

Writing 100

Beat the Drum Loudly: Music of Politics and Protest

Dr. Debra Torok

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Hours by Appointment

Fall 2008
Tues., Thurs., 10:20 – 11:30

Priscilla Payne Hurd Campus
Brethren's House, Room 207

Description and Objectives

Dissension and reaction have always been the inspiration for creative output. From the earliest manuscripts of medieval France, to current recordings in all genres, musicians have responded to politics and society. Conversely, they have been able to influence popular trends and thinking. Students will explore specific facets of this topic to improve their writing skills. These include:

1. Political Protest and Satire
2. Political Allegory
3. Conflict and Society
4. Human Rights and the Environment

The main objectives of this course will follow those as outlined in Writing 100. Class content will also consist of discussion, music listening, and peer review.

Required Text

Hacker, Diana. The Bedford Handbook for Writers, 7th edition. Boston: St. Martin's Press, 2007.

Additional Materials

Articles, music listening, and suggested source materials will be available. It is recommended that students use the college libraries and Interlibrary Loan to procure information. All are encouraged to utilize the Writing Center and take advantage of their free handouts.

Assignments

Assignments for the semester will consist of four major essays, six pages in length, on the four themes listed above. Two preliminary three page papers will be submitted prior to each major essay. These will not be graded but will be reviewed and corrected. The first of these papers will be reviewed by the class and the second by the instructor who will arrange individual sessions. The papers will include pre-writing and research information which will be incorporated into the four major essays. This will allow for students to practice and improve writing skills, while assessing the expectations of the instructor, without concern about grades. Students will not be allowed to proceed with the corresponding major essay until these preliminary papers are completed. Failure to do so will result in a zero for the major essay grade.

Grading

Essays	75%
Attendance and promptness	10%
Class participation and reviews	15%

There will be strict adherence to the Academic Honesty Policy in accordance with the college handbook.

Schedule (Subject to Change)

Tues., Aug. 26	Introduction: Overview, Resources, and Strategies; Listening; Music Library; <i>Research Assignment</i>
Thurs., Aug. 28	Topic 1: Political Protest and Satire discussion, listening; Assignment: <i>Paper #1</i>
Tues., Sept. 2	Assignment Due: Paper #1; Student reviews; Listening
Thurs., Sept. 4	Reeves Library: Research; Assignment: <i>Paper #2</i>
Tues., Sept. 9	Assignment Due: Paper #2; Individual sessions; Assignment: <i>First Draft Essay #1</i>
Thurs., Sept. 11	Assignment Due: First Draft Essay #1; Discussion, peer reviews Assignment: <i>Essay #1</i>
Tues., Sept. 16	Assignment Due: Essay #1; Presentations
Thurs., Sept. 18	Field Research
Tues., Sept. 23	Topic 2: Political Allegory discussion, listening; Assignment: <i>Paper #3</i>
Thurs., Sept. 25	Assignment Due: Paper #3; Student reviews; Assignment: <i>Paper #4</i>
Tues., Sept. 30	Assignment Due: Paper #4; Individual sessions; Assignment: <i>Essay #2 Draft</i>
Thurs., Oct. 2	Assignment Due: Essay #2 Draft; Discussions
Tues., Oct. 7	Fall Recess
Thurs., Oct. 9	Field Research; Assignment: <i>Essay #2</i>
Tues., Oct. 14	Assignment Due: Essay #2; Presentations
Thurs., Oct. 16	Topic 3: Conflict and Society discussion, listening
Tues., Oct. 21	Topic 3 discussion, listening; Assignment: <i>Paper #5</i>
Thurs., Oct. 23	Assignment Due: Paper #5; Student reviews; Assignment: <i>Paper #6</i>
Tues., Oct. 28	Assignment Due: Paper #6; Individual sessions; Assignment: <i>Essay 3 Draft</i>
Thurs., Oct. 30	Essay 3 Draft discussions; Assignment: <i>Essay 3</i>
Tues., Nov. 4	Assignment Due: Essay 3; Presentations
Thurs., Nov. 6	Field Research
Tues., Nov. 11	Topic 4: Human Rights and the Environment discussion, listening
Thurs., Nov. 13	Topic 4 discussion, listening; Assignment: <i>Paper #7</i>
Tues., Nov. 18	Assignment Due: Paper #7; Student reviews; Assignment: <i>Paper #8</i>
Thurs., Nov. 20	Assignment Due: Paper #8; Individual sessions
Tues., Nov. 25	Essay #4 Draft discussions; Reviews; Assignment: <i>Essay #4</i>
Thurs., Nov. 27	Thanksgiving
Tues., Dec. 2	Assignment Due: Essay #4; Presentations
Thurs., Dec. 4	Presentations; Discussion
Tues., Dec. 9	Conclusions; Course Evaluations