Semester/Year: Fall 2006

Lecture Hours: 3  Lab Hours: 0  Credit Hours: 3

Class Time: 1:00-1:50 a.m.  Days: MWF  Room: AD 170

Instructor: Ben Lareau

Contact Information: By phone: 268-2382. By email: blareau@caspercollege.edu. In Person: Office in AD 182.

Office Hours: Tues. & Thurs. 10:45-11:45, Mon. Wed. & Fri. 12:00-1:00, or by appointment.

Course Description (from CC Catalog):
A study of the fundamentals of purposeful communication in English. The course focuses on reading and writing expository essays, on using effective language for exposition of ideas, and on thinking clearly. Students are to practice synthesizing information, organizing it coherently, and writing clearly.

Extended Description:
In addition to the ideas mentioned above, the additional purpose of this class is to help students begin to understand how language affects the world around them. Words not only allow us to express our thoughts--they also shape our own thoughts and ideas, and can alter the way we perceive and comprehend everything around us, including ourselves. In order to examine these ideas, we will be studying very common things such as commercials, television news, and political speech/writing.

Prerequisites:
English ACT score of 18, S or C or better in DVST 0610, or COMPASS score of 75 or better.

Goals: To prepare students for ENG 1020, and any other writing they may be called upon to do in college.

Outcomes: Students will be able to express and explain their own ideas in a clear, precise way, and in a style that is appropriate for college courses.

Methodology: Intensive reading and writing, along with smaller assignments, including grammar exercises and reading quizzes.

Evaluation:
Grades will be evaluated as follows:

Papers 1 and 2: 100 Points Each
Paper 3 and 4: 125 Points Each
Smaller Assignments: Varies by Assignment
**Smaller Assignments**= In-class writing assignments, assigned exercises from textbooks, reading quizzes, and so on. These will be graded based on both the quality of the writing and whether or not the basic requirements of the assignment has been met. The only exception is in-class writing, which will be graded on length and whether or not the topic has been adequately addressed. Most small assignments will be accepted late, but reading quizzes cannot be made up.

**Papers** = 4 Essays over various assigned topics. Papers 3 and 4 will be longer and more involved than 1 and 2. Although most smaller assignments will be accepted late without penalty, late essays will be deducted one letter grade. You will hand in a rough draft of papers 1, 2, and 4, which will be handed back to you with various comments and feedback--thus giving you the chance to improve your grade. Paper 3, however, is handed in only once, with no chance to revise. All papers must be written in 12-point Times New Roman (the same font and point size as this syllabus). Format-tweaking of any kind (to stretch the length of a paper) will not be tolerated.

**Do not:**
- Put extra spaces between paragraphs
- Start your paper halfway down the first page (only your name and assignment are needed at the top).
- Put in a page number where the topmost or bottommost line of text should be (that is what headers and footers are for)
- Put in extra spaces at the top or bottom of each page
- Screw around with the margins
- Put the whole paper in bold or italics
- Hand in a paper that is in anything other than 12-point Times New Roman.

Any paper handed in that cheats in any of the above-mentioned ways will be handed back without grade, comment, or credit.

**Attendance Policy** = Three unexcused absences will be allowed over the course of the semester. Your final grade will be penalized by 2 percent for each additional unexcused absence. Thus missing five classes will result in a penalty of 4 percentage points from your final grade. To have an absence excused, proper documentation such as a doctor’s note or an official schedule from an athletic coach must be handed in. These documents must mention the specific dates from which you are to be excused.

**Required Books:**
- Language Awareness ed. by Paul Eschholz
- Rules for Writers by Diana Hacker

**Class Policies Regarding Withdrawal:**
Please see most recent Casper College Catalogue.

**Student Rights and Responsibilities:**
Please refer to the Casper College Student Conduct and Judicial Code for information concerning your rights and responsibilities as a Casper College Student.
**Chain of Command:**
If you have any problems with this class, you should first contact the instructor in order to solve the problem. If you are not satisfied with the solution offered by the instructor, you should then take your problem through the appropriate chain of command starting with the department head, then the division chair, and lastly the vice president for academic affairs.

**Academic Dishonesty (Cheating and Plagiarism):**
Casper College demands intellectual honesty. Proven plagiarism or any other form of dishonesty associated with the academic process can result in the offender failing the course in which the offense was committed or expulsion from the school. See the Casper College Student Code of Conduct.

**ADA Accommodations Policy:**
It is the policy of Casper College to provide appropriate accommodations to any student with a documented disability. If you have a need for accommodation in this course, please make an appointment to see me at your earliest convenience.

**Schedule of Assignments:**

Monday, August 28th: Intro to class, syllabus.
Mon. 4th: NO CLASS
Mon. 11th: Hacker 265-295: Punctuation Game.
Fri. 15th: LA 363-369: “Talk Shows and the Dumbing of America” Hacker 139-141.
Mon. 18th: LA 61-71 “A Brief History of English”
Wed. 20th: **Final Draft Paper #1 Due**; Conjunctive Adverbs, Myra 1
Fri. 22nd: Conjunctive Adverbs Cont’d. Discuss Paper #2
Mon. 25th: LA 455-459: “How to Advertise a Dangerous Product”
Fri. 29th: LA 463-470: “Claims Crazy”; LA 638-640: “A Name So Smooth, the Product Glides In”.
Monday October 2nd: Advertising activity; looking at adverts.
Wed. 4th: **Rough Draft #2 Due**; Hacker 155-171 (Fragments and Run-Ons)
Fri. 6th: Hacker 115-129 (Subordination)
Mon. 9th: Subordination Cont’d; Hacker 39-57.
Wed. 11th: Paragraphs, Cont’d.
Fri. 13th: Introductions and Conclusions
Mon. 16th: In-Class Writing
Wed. 18th: **Final Draft #2 Due**; LA 98-103: “Simplicity” and “Language in Action”; Hacker 130-135. Myra 2
Fri. 20th: Discuss Paper #3; Hacker 110-115.
Mon. 23rd: NO CLASS
Wed. 25th: LA 276-287: “The Language Police”
Fri. 27th: LA 372-380: “You Can’t Say That”
Mon. 30th: LA 412-414: “If Hip-Hop Ruled the World”; LA 415-417: “Life is Precious, or It’s Not”; Handouts

Wednesday, November 1st: Paper #3 Due; Discuss paper #4; In-Class Writing
Fri. 3rd: LA 138-149: “Politics and the English Language.”
Mon. 6th: Orwell Cont’d; LA 152-162: “The World of Doublespeak”
Wed. 8th: Lutz Cont’d; Hacker 135-138
Fri. 10th: LA 123-135: “Propaganda: How Not to be Bamboozled”
Mon. 13th: Propaganda, Cont’d; review for Paper #4
Wed. 15th: Rough Draft #4 Due; Doublespeak exercise
Fri. 17th: ADVISING DAY
Mon. 20th: In-Class Writing; discuss paper #5
Wed. 22nd: NO CLASS
Fri. 24th: NO CLASS
Mon. 27th: LA 351-362: “Selection, Slanting, and Charged Language” and “Language in Action.”

Friday, December 1st: LA 391-396: “Exposing Media Myths.”
Mon. 4th: Media Handout
Wed. 6th: LA 399-408: “Indictment and Trial of Media’s Crime Coverage.”
Fri. 8th: LA 322-325: “He and She: What’s the Real Difference?” Begin Control Room
Mon. 11th: Control Room Cont’d.
Wed. 13th: Finish Control Room; In-Class Writing
18th-21st: FINALS WEEK: Paper #5 Due at Final Exam Time—will NOT be accepted late!