



AUTHORSHIP IN THE DIGITAL AGE

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Office Location:: A&S 211G, Lansing Community College, Lansing, Michigan
Office Hours:: TBA, by chance, by appointment
Spring 2011//Online Course//3 credit hours
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Liberal Studies Seminar (LBST) 290

COURSE DESCRIPTION

In the course we will, in the context of professional writing and rhetoric, explore and write about issues of privacy, censorship, and free speech; intellectual property, creating for the organization, entrepreneurship, employment issues, international/cross-cultural communication, and communication in globally networked environments. Some types of documents we will write/write about, rhetorically investigate, and analyze for cultural/legal implications include contracts, business plans, mission statements, job advertisements, job interview protocols, work-for-hire policies, release and consent forms, independent contractor agreements, publishing agreements, terms of use, end user license agreements, various business policies, and business advertisements.

This class will be useful for those involved in or planning their own professional writing business, those who are or will work as professional writers for organizations, including community organizations and non-profits, and those who plan a career in academia.

Six major LEARNING GOALS for this course are:

1. You will be able to demonstrate knowledge and understanding of legal issues arising when engaging (digital) writing and publishing.
2. You will be able to demonstrate ability to assess the ethical and legal choices when doing public (digital) writing and publishing.
3. You will produce documents showing thoughtfulness with respect to agreements you enter in to with others, whether on your initiative or theirs.

4. You will present sophisticated, reflective communications as a working professional writer.
5. You will demonstrate your understanding of terms and language explored during the semester.
6. You will show your ability to apply concepts learned in the course to real life situations.

REQUIRED BOOKS

- Herrington, T.K. (2003). *A legal primer for the digital age*. New York: Pearson Longman. \$9.91 new and used. (prices based on amazon.com)
ISBN-10: 0321108736
ISBN-13: 978-0321108739
- Lessig, L. (2009). *Remix: Making art and commerce thrive in the hybrid economy*. The Penguin Press HC. free download;
<http://www.bloomsburyacademic.com/remix.htm>
- Logie, J. (2006). *Peers, pirates, & persuasion: Rhetoric in the peer-to-peer debates*. Indiana: Parlor Press. free download; <http://www.parlorpress.com/logie.html>
- Aoki, K., Boyle, J. & Jenkins, J. (2006). *Tales from the public domain: Bound by law?* Duke Center for the Study of the Public Domain. free download;
<http://www.law.duke.edu/cspd/comics/>
- Brown, M. F. (2004). *Who owns Native culture?* USA: Harvard University Press. \$14.00 new, \$8.00 used.
ISBN-10: 0674016335
ISBN-13: 978-0674016330
- Power, influence, and persuasion: Sell your ideas and make things happen*. (2005). Harvard Business School Press. \$14.00 new, \$8.00 used.
ISBN-10: 159139631X
ISBN-13: 978-1591396314
- Harvard business essentials guide to negotiation*. (2003). USA: Harvard Business School Publishing Corporation. \$14.00 new, \$8.00 used.
ISBN-10: 1591391113
ISBN-13: 978-1591391111
- Fox, C.M. (2008). *Working with contracts: What law school doesn't teach you*. \$20.00-18.00 new and used.
ISBN-10: 1402410603
ISBN-13: 978-1402410604

All other readings provided by instructor.

OPTIONAL but Recommended BOOKS

- Grabill, J.T. (2007). *Writing community change: Designing technologies for citizen action*. Cresskill, NJ: Hampton Press, Inc. \$18.00 new and used
- Williams, P.J. (1991). *The alchemy of race and rights: diary of a law professor*. United States: Harvard University Press. \$18.00 new, .73 used

Course TOPICS (these 8 topics will span the entire semester)

- Privacy, censorship, and free speech

- Authorship
- Copyright, fair use, intellectual property
- Creating for the organization
- Entrepreneurship and starting a business
- Basic employment issues
- Contracts and negotiation
- International-Global issues

ASSIGNMENTS (I reserve the right to make minor changes Here but I usually don't)

Description	Due Date	Point Value	% Value
Rubrics will be provided with all assignments	2000 points total		
Class Participation (discussion boards, etc.)▲	Ongoing throughout semester	200	10%
2 Modules (5% each)	Module #1: Week 3, Feb. 2; 11:59 pm Module #2: Week 4; Feb. 9 11:59 pm	200	10%
Rhetorical Analysis	Week Six, Feb. 23, 11:59	200	10%
Training Module Design (will contain 3 components: overview, activity, assessment/self-directed assessment)	Week 9, March 23, 11:59	400	20%
Practical Document Construction: The Contract	Week 12, April 13, 11:59 pm	200	10%
Final Project Proposal ▲	Week 13, April 20, 11:59 pm	200	10%
Negotiation Role-Play and Reflection	Week 14, April 27 11:59 pm	300	15%
Self-Designed Final Project ▲	Week 16, May 11, 11:59 pm	300	15%

Note on class participation: The grade from class participation will come from weekly discussion boards, reading responses, and other discussions. In addition to the formal assignments above we will have weekly activities and writings that will count towards the class participation grade.

Revision: All assignments may be revised within 7 days of my grading of them and return unless marked with a ▲.

Weekly Readings: Are required – please consult the readings page for details and due dates.

<http://www.martinecourantrife.com/readings.htm>

Publication: It's my hope that the self-designed final project will be completed with publication in mind. Regarding the training module you will develop, I also hope that this could be packed up and taken on the road for use in a work setting or for teaching.

Grades are based on a point system.

4.0	---	91 -100%
3.5	---	86 - 90%
3.0	---	81 - 85%
2.5	---	76 - 80%
2.0	---	71 - 75%
1.5	---	66 - 70%
1.0	---	60 - 65%
0.0	---	0 - 59%

Late Work: Work is due on the stated date, and I really do appreciate having work turned in on time because when it is not, it plays havoc with my schedule. Generally I do not accept late work unless there are extenuating circumstances that you communicate to me. If you have concerns about due dates, please let me know well in advance of the date so I can take your concerns under consideration. Work that is accepted late will have its lateness taken into account when grading.

Checking and Tracking Your Grade Responsibly: I enter grades in ANGEL throughout the semester. So you can check ANGEL for your current grade. I strongly encourage you to keep your own records on our grade as well for back-up purposes. Also, if you have concerns about any grade at any time, please, please talk to me immediately. Finally, save all graded work and emails just in case any discrepancy arises.

Note: If there is a problem with *any* grade, you must notify me in writing within 10 days from the day that the grade is posted to ANGEL. Otherwise, I may not be able to/willing to change the grade. I do post an announcement in ANGEL whenever I submit grades.

General Concerns: If at any time you have questions, comments, or concerns please do not be shy about emailing or calling me. I'd much prefer to answer questions early on when I can be a greatest help to you and others. Thanks so much.

Withdrawal: Failure to post assigned DBs or complete any other assignments for two consecutive weeks constitutes grounds for administrative withdraw. This DOES NOT apply to folks auditing the course.

COURSE PRACTICES

College-wide policies are stated in the Lansing Community College Catalog and include those on attendance, withdrawals and incomplete grades. The catalog is available on the internet at <http://www.lcc.edu/catalog/> Additional Information (By Department)

TRANSFER POTENTIAL

For transferability information, please consult the Transfer Equivalency List located on the internet at <http://www.lcc.edu/transfer>. For additional transferability information contact the LCC Counseling Services Department, (517) 483-1255. The MACRAO Transfer Agreement simplifies the transfer of students from one Michigan institution to another. It appears in the catalog.

DISABILITY STATEMENT

Students with disabilities who believe that they may need accommodations in this class are encouraged to contact the Office of Disability Support Services, Gannon Building, Room 204 or by calling 517-483-1904 as soon as possible to better ensure that such accommodations are implemented in a timely fashion.

STUDENT ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

The very nature of higher education requires that students adhere to accepted standards of academic integrity. Therefore, Lansing Community College has adopted a code of academic conduct and a statement of student academic integrity. These may be found in the Lansing Community College Catalog. The violations of academic integrity listed and defined are cheating and plagiarism. It is the student's responsibility to be aware of behaviors that constitute academic dishonesty. Classroom behavior that interferes with the instructional process is not tolerated. The consequences are addressed in the catalog under Administrative Withdrawal.

OTHER COURSE INFORMATION

Writing Support: If you would like assistance with writing assignments, we encourage you to visit The Writing Center in Room 251 of the Arts & Sciences Building. Peer Writing Assistants are available to help you work on your writing at any stage of the writing process. You may call for an appointment at 483-1907, or you may drop in during open hours (posted on the door).

Technology Use: The following statement may be found in the LCC Course Schedule Book for the current semester: Students should be prepared to use computer technology in their coursework, including gaining regular access to the Angel course site associated with each class. Every section at LCC has an Angel site associated with it that may be used by the instructor as a mandatory part of the class. Angel can be accessed from any computer with an Internet connection and Web browsing Software, including computers in the College's computer lab, TLC 100. Student Angel Orientation training is available at <http://www.lcc.edu/helpdesk/angel/student.htm>