

English 4233/6233

Composition Pedagogy

Professor: Rich Raymond

“All TAs, not just those specializing in composition, should learn about composition theory as well as pedagogy; we need to help future...professors understand the intellectual challenge and excitement of the composition classroom, an excitement that will help to shape their attitude toward the discipline as well as toward their students.”

Susan H. McLeod, Washington State University

Dear Students,

As the quote above suggests, in Comp Pedagogy we will explore theories—past and present—on how writers write; we will also explore how and why writing teachers teach. Such exploring will orient you to the emergence of composition as an academic discipline; it will also allow you to apply the theories we study in your own writing, in your responses to others’ writing, and in your own theoretically grounded syllabus in composition.

Assignments include

- A reader-response journal, logging thoughts on daily readings
- An observation of a composition teacher
- An essay describing and assessing three journal articles on a single topic in composition theory or pedagogy, or three journal articles by a single theorist in composition
- A theoretically grounded syllabus in either Composition I or Composition II.

