

SOME WID COURSES AT DUKE UTILIZING AN APPRENTICE-MODEL

Dept/Program	Course Title	Quote from course proposal
Biology	Field Research in Savannah Ecology	Students will have lectures on scientific writing and a comprehensive handout to follow regarding proper format for <i>scientific papers</i> .
Economics	Empirical Financial Economics	...geared toward writing in <i>economics</i> , with an emphasis in the final paper on good practices of <i>theoretical papers</i> , which present mathematical models that generate predictions about economic behavior.
Psychology	Research Methods in Schools and Classrooms	...learning to interpret journal articles and other existing research...and via their experience writing the <i>research paper</i> ... These are the primary skills needed by the <i>social scientist</i> .
Public Policy	U.S. National Security Policy	[The] formal <i>Policy Memorandum</i> has two purposes. First, to broaden the writing experience... Second, to...have students experience how this type of document is commonly written and used in government <i>policy</i> and decision making.
Cultural Anthropology	Methods in Qualitative Cultural Analysis	[Student work will include a] Proxemics Project...Kinship Chart...Map of field site...Interview and reflections...Bibliography and examples of field notes...Description and analysis of Formal Organization in field site...Self reflexive overview and ethical issues... ...Final <i>ethnography</i> builds on these pieces...
African/ Afr-American Studies	School Desegregation Litigation as a Model Strategy for Social Change	This course essentially introduces students to two main types of <i>legal writing</i> , the <i>internal memorandum</i> used to help lawyers and their clients decide on a course of action that should summarize and explore all of the possible arguments on both sides of an issue, and the <i>advocacy piece</i> , a brief that is produced for a court or an opinion letter used in negotiations, once a client has taken a position on the issue.
Art History	Contemporary Japanese Visual Culture	Creation of a virtual <i>art exhibit</i> . The paper will articulate a <i>curatorial vision</i> for the exhibition, including selections of specific artists and art works. ... to develop a cohesive exhibition project and an <i>installation plan</i> .
Theater	Ethical Stages	...to develop a semester-long research paper which will take the form of a <i>scholarly article</i> , using guidelines for submission required by a major journal in the field of <i>theater</i> .
Dance	Diaghilev Ballet: 1909-29	The unique inquiry in <i>dance</i> is to learn to read movement as text, then <i>translate motion into descriptive/analytic language</i>For much of dance history there is no moving image that researchers can refer to—no videos, or no currently performed reconstructions of older dance forms and choreography. The researcher must develop a skill in using verbal descriptions, drawings, paintings, photographs...

READING AS AN APPRENTICE

DISCIPLINARY READING AS A BASE FOR DISCIPLINARY WRITING

Dept/Prog	Course Title	Quote from course proposal
Biology	Biological Categories and Scientific Practice	Students will read both critiques of the discipline as well as original research articles in the discipline <i>to better understand the structure of argumentation and inference in the biological sciences.</i>
Economics	Economics of Personnel	Writing in an <i>applied microeconomics</i> field is different than writing in other fields. Students will primarily learn about this type of writing by reading articles and discussing them in class. The instructor's own work will be analyzed.
Sociology	Sociology Honors Seminar	[S]tudents are exposed to exemplary models of writing in <i>sociology</i> , research that is <i>presented in a clear and accessible prose.</i>
Philosophy	Modern Philosophies of Religion	Students will be exposed not only to important book-length arguments...but also contemporary scholarly articles <i>in [philosophy]</i> , all of which will be discussed in relation to their <i>respective rhetorical forms, styles and disciplinary purposes</i> , as well as their philosophical content. Students will also study such specialized forms as the professional book review and conference paper, and they will be asked to produce their own pieces of writing modeled on these forms.

**PS 200D.72 Ethics and International Relations
Short Writing Assignment #1**

Peter Feaver
Dept. of Political Science
Duke University

Pretend that you are Jendayi Frazer, Special Assistant to the President and Senior Director for African Affairs on the National Security Council. You have just had a meeting with Mel Middleton, a Canadian human rights activist who is agitating to change U.S. policy on Sudan. He has just met with you about Sudan, but he has asked for meeting with President Bush.

Your memorandum should address a very simple question: “Should the President meet with Mel Middleton?”

The President’s time is very valuable and meetings with outsiders often become public, so there are costs as well as benefits to having Mr. Middleton meet with the President. In your memo, succinctly identify the costs and benefits of such a meeting. What might it accomplish? What might it jeopardize? What are the consequences of saying no to Mr. Middleton?

You must come down with a recommendation that addresses the counter-arguments, i.e. if you recommend a meeting then how would you minimize any down-sides, and vice-versa?

For the purposes of this course, a memorandum to the President has the following features:

- it is typed in CG Times 12 point font, 1.5 space, with page numbers bottom center
- IT IS STAPLED!!
- it is no more than 500 words (with the word-count listed on top of the first page)
- it is flawless, meticulously edited and proof-read
- it conveys a wealth of information in an economical format
- it makes use of bullets and other formatting devices to add clarity to the presentation

The memoranda will be graded on clarity, substantive accuracy, persuasive power, chasteness of prose, and creativity. Professor Feaver will read the memoranda very carefully and will stop reading as soon as a typographical error or obvious glaring flaw is found; in that event, he will hand back the memoranda and request a “revise and resubmit.” The first resubmission is “free.” Every other resubmission involves a half-grade penalty.

**PS 200D.72 Ethics and International Relations
Short Writing Assignment #2**

Peter Feaver
Dept. of Political Science
Duke University

Write an 800-word op-ed suitable for publication in the Washington Post or the New York Times.

Your op-ed should address whether the U.S. properly met the “non-combatant immunity” provision of just war theory in conducting the Afghanistan war. In 800 words you cannot do an exhaustive treatment of every just war criterion so focus only on the non-combatant immunity issue (although you can, if space permits, address others in passing). In addition to making a case for or against, evaluate the general suitability and challenges of “non-combatant immunity” as a principle in today’s warfare.

For the purposes of this course, a suitable oped has the following features:

- it is typed, STAPLED, and PAGINATED
- it is no more than 800 words (with the word-count listed on top of the first page)
- it is flawless, meticulously edited and proof-read
- it conveys a wealth of information in an economical format
- it makes a compelling argument, in brisk prose and with a punchline or hook that is likely to engage the policy community

The oped will be graded on clarity, substantive accuracy, persuasive power, chasteness of prose, and creativity. Professor Feaver will read the oped very carefully and will stop reading as soon as a typographical error or obvious glaring flaw is found; in that event, he will hand back the oped and request a “revise and resubmit.” The first resubmission is “free.” Every other resubmission involves a half-grade penalty.

TASK #1

Thinking about apprentice-oriented assignments as student and teacher

On either side of handout #2 you'll find an apprentice-oriented writing assignment from a Duke political science course. The assignment on side A involves students in a role-playing scenario, while the other assignment asks students to prepare a piece for actual submission for publication.

From the student's perspective:

- What about this assignment is engaging? What is not?
- What aspects of the assignment help you understand and approach the task you are being asked to take on as a writer?
- What aspects tend to confuse or hinder you?

From the teacher's perspective:

- What is your role in directing and supporting the work of students as writers in this assignment? Will you respond to student writing primarily as the target audience, as an expert mentor, or in some other capacity? Will you provide additional information or advice about the rhetorical context or task?
- What are your learning goals for the assignment?
- What criteria will you use to grade the assignment? How do these reflect your expectations regarding your students as either 'apprentices' or 'students'?

TASK #2

What types of disciplinary writing are appropriate for WID courses?

1. Assign someone in the group to be:

Moderator: Keep the group on task and on time

Secretary: Keep notes for reporting back to the larger group

2. Make a list of the *types* of texts written by scholars or professionals in your fields. Consider both public and working documents.
3. Identify those types that seem to have potential for student writing assignments. Why do these seem like a *good* fit?
4. Identify those types that seem problematic for student writing assignments. Why do these seem like a *poor* fit?