

Writing 100 K

Beat the Drum Loudly: Music of Politics and Protest

Dr. Debra Torok

dtorok@moravian.edu, 610-861-1624, Hours by Appointment
Office: Priscilla Payne Hurd (South) Campus, Music Center, Room 119

Fall 2009
Tues., Thurs., 10:20 – 11:30

Hurd Integrated Living and Learning
Room 209

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. 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 three major essays on the three themes listed above. Two preliminary drafts will be submitted prior to each major essay. These will not be graded but will be reviewed and corrected. The first of these will be reviewed by the class and the second by the instructor who will arrange individual sessions. The drafts will include pre-writing and research information. 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 drafts 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. Students who wish to request accommodations in this class for a disability should contact Mr. Joe Kempfer, Assistant Director of Learning Services for Disability Support.

It is within the instructor's purview to apply qualitative judgment in determining grades for an assignment or for the course.

Schedule (Subject to Change)

Tues. 9/1	Introduction: Overview, Resources, and Strategies; listening; writing samples, clustering, and free writing
Thurs. 9/3	Assignment Due: Preliminary Research for Topic 1; Political Protest and Satire discussion, listening; organizational tools and strategies
Tues. 9/8	Assignment Due: Organizational Strategy for Topic 1; discussion, listening; in-class writing
Thurs. 9/10	Reeves Library Presentation on Topic 1
Tues. 9/15	Assignment Due: Draft 1, Topic 1; discussion, peer reviews
Thurs. 9/17	Assignment Due: Draft 2, Topic 1; discussion, peer reviews
Tues. 9/22	Assignment Due: Essay 1; presentations
Thurs. 9/24	Presentations continued
Tues. 9/29	Presentations concluded; self-assessments
Thurs. 10/1	Reeves Library Presentation on Topic 2
Tues. 10/6	Topic 2; comparative essay discussion and pre-writing
Thurs. 10/8	Assignment Due: Organizational Strategy for Topic 2: Political Allegory; discussion, listening; in-class writing
Tues. 10/13	Fall Break
Thurs. 10/15	Class Evaluations and assessments; cubing; in-class writing
Tues. 10/20	Assignment Due: Preliminary Research for Topic 2; Political Allegory discussion continued
Thurs. 10/22	Assignment Due: Draft 1, Topic 2; peer reviews
Tues. 10/27	Peer reviews continued; in-class writing
Thurs. 10/29	Assignment Due: Draft 2, Topic 2; strategies for preparing the final version; self-assessments
Tues. 11/3	Assignment Due: Essay 2; discussion, reviews
Thurs. 11/5	Critical Essays
Tues. 11/10	Presentation on Topic 3: Human Rights and the Environment
Thurs. 11/12	Topic 3 discussion, listening; free-writing
Tues. 11/17	Topic 3; in-class writing
Thurs. 11/19	Assignment Due: Organizational Strategy, Topic 3; strategies discussed and assessed
Tues. 11/24	Assignment Due: Draft 1, Topic 3; peer reviews
Thurs. 11/26	Thanksgiving
Tues. 12/1	Assignment Due: Draft 2, Topic 3; peer reviews, self-assessment
Thurs. 12/3	Assignment Due: Essay 3; discussion
Tues. 12/8	Course evaluations and conclusions