

University of Arkansas – Fort Smith
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General Syllabus

RHET 4803 Senior Seminar

Credit Hours: 3

Lecture Hours: 3

Laboratory Hours: 0

Prerequisite: rhetoric and writing major, with senior standing or consent of instructor

Effective Catalog: 2019-2020

I. Course Information

A. Catalog Description

Provides a capstone experience for rhetoric and writing majors.

B. Additional Information

None.

II. Student Learning Outcomes

A. Subject Matter

Upon successful completion of this course, the student will be able to:

1. Construct a portfolio of appropriate texts and/or media completed while in the program.
2. Create a finished text and/or media for publication or as a sample of their work to use when applying for graduate school or employment.
3. Analyze and evaluate texts and/or media, including examples of their own work.
4. Distinguish the skills and abilities developed while in the program as evidenced in their work.
5. Develop an understanding of the meaning, significance, and application of their degree.
6. Use and build upon research skills learned previous program courses.
7. Select and use appropriate MLA, APA, or other format and documentation.

B. University Learning Outcomes

This course enhances student abilities in the following areas:

Analytical Skills**Critical thinking Skills**

Students will identify problems/issues and develop solutions/analysis. Students will analyze a variety of texts for their rhetorical and/or literary features, as well as analyze the rhetorical situation to which the texts they produce respond.

Communication Skills (written and oral)

Students will communicate proficiently. Students will practice communication skills through discussions, presentations, and a variety of required written assignments.

Ethical Decision Making

Students will model ethical decision-making processes. Students will practice critical response to the writing of others, responsible use of research materials and intellectual property, and the ethical use of persuasion.

Global & Cultural Perspectives

Students will reflect upon cultural differences and their implications for interacting with people from cultures other than their own. Students will analyze the rhetorical situation, produce texts for a variety of audiences, and avoid the use of biased language.

III. Major Course Topics

- A. Selection of appropriate texts and/or media to include in a program portfolio
- B. Analysis, evaluation, and revision of the selected texts and/or media
- C. Preparation of a text and/or media for publication or as a sample of their work
- D. Identification of skills and abilities demonstrated in their work
- E. Analysis of various perspectives on the meaning and significance of their degree
- F. Development of a personal statement or philosophy appropriate to the field
- G. Research and report on opportunities for graduate work in the field
- H. Research and report on opportunities for employment and/or entrepreneurship in the field