



ATIONAL DIVISION OF COLLEGE AND UNIVERSITY STUDIES, NEW YORK STATE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT, ALBANY, NEW YORK

ARTS

Revision of Course: NOVEMBER, 1994

Information Form: X

ed by students.

N. Textbooks and materials to be purchase

merent Post, Scott, Foresman and Company, 1989. Value Kopple, Whinn, Lea and Co

O. COURSE OBJECTIVES

Students will become familiar with the reading comprehension of both prose and poetry, and apply theory and analytic techniques to writing tasks. conventions, rhetorical "protic" and readability. They will learn to

P. COURSE CONTENT

I. Genres and their social contexts

The student will

- a) become familiar with theories of genre which describe the relations between genre and conventions; examine text samples to (i) describe their genre features and (ii) estimate the ease with which the intended reader could understand and use the text.
- b) become familiar with basic principles of classical rhetoric which help to explain the expression, organization and situation - which distinguish them from one another.
- c) examine the role of innovation in different types of writing and the opportunities for and constraints on individual writers' innovations.

The student will

- a) become familiar with research on reading comprehension which explains the roles of word choice, grammar, coherence and format in the reader's experience of text.
- b) become familiar with basic principles of classical rhetoric which help to explain the success or failure of texts in the world.
- c) become familiar with current explanations of the role that conventions of style and organization play in the reader's comprehension;
- d) analyze text samples to (i) describe their genre features and (ii) estimate the ease with which the intended reader could understand and use the text.

P. COURSE CONTENT - cont'd

3. Writer and text

The student will

- a) compose examples of specific

ic genres, consulting the genre descriptions devised;

models of the way readers understand or fail to understand what they are reading.

4. Techniques of analysis

The student will

- a) learn and apply techniques for analyzing (i) its structure "as a set of concrete reference; and (ii) its levels of generality and their arrangement;
- b) learn and apply techniques for analyzing grammatical features crucial to reading
- c) learn and apply techniques for analyzing a text's patterns of coherence
- d) use these techniques to develop descriptions of different types of writing
- e) use these techniques to estimate appropriateness and readability of
- f) use these techniques to estimate appropriateness and readability of

ence;

riting

texts

responses to texts, and to use the results of these interviews in the classroom

process.

DD OF INSTRUCTION

Q. METHO

es, the instructor will introduce theory and demonstrate analytic techniques. In seminars

In lecture

own writings. In fieldwork, students will practice analysis of sample texts and of their