

ENGLISH 290: INTERMEDIATE ANALYTICAL WRITING

Required Texts

Maimon. *A Writer's Resource: A Handbook for Writing and Research*. (Or, any edition of *The Little, Brown Compact Handbook* may be used.)

Rosenwasser and Stephen. *Writing Analytically*. 4th ed. Thomson/Heinle, 2006.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Intermediate Analytical Writing is designed for any student who wishes to improve his or her writing skills to meet the demands of academic writing across the disciplines and/or the demands of professions that value careful analysis and communication. The course emphasizes analytical writing, both as a means of invention and as a form of persuasion.

Course readings and assignments will provide you with opportunities to study and practice the rhetorical forms used in your discipline, but attention to the persuasive nature of analysis will teach you the rhetorical foundations necessary for adapting writing to any situation.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

After taking Intermediate Analytical Writing, you will be able to:

- Investigate, identify, and explain the conventions, purposes, patterns of arrangement, forms of proof, and style appropriate to a particular discipline.
- Analyze and conduct research in various forms.
- Differentiate various analytical techniques and employ them to realize particular rhetorical goals.
- Adapt to the demands of various rhetorical contexts in your own discipline and across disciplines.
- Identify potential for cross-disciplinary application of rhetorical forms and genres and adapt to the various rhetorical conventions of multiple disciplines.
- Compose texts that are incisive, logical, persuasive, informative, and interesting.
- Use an understanding of style, purpose, form, and situation to compose coherent texts that are characterized by their appealing texture, rhythm, and grade.

Coursework

- Four Writing Projects- 70%

Students will compose four writing projects (of five to ten pages), including one research-based text. These projects will emerge from a composition process in which students apply analytical techniques to invention, development, and revision. The process will also require students to explore potential applications of the writing projects to their disciplines.

- Small Writing Assignments - 20%

Students will regularly compose brief texts and preliminary texts in class and out of class to improve their analytical skills and to prepare their writing projects. Regular small writing will include exercises in analysis, critical responses to readings, short-answer questions, and modeling exercises. The composing process for the writing projects will require invention exercises, rough plans, drafts, and peer-reviews. As students will write in class every day, a portion of this notebook grade will contribute to the class-participation grade.

- Final Examination - 10%

Students will engage in a final examination or project in which they will communicate the results of their analyses of text(s) chosen by the instructor.