

# ENG 3860

## Composing in New Media



**Class Location:** Ellis Hall, Room 019  
**Class Time:** Monday & Wednesday  
4:35 to 5:55 PM  
**Class Dates:** Jan. 9 through Apr. 28



### Dr. Ryan P. Shepherd



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**Office:** Ellis Hall, Room 312 // (740) 593-2803  
**Office Hours:** Mon & Wed 1:30-3:00 PM (or by appointment)  
**Cell:** (602) 369-6496 (text)

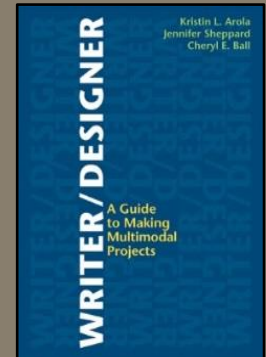
### Required Materials

Textbooks:

- *Writer/Designer: A Guide to Making Multimodal Projects* by Kristin L. Arola, Jennifer Sheppard, & Cheryl E. Ball.

Additional Materials:

- Schoology Account
- Google Account
- Daily Email Access
- Audacity
- Video editing program (such as iMovie or Windows Movie Maker)
- Cloud Storage
- Headphones



### Course Description

Composing in New Media focuses on writing and creating meaning in online digital spaces. We'll look at how to build communication through audio, video, and hypertext. We'll explore how meaning can be conveyed using multiple modes of communication. Students will learn to create audio podcasts and then will propose special multimodal projects that meet a goal of their choosing: anything from informative websites to a video series to a podcast to creative hypertext.

### Course Outcomes

Students will be able to do the following by the end of Composing in New Media:

- Analyze modes of communication
- Reflect on modal affordances and limitations
- Mindfully select modes based on the rhetorical situation
- Build multimodal projects to meet specific rhetorical contexts

## Final Project

The final project for the semester will take up the majority of the class and will account for more than half your grade (55%). You will be expected to design this project yourself and pitch it to me for approval. This project will have several smaller assignments that will build up to the final:

- Proposal: You will need to give an outline of what you plan to do, how you plan to do it, and what you hope the project will achieve in detail. At this point, you should have mock-ups, storyboards, and/or sample designs.
- Analysis of Similar Text: Choose a text similar to the one you want to create. Analyze the content, design choices made, and audience choices made.
- Proof of Concept: A smaller version of your project, showing the main elements and how they will look.
- Full Draft: A completed version of your project for discussion your peers.
- Full Draft Revision: A completed and revised version of your project and the justification for discussion with me.
- Justification: A written or recorded explanation of the choices you have made in your project.
- Presentation: A short presentation in which you showcase your project for the class, explain your choices, and field questions.
- Final Draft: A complete and published version of your project.

## Tasks

Tasks are major projects other than the final. They are designed to help you learn about tools and methods of composing in digital media.

### Digital Literacy Narrative

For the first task of the semester, you will detail your experiences with digital communication and production. You will be asked to do this in the form of an audio essay, complete with editing and sound production.

### Concept Video

For the second task, you will create a short video explaining an important concept that is important to you. The video will need to be short but carefully edited: including elements such as music, edits, transitions, and still images.

### Final Reflection

At the very end of the semester, you'll be asked to reflect on what you learned and how this might apply to situations outside of the classroom. This reflection can take the form of a video, an audio essay, a Prezi, or another form approved by me.

## Other Assignments

Through the course of the semester, you will also be asked to completed several other smaller assignments. These fall into two categories: Homework and Journals.

### Homework:

Homework consists of a number of different kinds of smaller assignments, most often reading homework and short writing assignments. Homework will be completed in Schoology

### Journals:

Journals are invention and revision exercises to help with the final project. Most of these are minor steps toward the final draft of your project. Journals will be kept in Google Drive.

Late homework and journal assignments will **not be accepted late** and make-up work will not be assigned if an assignment is missed. Please be sure to get these in on time!

## Participation

You are expected to attend and actively participate in all classes. If you attend and actively engage with class material, you will be counted present. Some classes will involve one-on-one interaction with me or other students in conferences or revision workshops. These classes are worth extra points.

Please do not be late to class or leave early without permission. This is disruptive to class activities. If you are late or leave early, you will lose ½ of participation points for that day.

Some classroom content may be sensitive. Please be considerate of other students' work and opinions. When disagreeing with someone in class or offering feedback on his or her work, please try to be polite.

In this class, we encourage the use of technology to learn. Please use technology (including laptops, tablets, phones, and classroom computers) to assist with class activities, not to distract from them.

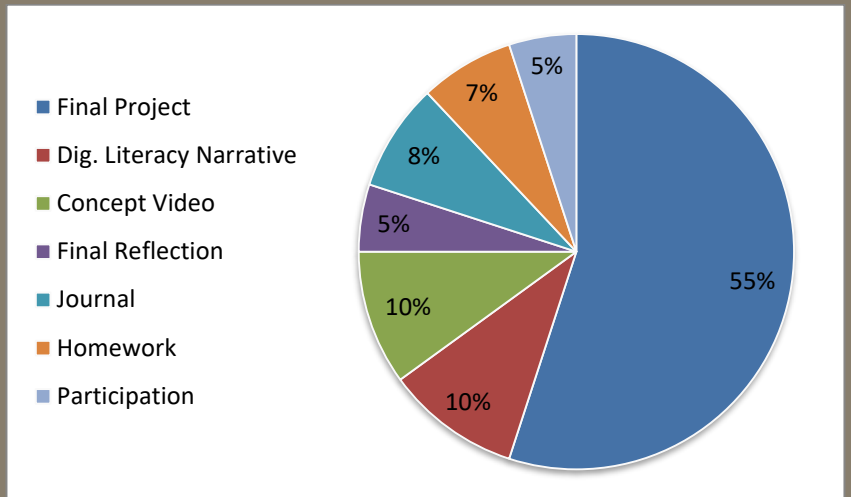
Please do not talk or use technology when someone else is talking—particularly when you are in small-group discussion.



## Grading

Final Course Grades will be determined by the following:

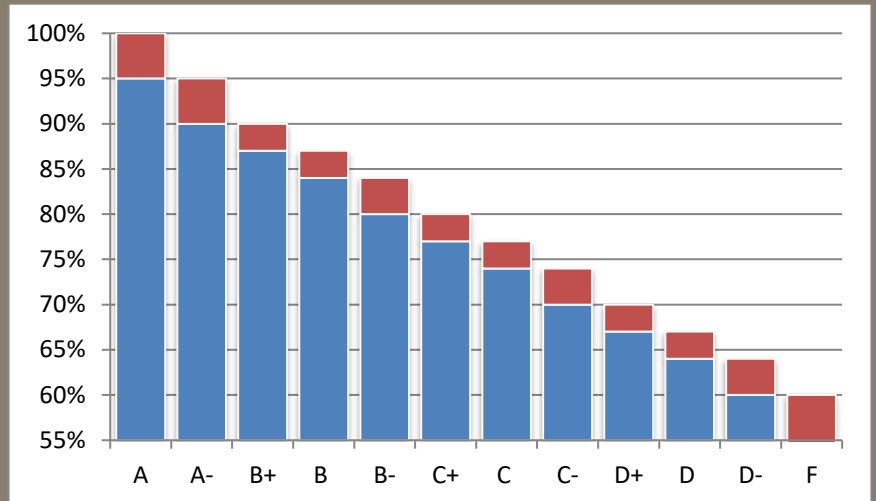
Final Project and Drafting	55%
Digital Literacy Narrative	10%
Concept Video	10%
Final Reflection	5%
Journal	8%
Homework	7%
Participation	5%



## Grading Scale

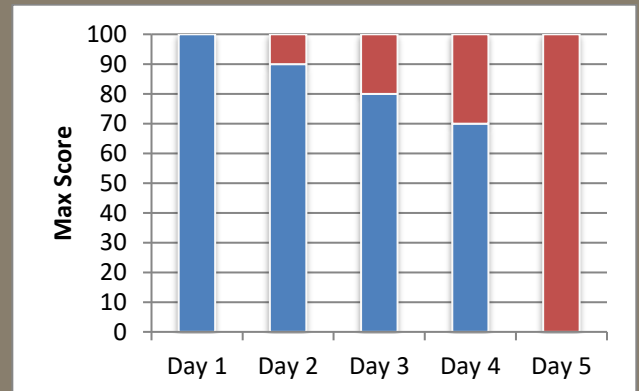
Final drafts and the final course grade will be on the following scale:

A	100-95%	C	74-76.99%
A-	90-94.99%	C-	70-73.99%
B+	87-89.99%	D+	67-69.99%
B	84-86.99%	D	64-66.99%
B-	80-83.99%	D-	60-63.99%
C+	77-79.99%	F	0-59.99%



## Late Major Projects

Late homework and journals will not be accepted. Late major projects, such as the final project and all tasks, will be accepted but lose one full letter grade per day. After 5 days, late major projects will receive a 0%.



## Plagiarism

Plagiarism is a serious offense in college classes. Plagiarism may include but is not limited to:

- Copying all or part of an assignment from an outside source, such as a website or book.
- Presenting work that you did not produce as your own. This may include purchasing an assignment or getting another person to write an assignment for you.
- Allowing another person to substantially change your assignment.
- Presenting work done for another class for a grade in this class.
- Copying words, media, or ideas from another person without giving credit.

Note: Making superficial changes to a document is still plagiarism. If you are unclear whether or not something is plagiarism, please ask in advance.

Intentional, extensive, or flagrant plagiarism will result in failure of the course. Unintentional plagiarism will result in a failure of that assignment.

**NOTE:** This syllabus is subject to change with notification. Changes will be posted in Schoology and notification will be sent by email. If changes are made, please review them carefully.