

**University of Arkansas – Fort Smith**  
5210 Grand Avenue  
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**General Syllabus**

**RHET 493V Writing: Independent Project**

Credit Hours: 1-3 CR (IND STU)    Lecture Hours: 1-3 CR (IND STU)    Laboratory Hours: 0

Prerequisite: Minimum junior standing and consent of instructor and advisor.

**Effective Catalog: 2019-2020**

**I. Course Information**

**A. Catalog Description**

For students of superior ability wishing to undertake an independent writing project. Will focus on writing a detailed proposal, followed by completion of project outlined in the proposal. Credit hours given for project will be negotiated between student and professor. Students may repeat projects for up to six hours of credit toward degree with consent of instructor and advisor.

**B. Additional Information**

Students will work under the supervision of a member of the rhetoric faculty. Students will be asked to produce a portfolio including the following products: a detailed proposal, a weekly journal explaining the progress of their project, their final project, and a final reflective essay.

**II. Student Learning Outcomes**

**A. Subject Matter**

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

1. Use critical reading and writing skills.
2. Develop collaborative and interpersonal skills in group work.
3. Build upon and use research skills learned in previous coursework.

**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**

Major course topics will vary based on the overall topic proposed.