



Bridgewater State University
ENGL 102 Writing Rhetorically with Sources
2023 Summer Online Syllabus

Duration : 29 May- 23 June, 2023

Professor: Tierney, Robin.

Email : tierney@bridgew.edu

Course Credits: 3

In this course you will continue to grow as a writer and as a reader. In terms of reading and listening, you will begin to evaluate the credibility of primary and secondary sources and to become comfortable using our university library's online catalogue, electronic databases, and interlibrary loan service. In terms of writing you will learn to effectively integrate secondary sources into your own texts. You will work on articulating why it is you are citing the source and to craft sentences in which the distinction between the quote and your own writing is clear and correct. As a reader of your own writing you will engage in developing and adapting a thesis and in revising drafts so as to benefit from the insights of your own writing and thinking project.

The goals of this course are for students to continue developing their knowledge of persuasive writing and rhetoric, and to practice various ways of integrating the ideas of others into one's own text. Emphasis is on writing longer and more substantive texts that incorporate a variety of sources.

We will be responding to three different types of cultural products; a topical essay on current events; a memoir; and a podcast.

Course Texts:

Wild by Cheryl Strayed (available from the BSU bookstore and online)

'How the Model Minority Myth of Asian Americans Hurts Us All' by Viet Thanh Nguyen

<https://time.com/5859206/anti-asian-racism-america/> (article in Word format is attached) Serial

Podcast Season 3 <https://serialpodcast.org/season-three/about>

Attendance: We will meet as a class on zoom two times each week. . Attendance is not mandatory. Students are, however, encouraged to attend the zoom sessions because it will be one of the available ways to communicate course expectations and to conduct dialogue about ideas raised in the course materials.

Blackboard: Blackboard will serve as the hub for our class. All course material will be posted to Blackboard. Students are responsible for checking Blackboard for announcements on a regular



basis during the school week. All assignments are to be submitted on Blackboard.

Formal assignments: Students will write four short essays of 2-3 pages, and one longer essay. The longer essay will be a revision of one of the earlier essays (chosen by the student). This revised essay will serve as the course 'final'. Students will need to submit drafts for the final essay in order to earn full credit.

Informal Writing: Reading journals will be due every Tuesday.. You are to reflect upon the readings and write about elements that stood out to you, that confused you, or that connected to thoughts of your own. You are not to summarize the readings. Journals are to be 1-2 pages in length and to include at least two direct quotes from the class reading. These reading journals will serve as pre-writing exercises for your short papers which will be due on Fridays.

Statement on Disabilities: Accessibility Statement: I am available to discuss appropriate accommodations that you may require as a student with a disability. Requests for accommodations should be made during the drop/add period so that proper arrangements can be made. Students should register with the Disability Office for disability verification and determination of reasonable academic accommodations.

Course schedule:

Week 1

Reading: Asian Americans are Still Caught in the trap of the Model Minority Stereotype. And it Creates Inequality for us All. (Viet Thanh Nguyen, Time Magazine, 6/26/2020)
<https://time.com/5859206/anti-asian-racism-america/>

PowerPoint presentation 1

PowerPoint presentation 2

PowerPoint presentation 3

Zoom session Tuesday: How to integrate sources into sentences of your own writing. How does Viet Thanh Nguyen do this?

Zoom session Thursday: Evaluating sources. What range of sources is incorporated into this article? Which types of sources do you want to include in your writing?

Friday: Short Essay (2-3 pages) on the reading is due

Week 2: Narrative nonfiction: Cheryl Strayer's Wild

Tuesday; Reading journal on Preface, Part I and Part II due

Tuesday Zoom session: How do writers move between different time periods within one piece of writing?

Thursday Zoom session: How can we 'show' rather than 'tell' the lessons we learn? How does Cheryl Strayer do this?



Friday: short essay on the reading is due

Week 3: Podcast: SERIAL season 3 (nine episodes) <https://serialpodcast.org/>
printedtext available for reading)

PowerPoint presentation: The history of SERIAL podcasts

Tuesday: journal response to episodes 1-3 due

Tuesday Zoom session: How does a podcast differ from an essay or article? What are the strengths of podcasts?

Thursday Zoom: Discussion of SERIAL. Which parts confused you? Which parts do you trust the most, and why?

PowerPoint presentation: How to cite sources from a podcast

Friday: Short paper on SERIAL due

Week 4: Polemical or Personal: Choosing your own writing genre and style

PowerPoint presentation: The Wide Range of Writing Genres

Tuesday: Writing proposal due. What will you be writing about and how does your own 'writer's voice' connect to your genre choice?

Tuesday/Wednesday: mandatory sign-up for one on one feedback from me (the professor) on your writing proposal.

Thursday/Friday: mandatory sign-up with me for discussing which piece of writing you will choose to revise for your Final Writing.

Friday: Short paper due

Final: Students will revise one of their first three short essays and turn in the final draft, as well as earlier drafts, in order to receive full credit.