



In week 2, I will introduce the concept of microhistories (David Gold) to transform the opening week of my class from a re-telling of field history as a timeline of obstacles, accolades, and reforms of white men in elite, predominantly white writing programs as detailed in most textbooks to a class that will explore a more inclusive and diverse history. For homework in Week 2, students will choose one microhistory from a s

Then, when we move into the final third of the class in which students practice things like grading and lesson planning, begin developing teaching materials for a first-year composition class, and work towards their statement of teaching philosophy, we will apply the lessons of the preceding units.

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Young, Vershawn Ashanti. "Should Writers Use They Own English?." Iowa Journal of Cultural Studies 12.1 (2010): 110-117.

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\* I have highlighted material that has been substantially revised.

# ENGL 664: Teaching Composition

Syllabus/Fall 2021

## Contact Information:

Instructor: Dr. Kristi Costello

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Office Hours: Over Zoom 10-10:50 on Tuesdays and Fridays, by appointment, and after class.

## Class Meeting Day/Time:

Thursdays 4:20-7 p.m.

## Course Description

Welcome to ENGL 664. The ODU Course Catalog describes this 3-credit course as “An intensive examination of alternative approaches to teaching first-year and advanced composition at the college level, with special attention to current schools of composition theory and research.” More specifically, this course is an overview of how to n

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Required Texts:

Ball, Cheryl E. and Drew M. Lowe.  
DOM

. Oxford University Press and WVU



arise as we deepen our understandings of multiple perspectives – whatever our backgrounds, experiences, or positions (this paragraph adapted from Alisse Portnoy, University of Michigan).

### Setting up your Class Google Drive and Writer's Notebook:

During the first week of class, you will need to enter Google Drive and create a folder designated for this course using your ODU account. Once you are in Google Drive, go to “New” in the upper left corner of the screen and choose “Folder.” Name the Folder with your first and last name and (R or W depending on the day your class meets) ENGL 664 ( ). This will take you to an empty folder. At the top of the screen you will see “My Drive > Folder” and it will have an arrow pointing down. Click this arrow and choose “Share+.” Share your folder with me ([kmurraycostelloodu@gmail.com](mailto:kmurraycostelloodu@gmail.com)) and make sure you choose the option for me to have editing access (represented by the pencil icon).

The first document you will create is your Writer's Notebook. To do this, go to the “+ New” in the upper left corner of your screen and select “Google Docs.” You will see that your document will be titled “Untitled Document.” Click on this and retitle your Writer's Notebook like this: Name Writer's Notebook. Now, you are ready to type! For each new entry, add the entry number, the date the entry is due, the prompt, and a unique title based on the content in your response. Please insert a “Page Break” between each entry; do not create a new document for each entry. More information about the Writer's Notebook is below.

## Assignments

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The class assignments represent the following elements of successful teaching: Reflection, Pedagogy, Practice, Praxis, Demonstration of Field Knowledge, Professionalization, and Presentation and Communication. Brief descriptions of the assignments follow. More detailed description of the class assignments can be found in the [Major Assignments Overviews Google Doc](#)<sup>2</sup> located in our [shared class Google Folder](#) and accessible through Blackboard.

### Reflection: Writer's Notebook

In line with expressivist, writing-to-learn, process, genre, and critical pedagogies and in line with Joan Didion's call for writers to keep a notebook, you will be asked to keep a digital Writer's Notebook in Google Drive (see above for how to create the Writer's Notebook and the [Major Assignments Overviews Google Doc](#) for more details)<sup>3</sup>. The Writer's Notebook is a place where you can respond to and wrestle with course ideas in creative and low stakes ways.

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