reading summary and reflection due Sept. 1
Sept. 1 & 3 – Writing for websites  
Reading summary and reflection due Sept. 8
Sept. 8 & 10 – Practice basic website coding  
Basic website coding practice due Sept. 15
Sept. 15 & 17 – Writing for interactive data displays  
Reading summary and reflection due Sept. 22
Sept. 22 & 24 – Practice creating interactive data display  
Data display practice due Sept. 29
Sept. 29 & Oct. 1 – Writing for games  
Reading summary and reflection due Oct. 6
Oct. 6 & 8 – Practice creating a game  
Game creation due Oct. 13  
Final Paper/Project decision due Oct. 13

**Unit Theme: Developing an annotated bibliography**
Oct. 13 & 15 – Find and read 3 articles or 1 book on your paper/project genre
Oct. 20 & 22 – Find and read 3 articles or 1 book on your paper/project genre  
Annotated bibliography due October 27

**Unit Theme: Final Paper or Project**
Oct. 27 & 29 – Independent Work class time check-ins to provide support
Nov. 3 & 5 – Independent Work  
Status Report Due Nov. 10
Nov. 10 & 12 – Independent Work
Nov. 17 & 19 – Independent Work  
Paper or project due Nov. 24
Dec. 1 & 3 (mandated online week) – Project Reflection Discussion
Dec. 8 & 10 – (mandated online week) Exam Week  
Course Reflection Due - Designated exam time