

# WINTER QUARTER 2019

## MA IN WRD & TESOL CERTIFICATE COURSES

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### **WRD 510: Topics in Rhetorical History: Feminist Histories of Rhetoric**

*Rhetoric and Discourse*

**Dr. Julie Bokser**

Wednesdays 6:00-9:15pm

In this class, we will study feminist approaches to the study of rhetoric. Over the past 35 years, feminist histories have changed the field, rewriting its histories and shaping new methods and ethical norms. We'll examine definitions and current debates about how to "do" feminist rhetorical history, considering the intersection of gender, identity, rhetoric, and discourse. Readings will include recent theory and scholarship, as well as work of and about rhetors from a selection of historical moments. Students will choose their own relevant subjects of study for the final researched project.

### **WRD 513: Semiotics**

*Rhetoric and Discourse*

**Dr. Peter Vandenberg**

Thursdays 6:00-9:15pm

Semiotics is the study of meaning and how meaning is created. As a field, it is interested in any object or practice used to make meaning, or any object or practice from which meaning can be interpreted. Language, gesture, color, images, sounds of all types, body language, objects and even the spaces between them—everything has meaning potential! Semiotics contributes to our understanding of the activity of the writer, and how and why the written word came to define and organize public life in Western culture. In our increasingly digitized world, semiotics helps us both explain, design, and produce effective, interactive spaces in which writing, sound, image, and other communicative modes complement and complicate each other. Semiotics provides a powerful tool-kit for anyone planning to engage in the sticky business of making meaning: teachers, content developers, technical writers, designers, project managers. You will be invited to explore in course projects—drawing on the full range of media, modes, and practices—the value of semiotic principles to your educational, professional, or personal interests.

### **WRD 532: Content Strategy**

*Professional & Digital Writing*

**Dr. Lisa Dush**

Tuesdays 6:00-9:15pm

In this course, you will learn how to create and deploy digital content that is compelling, user-friendly, optimized to travel through the web, and appropriate for organizational aims. You will read about best practice for writing content on websites and digital platforms, and learn typical workflows for evaluating, creating, managing, and governing content. WRD 532 has a substantial, quarter-long client project at its core, designed as an opportunity to translate theory into practice; as part of a team, you will help one of our nonprofit partner organizations to develop a viable content strategy and documents that will support that strategy. Past sections of WRD 532 have launched a number of students into internships and jobs in the content professions.

## **WRD 540: Teaching Writing**

*Teaching Writing & Language*

**Dr. Erin Workman**

Mondays 6:00-9:15pm

Consider the following statement as a guide to teaching writing: "Writing in the fullest sense of the term is an exceptionally complex human activity—one that is conditioned both by the individuality of the writer and by the social, cultural, and linguistic forces which situate any instance of discourse. Because of this complexity, writing cannot usefully be taught according to a step-by-step procedure or fixed formula; rather, any effective writing program must rely on the knowledge, expertise, and commitment of individual instructors to meet the diverse needs and address the varying abilities of student writers." Consider, too, that writing teachers are often overworked, underpaid, and institutionally marginalized. Then finally consider that writing courses are among the most important that you can teach: writing and rhetoric have the potential to influence students as human beings—their self-conceptions and the ways in which they interact with the world. Writing is a highly political and ideological act; it is something about which we know a great deal, culled from the thousands of years of rhetorical study and more recent work in pedagogy, theories of learning and language acquisition, literacy studies, composition studies, and research in writing transfer. In this class, we'll learn about different approaches to teaching writing and their theoretical underpinnings, with a focused examination of transfer-focused writing curricula and pedagogies. We'll also engage in the practical work of creating teaching plans (assignments, lessons, classroom activities, assessment materials, and teaching philosophy statements) that are theoretically sound and pedagogically exciting.

## **WRD 590/591: Internship**

*Professional & Digital Writing/Teaching Writing & Language*

Arranged

Internship opportunities that coincide with your role as an MAWRD student are eligible for course credit with WRD 590 or WRD 591. **Students with a Professional and Digital Writing concentration are strongly encouraged to complete an internship during their degree.** For a complete explanation of internship guidelines, visit the [WRD website](#). Contact WRD Director Lisa Dush with questions: [ldush@depaul.edu](mailto:ldush@depaul.edu).

## **TESOL CERTIFICATE COURSES OUTSIDE WRD**

### **ENG 478: Topics in Teaching: Grammar for Teachers**

*TESOL Language Structure Requirement*

**Dr. Robert Meyer**

Tuesdays 6:00-9:15pm

### **BBE 510: Special Topics in Language Education and Culture**

*TESOL Theory Requirement*

**Maggie Essig**

Thursdays 5:30-8:45pm

\* **Reminder on the MA in WRD policy on taking courses outside of WRD:** Students who wish to enroll in graduate courses in other programs may request permission to do so after they complete six WRD courses. In exceptional cases (e.g., students completing certificate programs that require non-WRD courses), students

may be granted permission to take courses outside of the program earlier in their degree study. Students who wish to take a non-WRD course must submit a brief written proposal to the graduate committee and receive the committee's approval prior to enrollment in the course. A maximum of two courses may be taken outside of WRD. Students who have transferred in two or more courses from another institution (see Transfer Credit policy) must take all of their remaining courses in the WRD program.