

Course Syllabus

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EWRT1A: Composition and Reading (Section 33Y)

Fall 2024

MW 8:30 AM to 9:20 AM

Room: L31

Instructor: Sergio Rizzo

Email Address: rizzosergio@fhda.edu

Office Hours: MW 10:30-11:30 AM in Room L47 and by appointment

Mode of Instruction:

Instruction will be a combination of in-person lecture held on campus during scheduled class hours (MW 8:30 AM-9:20 AM) in room L31 and the asynchronous platform **CANVAS**. I will have in-person weekly office hours (MW 10:30 AM – 11:30 AM) in the Language and Communication Village, Room L47. I will also be contacting students through email, and students may contact me at rizzosergio@fhda.edu. I will respond to an email in 24-48 hours.

Optional Text:

Atwan, Robert. *Convergences*. 3rd Edition. Boston: Bedford/St. Martin's, 2009.

Most of the readings used in the course will be coming out of *Convergences* edited by Robert Atwan. However, while it might be more convenient to have your own personal copy, purchasing the textbook is not required. The readings for quizzes and writing assignments will be available through Canvas.

Student Learning Outcomes:

- Practice writing as a multi-step process including planning and revising with attention to varying purposes, audiences, and rhetorical strategies.
- Read and analyze rhetorically and culturally diverse narrative and expository texts from a variety of perspectives.
- Demonstrate the reading and writing process and metacognitive awareness in reading and writing exercises

Course Description:

This course takes a cultural studies approach towards composition. In particular, the reading and writing you do for the course will analyze various popular media— primarily, but not limited to— photography, advertising, and film. A guiding premise of the course is that by studying the visual composition of such texts students can better understand the process of written composition. To aid and develop your analysis of these texts, various critics writing on the media, advertising, and popular culture will be consulted and discussed.

EWRT 1A REQUIREMENTS

Papers (80%):

There will be two papers relating to two distinct units: 1) media and personal identity ; 2) media as spectacle. The papers account for **80%** of your EWRT 1A grade and are weighted as follows: Personal Media Paper (1,000 words minimum, **30 %**); Media as Spectacle Paper (2,000 words minimum, **50%**). **BOTH PAPER ASSIGNMENTS MUST BE COMPLETED IN ORDER TO PASS THE CLASS.** For both paper assignments students will be expected to consult and incorporate critical sources.

Late Papers:

Late papers will be accepted, but points may be deducted for each class day missed before the paper is turned in.

Plagiarism:

Plagiarism occurs when a student uses another's work, ideas, or words and misrepresents them as one's own. Inadvertent misuse of sources is enough to fail a student's work. Knowingly misrepresenting another's work as one's own may fail the student from the course. It is each student's responsibility to avoid plagiarizing.

Canvas Quizzes (10%):

There will be quizzes on readings and other texts (photographs, ads, film scenes, etc.) in the weekly modules on Canvas. To get full credit the quiz must be finished by its due date. Incomplete or late quizzes will be accepted but will receive only partial credit.

Final Exam (10%):

There will be an in-class final exam on **Wednesday, December 11th from 7:00 AM to 9:00 AM in Room L31**. The topic of the final exam will be a reflective essay (750 words

minimum) on the course and how it has prepared you for further college level writing. The Final Exam is mandatory and must be taken in order to pass the course.