

Dr. Kathleen Horton – 265 PLC – 541-34(6-1311) – hortonk@uoregon.edu  
ENG 413/513; ENG 404/604 Internships – Winter 2017  
Office Hours: 11:20-11:50; 1:30-2:30 on Tuesday/Thursday and by appointment

TA Paul Kratwell – pkratwe2@uoregon.edu  
As TA, Paul will manage and facilitate your internships and paperwork and assist with teaching, grading, and conducting class discussion.

### **Theories of Literacy**

This course will introduce students to theories, practices, and pedagogies of literacy. An initial and ongoing inquiry will be to determine what we mean by “literacy.” Are we talking specifically about reading and writing? Are we talking about mastery and manipulation of symbol systems in general? Is “literacy” one entity or many? Additional significant concerns will occupy our attention: What are the properties of literacy? What are its limitations and expansions? What are the means by which literacy is acquired? What impedes the successful achievement of literacy? What is the relationship of literacy and culture? Family? Economic means? Education? How do we teach literacy? How do we help someone become literate? How do we overcome their resistances? Why should we? What about literacy and values? Literacy and ethics? Literacy and power? Should these concern us? We will have much to discuss based on the readings and enriched by the 404/604 literacy internships required of students as part of this course. Hopefully our theoretical discussions will enhance your internships, and your internships will expand our theoretical discussions.

#### **Required Texts** (Available at the UO bookstore):

Cushman, Ellen, et al, eds. *Literacy: A Critical Sourcebook*. Boston: Bedford/St. Martin's, 2001.

Mills, Kathy A. *Literacy Theories for the Digital Age: Social, Critical, Multimodal, Spatial, Material and Sensory Lenses*. Bristol, UK: Multilingual Matters, 2016.

#### **Requirements and Grading:**

Essay #1 – Literacy Autoethnography – 20%

Essay #2 – Research - (20%) with Midterm Oral Presentation (10%) – 30%

Essay #3 – Synthesis - Reflection on Theory and Practice – 20%

Journal: Reading Responses/Internship Responses/In-class Responses – 20%

Attendance/Preparation/Participation (APP) – 10%

**Journal:** Your journal can be a handwritten notebook or a typed collection of pages. The journal will include responses to each assigned essay and to weekly internship experiences and may include in-class reflections. The journal is a pedagogical tool and its purposes are multiple: to help you remember what you are thinking about while you read theoretical essays and engage in your internships; to facilitate engagement in class discussions; to have a place for free-ranging critical thinking about issues raised; to note and examine problems in theory (the assigned readings) and in practice (the internships). These are informal exploratory writings. They

will be collected and evaluated at midterm and at the end of the term. Please feel free to run your entries by me in the first weeks of the term if you want an early assessment. They will be graded on thoughtfulness, thoroughness, and responsiveness to specific assignments, if one is given.

**Essays:** Guidelines will be posted and discussed in detail prior to due dates.

**APP:** This class operates as a small seminar, not a large lecture class, so your attendance, preparation, and active participation in each class session will be crucial and noticed. This portion of your grade also includes arriving on time, staying for the entire class, turning off and putting away all electronics and not taking phones out to check for texts, to text, or to leave class to do these activities. Twice a week we will gather in class to talk about ideas, and I ask you to focus exclusively on that work during each class session, giving your full and respectful attention to your peers when they are speaking. (Of course, if you are expecting news of the birth of your first child, or if someone you love has been in a car accident and you are awaiting medical reports, by all means let me know at the start of class and you will be welcome to have your phone out and on).

**Policies:**

Don't cheat. Plagiarism is cheating. Do your own work. If you use someone else's ideas or words, cite them according to MLA methodology.

See me during the first week of the term if you need special accommodations for any challenge or disability.

Electronics-free zone.

Safety Zone: Public speaking is required in this class, but is difficult for many people. Everyone deserves respectful attention from others when they are speaking in order to feel safe.

**Tentative Schedule:**

- 1a Introductions
- 1b Ong 19; Internship Reports
  
- 2a Gee 525
- 2b Delpit 545; Internship Reports
  
- 3a Brandt 555
- 3b **Literacy Autoethnography Due** – Writers Read
  
- 4a Dyson 325; Haas 358
- 4b Purcell-Gates 402; Internship Reports
  
- 5a Heath 443
- 5b Farr 467; Internship Reports
  
- 6a Midterm Presentations; **Research Essay Due**
- 6b Midterm Presentations; **Research Essay Due**

- 7a Midterm Presentations; **Research Essay Due**
- 7b Olson 107; Internship Reports
  
- 8a Scribner, Cole 123
- 8b Akinnaso 138; Internship Reports
  
- 9a Moll, Gonzalez 156
- 9b Internship Reports
  
- 10a **Synthesis Essay Due** – Writers Read
- 10b **Synthesis Essay Due** – Writers Read