

ENG 104: First-Year Composition

Section 9, Spring Quarter 2011 • UH054 • MWF 12-1:10 P.M.

Professor J. Rhodes

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UH 301.22

Spring 2011 Office Hours:

MW 2-4 p.m. and by appointment

COURSE DESCRIPTION

English 104 emphasizes writing as a form of learning, communication, and subjectivity; in short, the course focuses on how we use language to make ourselves part of the ongoing textual conversation that is life. Who are you, as a writer? How does writing figure in your different communities—of work, home, friends, school, etc.? How do writers and critics shape and interpret their communities and cultures? In order to explore these questions, we'll spend a lot of time reading, thinking, discussing, arguing, critiquing, and re-thinking—in other words, we'll spend a lot of time *writing*, which is all of these things.

REQUIRED TEXTS

Rose, Mike. *Why School?*

Other materials on e-reserve and/or Blackboard (TBA).

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Weekly 1-Page Responses (15%). *Due each Friday at the beginning of class.* Using Margaret Woodworth's "rhetorical précis" (look it up!) as a model, you will summarize and then respond to one (or two) of our readings each week. Worth 1.5% each, for a total of 15%.

Three 4- to 6-Page Papers (45%). *Paper 1 is due Wednesday, January 27; paper 2 is due Monday, February 15; and paper 3 is due Monday, March 8.* Each paper is worth 15% of your final grade. Late papers, if accepted, will be graded one half-grade lower (A to A-, for example) for each day (not class) they are late.

Final Portfolio (30%). *Due Monday, March 22.* Your final portfolio will include:

- Revisions of papers 1, 2, and 3;

- the last graded version of papers 1, 2, and 3 for comparison
- paper #4--an expansion of one of your three papers that incorporates further research; and
- a cover letter that explains how the contents of your portfolio demonstrate your achievement as a writer this quarter.

Final Exam (10%). *Friday, March 26 from 12-1:50 p.m.* In-class essay exam.

Papers are due in class on the date assigned. Late papers will be graded one step lower (A to A-, for example) for each day (not class period) they are late.

POLICIES

It is your responsibility to read and be familiar with University policies on academic honesty, course registration, and course withdrawal as published in the 2010-2011 University bulletin.

ADA Compliance: If you need accommodation for a disability in order to participate in this class, please call Services to Students with Disabilities at 909-537-5238 or TDD 909-537-5242. The SSD Office is located in UH 183.

Attendance: You are allowed only three absences over the quarter; upon the fourth unexcused absence, your final grade will drop one full letter for each absence. You are still responsible for class assignments on days you are absent. Contact a classmate about activities and assignments, and ask a friend to deliver to me—on time—any work due on the day of your absence. If you miss a peer critique day, you need to make it up by asking your classmates to read your draft outside class (you will need suggestions from at least two readers for each peer critique day missed). *I do not accept projects that have not been peer-reviewed by your classmates—no exceptions.*

Completion of Projects: All major projects must be completed in order to pass the course. If you fail to complete any of the major projects, you will fail the course.

Conferences: My office hours are for you! Come see me at least once this quarter (and I reserve the right to request your presence at my office from time to time).

Late Work: Even if you've got a good reason, late work is a nuisance for both of us, and it throws things off-schedule. If you must turn in a late paper: the grade for any given paper will be docked 1/3 of a letter grade for *each day* (not class period) it is late.

Plagiarism: Do your own work and make sure you give proper credit to your sources! If you're unsure about whether you should cite somebody, ask me. Any incident of plagiarism will result in an "F" for the assignment; depending on the seriousness of the plagiarism, you may receive an "F" for the course and/or be suspended from the university.

Revision: *Each of the three shorter papers may be revised for higher grades; you must,*

however, turn in the revision (with the original paper attached) no later than one week after you receive your original graded paper. Please note that “revision” means more than cosmetic cleanup of typographical errors and spelling mistakes. Your papers should demonstrate your ability to write a thoughtful, effective exploration of a well-chosen topic—mechanical perfection is not enough to pass the course.