

UWS 2A-1: Tapping the Wire: Race and Inequality in America Fall 2017

Monday and Wednesday 1:00-1:50 PM. **We do not meet Thursdays.**

Olin-Sang American Civilization Center 104

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ALL ASSIGNMENTS ARE DUE ON 5 A.M. ON THE DAY INDICATED, unless otherwise noted.

	In-Class	Reading	Assignment Due (5:00 A.M.)
Unit 1: Close Reading as a Technique of Analysis			
Week 1			
Aug 30 (W)	Intro to writing and to seminar topic		
Week 2			
Sep 4 (M)	Labor Day: no class		
Sep 6 (W)	Class cancelled		
Week 3			
Sep 11 (M)	Discussion of high school vs. college writing; what is academic writing? What is research in the humanities? What is a "reading"? Stake and motive: why watch, or read, anything? Close reading <i>The Wire</i> .	<i>The Wire</i> , ep. 1-2	Post a short paragraph with an observation about <i>The Wire</i> (characters, filming technique, etc). <i>+respond to my introductory questionnaire</i>
Sep 13 (W)	Close reading <i>The Wire</i> . What counts as evidence?		
Sep 14 (Th)	Replacement class Close reading; deriving a thesis from evidence	<i>The Wire</i> , ep 3-4	Post a question about <i>The Wire</i> that academic research could try to answer.
Week 4	Conferences this week		
Sep 18 (M)	How to draft; formulating research questions	<i>The Wire</i> , ep. 5-6; interview	Close reading #1 (a scene from <i>The Wire</i>)

			or interview)
<i>Sep 20 (W)</i>	Structure of the academic paper; focus: analysis		
Week 5			
<i>Sep 25 (M)</i>	Peer review of each others' work (focusing on evidence through close reading); What your papers will eventually look like.	<i>The Wire</i> , ep. 7-8 A real academic paper: TBD	Close reading # 2 (self-selected passage)
<i>Sep 27 (W)</i>	Discussion: what did you learn from writing Assignment 1 (about <i>The Wire</i> , race and writing)? Introduction to lens analysis (using Bechdel, <i>Dykes to Watch Out For</i>)		
Unit 2: How to Work with a Second Text as a Lens			
Week 6			
<i>Oct 2 (M)</i>	Establishing a baseline reading; adding a lens text to read <i>The Wire</i>	<i>The Wire</i> , ep. 9	Revised chosen close reading due with Revision Cover Letter
<i>Oct 4 (W)</i>	Understanding Warren; Why use a lens text?	Lens text 1: excerpt from Kenneth Warren, <i>What Was African American Literature?</i>	Post an answer to my prompt about lens text 1
Week 7			
<i>Oct 9 (M)</i>	Thesis and motive in lens analysis: do we understand <i>The Wire</i> better?	<i>The Wire</i> , ep. 10	Lens analysis 1 (use Michaels on <i>The Wire</i>)
<i>Oct 11 (W)</i>	Discussion of lens analysis 1; Understanding Melamed	Lens text 2: excerpt from Jodi Melamed, <i>Represent and Destroy</i>	Post a suggestion for a text that you could use as a lens on <i>The Wire</i>
Week 8	Conferences this week		

<i>Oct 16 (M)</i>	Further discussion about <i>The Wire</i> , and lens texts	<i>The Wire</i> , ep. 11	Lens analysis 2 (use Melamed, or somebody's suggested text, on <i>The Wire</i>)
<i>Oct 18 (W)</i>	Working with quotations; more on the structure of the academic paper; Research questions		
Week 9			
<i>Oct 23 (M)</i>	Style workshop: clarifying introductions and conclusions	<i>The Wire</i> , ep. 12	Lens analysis 3 (use somebody's suggested lens text, or any lens text, on any phenomenon related to the class topic)
<i>Oct 25 (W)</i>	Peer review of mini-lens 3; revision strategies		
Week 10			
<i>Oct 30 (M)</i>	Starting to think about research topics for final paper; preliminary thoughts on introductions and conclusions	<i>The Wire</i> , ep. 13	
<i>Nov 1 (W)</i>	What have we learnt? Intro to final paper; finding a topic; types of sources		Revision of lens analysis due with Revision Cover Letter
<i>Unit 3: The Research Paper: The Real Academic Paper</i>			
Week 11			
<i>Nov 6 (M)</i>	<i>Library Session #1</i> . Meet in Vershbow Computer room on the Mezzanine of Goldfarb; meet there <u>punctually at 1!</u>	Your primary source; Library research guide	Library Tutorial;
<i>Nov 8 (W)</i>	Workshop research ideas	Your primary source	Post your rough topic idea
Week 12	<i>Conferences this week and next</i>		
<i>Nov 13 (M)</i>	What's at stake? Significance, introductions and conclusions	Your primary source; bring lens text 1 and 2 to class	Comment on a peer's idea
<i>Nov 15 (W)</i>	<i>Library Session #2</i> . Meet in	Your primary source	Research plan with

	Vershbow Computer room on the Mezzanine of Goldfarb; meet there <i>punctually at 1!</i>		research question
Week 13			
Nov 20 (M)	Workshop evolving research questions and use of sources		Annotated bibliography, incl. modified research question
Nov 22 (W)	Thanksgiving: No class		
Week 14			
Nov 27 (M)	Workshop in small groups: introductions, conclusions, use of sources, analysis		Post your working title for your project
Nov 29 (W)	FAQ class, addressing questions on structure, paragraphing, audience, style, title, and other students' topics		Draft of Final Paper due with Draft Cover Letter on Dec 1 (F), 5 a.m.
Week 15			
Dec 4 (M)	Peer review		
Dec 6 (W):	Last day of class; recap		

Final paper, with Final Paper Cover letter and Portfolio reflection sheet due Dec 10, at 5 a.m.