In
To: Jay Jordan <ctj111@psu.edu>
Subject: Re: Questions about your ENGL 30 syllabus

Hi Jay,

Pennsylvania is just the way that I remember it. Here's the requested information:
1. As for the number of assignments, there are five research papers and a formal debate, for which the students will submit a written version of their respective roles in the debate.


If you have any further questions, please let me know. And, if the weather ever dries out, perhaps we can schedule a game of doubles sometime in September.

Cheers,
Dustin

At 11:46 AM 8/27/2004, you wrote:
Hi Dustin,

Thanks for submitting your syllabus earlier this month--sorry for my delay in responding, but I have a couple of questions that I'd appreciate your answers to so I can go ahead and file it:

1. What is the final number of major writing assignments you plan to have the students do? You mention that 5 assignments are required, but the grading breakdown mentions 6.

2. What will the writing assignments entail? The syllabus copy that I have just mentions the assignments, but I'm not clear what they are. Even labels like "definition" or "causal analysis" (or whatever is appropriate for your course) would be helpful in letting the composition office see that these are primarily rhetorical assignments.

Thanks a lot--the course looks really interesting.
jj

Jay Jordan
Composition Program Assistant
Department of English
The Pennsylvania State University
106 Burrowes
University Park PA 16802
cjt111@psu.edu
ENGL 030, Section 019: HONORS FRESH COMP

ENGL 30.19: Still Waiting for the End of the World: Apocalyptic Rhetoric in Antiquity and Modernity

Faculty Information

Instructor: Paul D. Stegner
Office Phone: 814.865.2085
Office Address: 30K S. Burrowes Bldg.
Office Hours: Monday: 10:30-12:00, Thursday: 9:00-10:30, And by appointment
E-mail: pds901@psu.edu

Course Information

Credits: 3.0
Course: 030
Section: 019
Location: 105 Chambers
Meeting Times: M W F 01:25P - 02:15P

Required Text

2. Revelation of St. John the Divine (King James Version)

Course Description

The general aim of this course is to develop an understanding of rhetoric and critical thinking. Our critical approach will be guided by Aristotle’s Rhetoric and supplemented by ancient and contemporary rhetorical theorists. And our consideration of apocalypse will include not only religiously informed texts, but also range from writings on environmental collapse to nuclear holocaust to overpopulation. Beginning with The Revelation of St. John the Divine and concluding with the apocalyptic scare at the turn of the second millennium, we shall examine the various ways in which the idea of apocalypse has shaped rhetoric, culture, and society. In this class, we shall also trace the emergence of such millenarian groups as the seventeenth-century Fifth Monarchists and the contemporary Branch Davidians to analyze how their apocalyptic rhetorics reflect and inform contemporary political, literary, and social discourses. In addition, we shall consider the effects of secular apocalyptic rhetorics, including environmental nuclear apocalypticism, on public policies. Throughout the course, we shall be looking at a variety of texts from the areas of history, sociology, religion, literature, and visual arts. We will also, time permitting, screen two films on the topic: Stanley Kubrick’s Dr. Strangelove and Danny Boyle’s 28 Days Later.

https://cms.psu.edu/section/syllabus/syllabus.asp
Course Objectives

To develop an understanding of classical and contemporary rhetorical principles and techniques. And to examine contemporary classical and contemporary apocalyptic writing through the lens of rhetoric.

Tentative Schedule

W. 9.1: Introduction to course policies and requirements; games of chance
F. 9.3: Putting history to the question: an overview of apocalyptic rhetoric

M. 9.6: Analysis of O'Leary, Chapter 1
W. 9.8: Discussion of The Revelation of St. John the Divine (KJV, 1611)
F. 9.10: Discussion of The Revelation of St. John the Divine, continued

M. 9.13: Overview of Aristotelian rhetoric; Kennedy, Prooemion & Introduction
W. 9.15: Discussion Kennedy, Bk. 1.1-3
F. 9.17: Analysis of O'Leary, Chapter 2

M. 9.20: Discussion of Kennedy, Bk. 1.4-9
W. 9.22: Examination of medieval apocalypticism and methods of interpretation
F. 9.25: Discussion of O'Leary, Chapter 3; Assignment 1 due

M. 9.27: Analysis of Kennedy, Bk. 1.10-15
W. 9.29: Consideration of the effects of the European Reformation on apocalyptic rhetoric
F. 10.1: Discussion of O'Leary, Chapters 4-5

M. 10.4: Analysis of Kennedy, Bk. 2.1-11
W. 10.6: Examination of apocalypticism in the early twentieth century
F. 10.8: Lawrence, Introduction (pp. 1-37)

M. 10.11: Lawrence, Apocalypse and additional texts (pp. 41-69)
W. 10.13: Lawrence, Apocalypse (pp. 70-100)
F. 10.15: No class, Fall Study Day; Assignment 2 due

M. 10.18: Lawrence, Apocalypse (pp. 101-50)
W. 10.20: Analysis of Kennedy, Bk. 2.12-17
F. 10.22: Discussion of apocalypticism in the late twentieth century

M. 10.25: Discussion of O'Leary, Chapter 6
W. 10.27: Examination of Lindsey, Chapters 4, 11-12 (on electronic reserve)
F. 10.29: No class, Sixteenth Century Studies Conference in Toronto

M. 11.1: Analysis of selected materials
W. 11.3: Analysis of Kennedy Bk. 2.18-26
F. 11.5: Analysis of Kennedy Bk. 2.18-26 continued; Assignment 3 due

M. 11.8: Overview Nuclear, Ecological, and other Apocalypses; O'Leary, Chapter 7
W. 11.10: Discussion of O'Leary, Chapter 8; evening showing of Dr. Strangelove
F. 11.12: Discussion of O'Leary, Chapters 9-10

M. 11.15: The Second End of the World: Y2K and the new War on Terror
W. 11.17: Analysis of Kennedy, Bk. 3.1-12
F. 11.19: Analysis of Kennedy, Bk. 3.13-19; Assignment 4 due

M. 11.22: Discussion of future directions for apocalyptic rhetoric
W. 11.24: No class, Thanksgiving Holiday
F. 11.26: No class, Thanksgiving Holiday

M. 11.29: The Problem of Continuing Apocalypse; evening showing of 28 Days Later
W. 12.1: Debate 1; Assignment 5 due

https://cms.psu.edu/section/syllabus/syllabus.asp 8/1/2004
Course Requirements

1. Five research papers
2. Frequent participation in class discussions and workshops

Grading Policy

The final grade will be counted as follows: Assignment 1: 15%; Assignment 2: 15%; Assignment 3: 15%; Assignment 4: 15%; Assignment 5: 15%; Assignment 6: 10%; Participation: 15%.

If you have any questions about the grading policy or your final grade, please see the instructor well in advance of the end of the semester.

Attendance Policy

Attendance for this course is mandatory and unreasonable absences will affect your final grade. Please see the instructor as soon as possible if you foresee any circumstances that will affect your attendance in this course. Papers and assignments are expected to be on time, and will lose one full letter grade for each unexcused day late.

Academic Integrity Policy

Definition and expectations: Academic integrity is the pursuit of scholarly activity in an open, honest and responsible manner. Academic integrity is a basic guiding principle for all academic activity at The Pennsylvania State University, and all members of the University community are expected to act in accordance with this principle. Consistent with this expectation, the University's Code of Conduct states that all students should act with personal integrity, respect other students' dignity, rights and property, and help create and maintain an environment in which all can succeed through the fruits of their efforts.

Academic integrity includes a commitment not to engage in or tolerate acts of falsification, misrepresentation or deception. Such acts of dishonesty violate the fundamental ethical principles of the University community and compromise the worth of work completed by others.

Examination Policy

Periodic examination of student accomplishments is essential for both teaching/learning and evaluation purposes. Examinations may include traditional written examinations, whether in-class or take-home; oral examinations; term papers; laboratory or project reports; orstudio projects. The faculty teaching and coordinating a course are responsible for both the method and substance of examinations used in each course, including the final examination or other integrating evaluative instrument.

In the case of multiple-section courses, the faculty teaching the various sections will determine the examination policy for the course (e.g., common examinations), subject to any restrictions determined by the entire faculty of the section, department, or division offering the course.

Written notification of the examination procedures (including the instructor's final examination policy) to be used in each section of each course must be made available to the students in the section during the first ten calendar days of a semester or its equivalent.

Disability Access Statement

https://cms.psu.edu/section/syllabus/syllabus.asp

8/1/2004
The Pennsylvania State University encourages qualified people with disabilities to participate in its programs and activities and is committed to the policy that all people shall have equal access to programs, facilities, and admissions without regard to personal characteristics not related to ability, performance, or qualifications as determined by University policy or by state or federal authorities. If you anticipate needing any type of accommodation in this course or have questions about physical access, please contact Penn State's Office of Disability Services to verify your eligibility for disability accommodations. Appropriate documentation from the Office of Disability Services verifying eligibility must be provided to the instructor before accommodations will be extended.