English 754: Rhetorics of Science and Technology, 3 credits

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Office Hours: 2-3 M-F

Description:
The study and critique of the rhetorics of science and technology, informed by rhetorical theory and by the philosophy and the social studies of science and technology. Students study theory and significant cases and learn to do rhetorical analyses of texts from these fields. Students also study the teaching of writing in the sciences and technical communication.

Objectives:
Students will be able to trace, in broad outline, the history of the study of the rhetorics of science and technology, create literature reviews for topics within these fields, develop teaching materials for an undergraduate course devoted to writing in the sciences or technical communication, and write a paper suitable for presentation at a national conference.

Required Texts:
Johnson-Eiolola and Selber, Central Works in Technical Communication
Harris, Landmark Essays on the Rhetoric of Science
Latour, Science in Action: How to Follow Scientists and Engineers through Society
Russell and Maimon, Writing in the Academic Disciplines, 2nd Edition

Grades:
A = 90 -100
B = 80 – 89
C = 70 – 79
D = 60 - 69

Assignments:
Weekly reading responses, 25 %
Summary and discussion leading for Johnson-Eiola and Selber articles 5%
Review of book or Literature Review of a set of articles, 20 %
Syllabus or Assignment project, 20 %
Major paper and presentation, 30 %
Americans with Disabilities Statement: Any students with disabilities or other special needs who need special accommodations in this course are invited to share these concerns or requests with the instructor as soon as possible.

Academic Dishonesty: All work in this course must be completed in a manner consistent with the NDSU University Senate Policy, Section 335: Code of Academic Responsibility and Conduct. http://www.ndsu.nodak.edu/policy/335.htm

Schedule:

- Week 1: Review of rhetorical theory, philosophy of science
- Week 2: The Rhetorics of Science, Intro and first 2 essays in Harris, chapters 1-2 in Latour, Reading Response Due
- Week 3: The Rhetorics of Science, essays 3, 4, 5 in Harris, chapters 3-5 Latour, Reading Response Due
- Week 4: The Rhetorics of Science, essays 6, 7, 8 in Harris, chapter 6 Latour, Reading Response Due
- Week 5: The Rhetorics of Science, essays 9, 10, 11 in Harris, Reading Response Due, Book Review or Literature Review Due
- Week 6: The Rhetorics of Technology, Selections from Johnson-Eiola and Selber, Reading Response Due
- Week 7: The Rhetorics of Technology, Selections from Johnson-Eiola and Selber, Reading Response Due
- Week 8: The Rhetorics of Technology, Selections from Johnson-Eiola and Selber, Reading Response Due, Proposal for final project Due
- Week 9: The Rhetorics of Technology, Selections from Johnson-Eiola and Selber, Reading Response Due
- Week 10: The Rhetorics of Technology, Selections from Johnson-Eiola and Selber, Reading Response Due, Syllabus or Assignment Project Due.
- Week 11: Disciplinary Writing: chapters 1-3 in Russell & Maimon, Reading Response Due
- Week 12: Disciplinary Writing: chapters 4-6 in Russell & Maimon, Reading Response Due, Progress Report on Final Project Due
- Week 13: Disciplinary Writing: chapters 7-8 in Russell & Maimon, Reading Response Due
- Week 14: Disciplinary Writing: chapters 9-10 in Russell & Maimon, Reading Response Due
- Weeks 15-16: Presentation of Final Projects, Final Project Due week 16