Texts:

Other materials: Several essays printed from electronic reserve through the Downtown Library Complex. A three-ring binder to facilitate organization. Keep every draft and free write, both hard copies and on disk. All material turned in must be typed or printed out. Bring your copies, drafts, books and journal (freewrites, reading responses and research story) to class every day.

Attendance and Late Work: Three absences are free. Six or more unexcused absences will result in failing the class. Late work will be penalized (Use your tenth life coupon for one freebie). No late final papers will be accepted. Contact me as soon as you anticipate a problem. If something goes terribly wrong unexpectedly, contact the Office of the Dean of Student Life. They can fix everything.

Office Hours: I’ll be available MWF from 11:30-12:30 and by appointment. Please talk to me.

Plagiarism: According to the Council of Writing Program Administrators, plagiarism “occurs when a writer deliberately uses someone else’s language, ideas, or other original (not common-knowledge) material without acknowledging its source.” I feel quite strongly about plagiarism. Don’t do it.

Special Needs and Social Justice: I concur with WVU’s commitment to social justice and expect to maintain a positive learning environment based on open communication, mutual respect and non-discrimination. Any suggestions on how to further such a positive and open environment in this class will be appreciated and given serious consideration. If you have any special needs or concerns, please talk to me so that we can plan accommodations.

Course Goals: To create 20+ pages of polished prose that show an understanding of the processes of research, the concerns of rhetoric and the principles of argumentation. We will achieve these goals by writing five central essays: a Proposal for Research and a revision of this piece (2 pages), a Review of the Literature (3-4 pages), an Annotated Bibliography with preface (6-8 pages), a Researched Argument paper and a revision of this piece (8-10 pages), and a History of Research (2-4 pages). To help guide you, and to give you a place to think about your project, you will also keep a journal of research. You’ll work on that in class, mostly, but it will also serve as a place to respond to readings and arguments. During the semester, you will also work in small groups (three people) to lead in-class reading discussion one day, and you’ll complete a library exercise and an MLA citation exercise.

Grading: Papers receiving an *A* or *B* will receive alphabetic grades along with brief comments on both strengths and weaknesses. If you are content with your grade, then you will not need to revise (except for the Proposal and Researched Argument). Papers evaluated below *B* level will be marked “revise.” If you are required to revise or you would like to revisit material before the end of the session, you can turn new versions—along with your originals—on Friday, November 21.
Proposal for Research and Revision 15%
Review of the Literature 15%
Annotated Bibliography 15%
Researched Argument and Revision 30%
History of Research 5%
Class Participation and Leading Discussion 10%
Library Worksheet and Big Box Assignment 10%

Please see *Entering Academic Conversations: Research and Argumentation in English 102* pp. 15-20 for grade descriptions and other course policies.

Assignment Sketches:

**Proposal for Research**—The starting point. Framing some questions, suggesting resources.

**Review of the Literature**—Evaluation of some sources. Seeing how conversations start and finding your place among them. Focusing.

**Annotated Bibliography**—Further exploration and evaluation of available resources. Seeing what will work for your argument. Placing your ideas in context.

**Researched Argument**—What do you have to say? What did you find? Your chance to express an informed argument.

**History of Research**—Where have you been? What did you learn? Personal contexts of research. Did you learn anything about yourself?

**Leading Discussion**—Applying rhetorical concepts to reading. Helping others make connections.

**Library Worksheet and Big Box Assignment**—Figuring out the nuts and bolts of research and presentation.

**Class Participation and Journal**—Another context for research and learning is the classroom. You will always have colleagues.

**Class Schedule**

(Subject to change—you are responsible for awareness of changes)

**Week One**

*Mon 8/18*
Introduction to course business. Discussion of traditional research topics.
Home: Buy books. Bring an object of interest to class on Wednesday.

*Wed 8/20*
Finding questions workshop. Introduction of class members.
Home: Respond to description of you in a half page reflection. Read *LA* pp. 309-311

*Fri 8/22*
Continued introduction of class members. Discuss reading. Introduction to Proposal.

**Week Two**

*Mon 8/25*
Proposal discussion. Reading discussion on limiting topics.
Home: Revise Proposal.

*Wed 8/27*
**Proposal due (it will be revisited).** Assign library worksheet and Review of Literature.
Home: Relax.

*Fri 8/29*
**Library Visit. Meet in Downtown Library Complex.**
Home: Finish worksheet and work on Review of Literature.

**Week Three**

*Mon 9/1*
No Class. Labor Day Holiday.
Home: Finish worksheet and work on Review of Literature.

*Wed 9/3*
**Library worksheet due.** Summary exercise. Discuss point of library worksheet.
Home: Prepare drafts of Review of Literature for small groups. Read *LA* 208-209.

*Fri 9/5*
Model leading discussion. Review of Literature workshop.
Home: Revise Review of Literature.

Week Four
Home: Read *LA* 3-7 and three essays chosen by group one.

Wed 9/10 Small group discussion leading, group one—persuasive writing.
Home: Work on Annotated Bibliography.

Fri 9/12 Evaluation of resources, including internet resources.
Home: Work on Annotated Bibliography.

Week Five
Mon 9/15 Big Box assignment in class. Group two assigns three essays.
Home: Read *LA* 24-31 and three essays chosen by group. Find MLA book to borrow.

Wed 9/17 Small group discussion leading, group two—induction.
Home: Work on Annotated Bib.

Fri 9/19 Big Box assignment in class.
Home: Finish and type Big Box assignment.

Week Six
Mon 9/22  **Class will meet in Stansbury Hall computer lab. Big Box assignment due.** Third discussion group will assign three essays from book.
Home: Read *LA* 46-52 and three essays assigned by group three.

Wed 9/24 Small group discussion leading, group three—deduction. Group four assigns reading for Wed 10/1.
Home: Complete draft of Annotated Bib.

Fri 9/26  **Class cancelled for conferencing. Draft of Annotated Bib. due.**
Home: Read *LA* 68-75 and three essays assigned by group four.

Week Seven
Mon 9/29  **Class cancelled for conferencing. Draft of Annotated Bib. due.**
Home: Read *LA* 68-75 and three essays assigned by group four.

Wed 10/1 Small group discussion leading, group four—fallacies.

Fri 10/3  **Midterm.** Review of course in class. Discuss rhetorical context of poem.
Home: Revise Annotated Bibliography.

Week Eight
Mon 10/6 Blurb classmate’s Annotated Bib. drafts (meta-bib). Group five assigns three essays
Home: Read *LA* 91-101 and three essays assigned by group five.

Wed 10/8 Small group discussion leading, group five—argument by authority.
Home: Complete a full draft of Annotated Bibliography.

Fri 10/10 Annotated Bibliography workshop. Bring a complete draft.
Home: Revise Annotated Bibliography.

Week Nine
Mon 10/13 **Annotated Bibliography due.** Proposal revision assigned. Group six assigns reading.
Home: Read *LA* 120-128 and three essays assigned by group six.

Wed 10/15 Small group discussion leading, group six—semantic argument.
Home: Revise Proposal.

Home: Complete Proposal revision. Skim active reading electronic reserve from *Uncommon Threads* (23-44).

Week Ten
Mon 10/20  **Proposal revision due.** Assign final paper. Group seven assigns essays.
Home: Read *LA* 149-156 and three essays assigned by group seven.

Wed 10/22 Small group discussion leading, group seven—statistics.
Home: Read electronic reserve from *Uncommon Threads* (243-254) Mark Edmundson essay. Read and annotate according to active reading e-reserve.

**Fri 10/24**
Reading discussion.

Home: Reread Edmundson e-reserve and continue annotations.

**Week Eleven**
**Mon 10/27**
Discuss essay in terms of rhetorical context, historical and geographical contexts.

**Wed 10/29**
Discuss Brooks and context.
Home: Complete a draft of final paper for conference.

**Fri 10/31**
**Class cancelled for conferencing. Bring a draft of your paper.**
Home: Revise paper and bring a draft to class. Reading TBA.

**Week Twelve**
**Mon 11/3**
**Class cancelled for conferencing. Bring a draft of your paper.**
Home: Revise paper and bring a draft to class. Reading TBA.

**Wed 11/5**
Research workshop. Bring revisions to work with. Discuss and freewrite about reading
Home: Work on final paper. Bring draft to class on Monday.

**Fri 11/7**
**Independent library research or paper revision day. No class.**
Home: Work on final paper. Bring draft to class on Monday.

**Week Thirteen**
**Mon 11/10**
Workshop Research draft. Quoting and paraphrasing.
Home: Work on final paper.

**Wed 11/12**
Model failure discussion. Ambiguous language discussion.
Home: Complete draft of Research paper.

**Fri 11/14**
**Draft of Research paper due to instructor.**
Home: Work on revisions of previously graded work. Bring the piece of your choice to class for workshopping.

**Week Fourteen**
**Mon 11/17**
Instructor will return research draft. Plagiarism workshop and independent Workshop.
Home: Find an essay, editorial, or other piece that you think fails rhetorically. Be prepared to discuss how and why it fails.

**Wed 11/19**
Failure exercise. In-class mini-conferences.
Home: Complete revisions of earlier papers.

**Fri 11/21**
**Revisions of required “revise” papers due.** Introduction to History of Research.

**11/24-11/28 Thanksgiving Break. Enjoy!**

**Week Fifteen**
**Mon 12/1**
Research Paper workshop. Bring paper to class.
Home: Revise History of Research. Bring draft to class.

**Wed 12/3**
History of Research workshop.
Home: Complete Research Paper and History of Research.

**Fri 12/5**
**Revised Research Paper and History of Research due.**
Home: Relax. You’re done!

**Final Exam**
Individual conferences in my office to pick up final paper, history of research, and final course grade.