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|  | Topic | Reading Assignment Due | Writing Assignment Due |
| 8/26 | Introduction to the RCL |  |  |
| 8/28 | What is civic? Discuss Reading, Set up Course Blogs | Overview on Blogging on the course website  RCL Chapter 1 “How People Learn to Be Civic” (pp. 1-12) & Chapter 2 ““The Flight from Conversation” (pp. 13-21).  Americanah Part 1 |  |
| 9/2 | What is rhetoric? Discuss Reading, Assign Project #1 | RCL Chapter 3  “Ancient Rhetorics: Their Differences and the Differences They Make” (pp.22-43). | Answer one of the questions listed on RCL p. 41 and post your response (about 300 words) as your RCL entry on your blog site. |
| 9/4 | Discuss Commenting,  Blogging Week # 1 | Americanah Part 2: Ch. 3-11 | Write a blog post that describes at least 2 ideas for your Passion Blog (a paragraph per idea). Categorize this post under “Passion.  Write an RCL blog post in which you identify and respond to one of the “civic spaces” in Adichie’s novel so far. You might think about what makes the space civic? How does it function for its users? What messages about civic life does Adichie send? |
| 9/9 | Public Speaking Review, Drafting an Outline  Discuss reading and rhetorical analysis, specifically considering ideology and the rhetorical situation to develop analysis for Unit One Assignment. | RCL Chapter 4 | Be prepared to update the class on your Project #1. What artifact have you selected? Why is that artifact interesting? Or who are you interviewing? What kinds of questions will you/have you asked? |
| 9/11 | Public Speaking Practice, Blogging Week #2 |  | Passion Blog entry.  Write an RCL blog post in which you identify a video of speech that you admire and explain why you think that speech is so strong. In particular, focus on the delivery of the speech. |
| 9/16 | Project 1 Speeches: 1-10 | Americanah Rest of Part 2 |  |
| 9/18 | Project 1 Speeches: 11-16; Blogging Week #3 |  | Passion Blog entry.  Write an RCL blog post in which you respond to pgs. 164-166 of Americanah. What do you think of Ifemelu’s observations about the American college classroom? How are the ideologies about education different in the US as opposed to Nigeria?  Imagine yourself in her shoes here at PSU, what would you notice about classroom interactions? What ideologies are at work in this (or some other) PSU classroom? |
| 9/23 | Project 1 Speeches: 17-24 | Americanah Part 3 |  |
| 9/25 | Blogging Week #4, Introduce Rhetorical Analysis, Assign Project #2 | RCL Chapter 5 | Passion Blog entry.  Write an RCL blog post in which you consider the successful elements of your speech or others’. What delivery style worked well? What visual aids seemed most successful? What were some common pitfalls? |
| 9/30 | Watch ***Crash*** | Nealon & Giroux “Ideology” Handout |  |
| 10/2 | Finish Watching ***Crash*** Discuss Ideology in the film | RCL Chapter 6  Americanah Parts 4,5, and 6 | In your notes, draft a response to one of the questions from #2 on p. 104 of the Nealon & Giroux reading |
| 10/7 | Thesis Statement Workshop, Rhetorical Analysis Practice and Examples |  | A Draft of your thesis statement |
| 10/9 | Discuss Ideology and Americanah, Blogging Week #4 | Americanah Part 7 | Passion Blog entry.  Draft your rhetorical analysis essay and post it to your RCL blog. |
| 10/14 | Assign Project #3 & #4  EVENT NOTE: some kind of event with Chimamanda Ngozi Aditchie, TBA |  | Project #2 Due |
| 10/16 | Discuss Reading, Blogging Week #6 | Reading from Bowling Alone and/ or The Shock Doctrine | Passion Blog Entry.  Write an RCL blog post in which you identify 2 potential topics for Project #3. In a paragraph or each idea, explain a little bit about the paradigm shift you’ve identified. |
| 10/21 | 1-on-1 Conferences In Lieu of Class |  | Bring a formal proposal for Assignment #3 to your conference |
| 10/23 | 1-on-1 Conferences In Lieu of Class |  | Bring a formal proposal for Assignment #3 to your conference |
| 10/28 | Intro to One Button Studio, Drafting Project # 3 |  |  |
| 10/30 | Blogging week #7, Introduce Project #6 |  | Passion Blog entry.  Draft an RCL blog post in which you 1.) upload an excerpt from your essay and 2.) note a problem that you’re having with that excerpt so that your colleagues can help you revise and polish that particular section. |
| 11/4 | iMovie and Scholarly Storytelling in Knowledge Commons |  | Project #3 Due |
| 11/6 | Crafting your TED Talk, Blogging Week #8 |  | Passion Blog entry.  Draft an RCL blog post in which you reflect on the changes that you’re making to your Project #3 to make it a TED talk. What are you cutting? What are you adding? What are you downplaying? And, most importantly for all those questions, why? |
| 11/11 | TED Talks in One Button Studio & Project #5  Group Meetings |  |  |
| 11/13 | TED Talks in One Button Studio & Project #5 Group Meetings |  |  |
| 11/18 | TED Talks in One Button Studio & Project #5 Group Meetings |  |  |
| 11/20 |  |  | Passion Blog entry.  Draft an RCL Blog post in which you 1.) post your TED talk video and 2.) reflect on your TED talk. What went well? What could’ve been better? What surprised you about the video |
| 12/2 | Group Meetings with instructor |  | Be prepared as a group to update me on your progress explain what various group members are contributing to the project, and ask any question you might have. |
| 12/4 | Knowledge Commons Open Lab Hours, Blogging Week #10 |  | Passion Blog entry.  Draft an RCL blog post in which you reflect on your first semester of college/ of RCL. What have you learned in our class? What do you have left to learn? What have you struggled with? In what areas have you excelled? What has kept you from doing your best work? What has helped you do your best work. |
| 12/9 | Presenting your video |  |  |
| 12/11 | Project #5 Viewings |  | History of a Public Controversy projects are due in as a link, along with peer evaluations, by Monday, December 15 in an ANGEL dropbox by end of day. |
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