

# ENG 7970

## New Media Composition in English Studies



Location: Lindley Hall, Room N366  
Time: Mondays & Wednesdays  
1:20-2:50 PM  
Dates: Aug. 27 – Dec. 15, 2018

All course materials available in:



## Dr. Ryan P. Shepherd

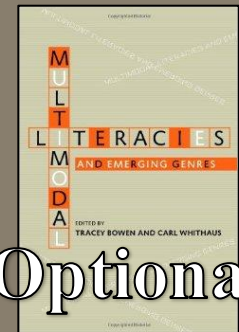


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Hours: 12:15-1:15 & 3-3:30 PM  
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### Textbooks



Digital Rhetoric  
Douglas Eyman



## Optional

Multimodal Literacies  
and Emerging Genres  
Tracey Bowen & Carl  
Whithaus (Eds.)

### Course Description

New Media Composition in English Studies will focus on the ways that people make meaning in digital spaces using multiple modes of communication, such as audio, video, images, and hypertext. We will explore the affordances and limitations of composing in multimodal environments and how creating multimodal assignments for English classes may enhance students' understanding of rhetorical concepts and discourse communities.

### Course Outcomes

At the end of this class, students will be able to:

- Identify affordances and limitations of composing in certain modes.
- Articulate how combining modes affects meaning.
- Address problems students may face when producing multimodal projects.
- Produce effective multimodal projects and assignments.
- Produce professional multimodal scholarship.

## Course Readings

Assigned readings will come from the class textbooks or will be provided as PDFs in Schoology. Please read all assigned readings before class, post a response to the readings, and come to class ready to discuss what you've read.



## Major Projects

### Connection Project



The Connection Project is designed to be an opportunity to bring in additional areas of multimodal and digital scholarship into the classroom. For this project, you will have two options. Option 1 is to find a scholarly webtext which you will analyze for rhetorical and design choices. Option 2 is to find a scholarly text related to new media (a webtext or traditional text) that connects to your own scholarly interests. You will then summarize and connect the text with class readings. In both cases, you will create a multimodal text (hypertext, audio, video, or other agreed-upon medium) that introduces your text and presents the content. Your multimodal text should take no more than 5 minutes to consume.

### Application Project



The Application Project is designed to allow students to create a text connected to class content that will be most useful to them. Students have three options for the Application Project: A scholarly text, a pedagogical text, or a non-scholarly text. Scholarly texts can either be multimodal texts on any subject (such as those found in *Kairos*) or traditional texts on a digital subject (such as those found in *Computers and Composition*). Pedagogical texts can be an assignment, a sequence, or a class that incorporates digital and new media content. Pedagogical texts should include all material given to the students, samples of any projects produced, and a detailed reflection on the pedagogical choices made. Non-scholarly texts include any other multimodal project you might want to create, such as a creative text or a professional website. Non-scholarly texts should include a detailed reflection on the rhetorical and design choices made in the creation of the text.

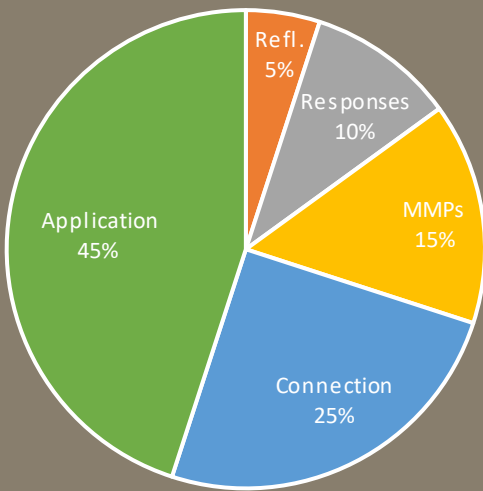
## Multimodal Projects (MMPs)



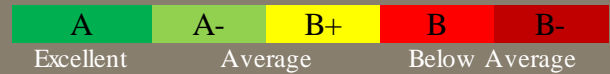
In addition to the major projects, you'll be asked to complete three small multimodal projects. These are designed to give you practice working with hypertext, images, audio, and video. They are very small, very simple, and very low stakes. The purpose is practice, not to produce a polished final product. MMPs may be completed in groups of up to three people or may be completed alone. If an MMP is completed with other members of the class, all content should be worked on by all members of the group.

## Grading

Your final grade will be broken down into the following percentages:



## Grading Scale



- A** Outstanding: Expectations exceeded for all class assignments.
- A-** Good: Expectations met for all class assignments.
- B+** Acceptable: Expectations met with minor problems.
- B** Borderline: Expectations met with several minor problems.
- B-** Unacceptable: One or more assignments did not meet expectations for graduate work

## Participation & Class Environment

Please do your best to encourage open dialog and civil discussion. Keep up with class material and engage with topics both inside and outside of class time.

### Attendance

You are expected to attend every class session. If you miss a class without prior approval from me, you will lose 5% of your final grade per class missed.

### Participation

You are expected to engage actively in class discussion. Please be civil to other members of the class, and actively keep dialog open. If you cannot remain civil, you will be asked to leave and will be counted absent.

### Tech

You are encouraged to use technology to help you learn. Please make sure that tech (cell phones, laptops, class computers, etc.) are used to add to class content, not to distract from it.

### Late Assignments

Late daily assignments will not be accepted. Late major projects will only be accepted with prior approval. Except in extreme cases, late major projects will lose 10% per day until they are turned in.

### Responses

Reading and other responses are due no later than 60 minutes *before* class time. Please read carefully, complete assignments, and come to class ready to discuss what you've prepared.