

Genre Study: STEM

Writing 30 Syllabus

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Office Hours

Thursdays, 11-12pm, or by
appointment

Required Texts and Course Materials

- Access to Google Drive (through your UCSC email account; www.drive.google.com)
- *Team Writing: A Guide to Writing in Groups* (available in Google Drive)
- Selected readings about rhetoric and genre (available in Google Drive)
- Genre sets (available in Google Drive)

Course Description

This course will introduce you to the variety of genres writers use to communicate information in science, engineering, technology, and math (STEM). Through collaborative projects and individual reflections, you will discover the process required to identify how STEM communication adapts and changes based on genre. We will also explore key writing concepts that will guide your discovery process: genre, audience, evidence, and urgency. These terms will serve as anchors for our class activities and discussions and will help you articulate how writing works in the STEM disciplines and beyond the context of this course.

Course Requirements

To pass this course, students will

- Demonstrate ability to analyze multiple genres (up to 10) using the framework provided in class
- Produce and complete a Genre Showcase Project
- Demonstrate ability to assess design and language choices made in the Genre Showcase Project.

Course Approach

Because this course carries the Collaborative Endeavor General Education Requirement, both sections (Dr. Shearer's and Dr. Ritola's) will work together to complete in-class activities, produce writing responses, and create a final group presentation. During each class period, you may expect to meet with your individual class up to one hour and then to meet as a whole group (both sections) for up to an hour.

Together, we will engage in a variety of activities, including small-group and large-group discussions, in-class writing, low-stakes and high-stakes writing, and formal presentations. We will also consider the following questions: What are genres, and how do we identify them? How do STEM writers communicate information for different purposes and different audiences? What are the constraints and possibilities STEM writers face as they produce genres?

Course Policies

Attendance: Your physical and mental presence are invaluable to the work we will accomplish in this course, so please attend all class sessions. Missing more than one class session may prevent you from passing the course.

Tardiness: Showing up to class on time is crucial during summer sessions and necessary for your own professional development. Please know that if you are more than 15 minutes late to class, you will be assigned an absence.

Course Work: All course assignments must be completed in Google Drive as Google Documents. In addition, the preferred documentation style will be specified in each assignment.

Technology Use: In general our time together should be about writing instead of personal commitment or personal communication. We prefer that your cell phones and computers be put away during our class discussions except if there is an emergency and/or we are using our devices for our class projects.

Academic Integrity: You are now a UCSC student and are expected to follow UCSC's Academic Integrity Code. Please take the time to familiarize yourself with this code:

<http://www2.ucsc.edu/judicial/handbook.shtml>.

Course Evaluation

- Discovery Journals / In-Class Activities and Participation: 25%
- Genre Showcase Project
 - Grade on Product (Group Grade): 25%
 - Grade on Individual Contribution to Project: 25%
- Reflection on Genre Showcase Project: 25%

Google Drive Procedures

Course assignments, readings, and other documents will be stored in a shared Google Drive folder, to which you will be given access. You will also submit all coursework to an individual folder in Drive. After day 1, you will receive an email invitation to our shared class folder and your individual folder.

Naming Files: Each assignment you complete in this course must be uploaded as a Google Doc, which means that you need to create a new document within Google Drive for each assignment. We will show you how to do this in class. To stay organized, we will use a standard naming format for all assignments. Please follow the format below:

Individual Work → Last Name_Assignment Title

Example → Ritola_Discovery Journal Entry 1

Course Opportunities

Accommodations for Students with Disabilities: This institution is committed to making reasonable accommodations for individuals with documented qualifying disabilities in accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act. Those seeking accommodations based on a substantially limiting disability should contact and register with the Disability Resource Center (DRC). You can reach the DRC at 459-2089 or visit <http://drc.ucsc.edu> for more information. Once registration is complete, we can make reasonable accommodations to ensure your success in our class.

On-Campus Recovery Meetings: If you or someone you know struggles with addiction of any kind, please know that there is on-campus support! The UCSC organization, Slugs in Recovery, is an all-inclusive community for students recovering from any sort of addiction, loved ones of those with addictions, allies, and anyone else who supports recovery. For more information, please visit, <http://healthcenter.ucsc.edu/shop/students-in-recovery/index.html>

Counseling and Psychological Services: If you suffer from anxiety, depression, or other mental health challenges, consider making an appointment with UCSC's Counseling and Psychological Services. During regular business hours, call 831-459-2628 to schedule an appointment. After-hours/weekend help is available at the same number. For more information, visit <http://caps.ucsc.edu/index.html>.