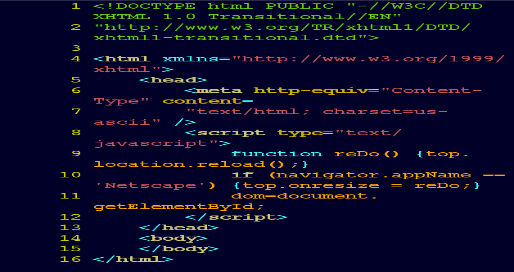
|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  |  | |  | | --- | | Digital Writing  ENGL 307T | | Dr. Virginia Tucker Steffen BAL 5034 | |
|  |  |  |
| Course Policies |  | Course Syllabus |

## Description

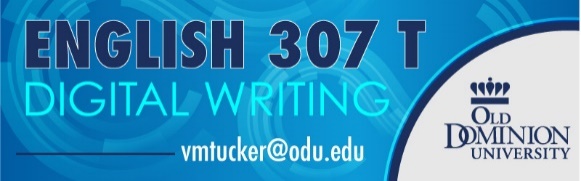
# This technology (T) course introduces students to issues of writing with digital tools in online environments. In today’s web culture, writers must be familiar with digital authoring programs like [Doc\*to\*help](https://www.madcapsoftware.com/downloads/index.aspx?p=PFL&gclid=CJ_e84qa27sCFUpBQgoddW8A2g) & [Framemaker](http://www.adobe.com/products/framemaker/try.html); video and image capture software like [Camtasia](http://www.techsmith.com/download/camtasia/default.asp?gclid=CIOJ1c7Y5LACFUk0QgodEjGRcg), [Captivate](http://thankyou.adobe.com/en/na/products/CP/v3/1106_captivate.html?sdid=EICKS&skwcid=TC|1026688|%2Badobe%20%2Bcaptivate%20trial||S|b|14834925982), & [Snag-It](http://www.techsmith.com/download/snagit/default.asp?gclid=CJzHlObY5LACFUk0QgodEjGRcg); and collaboration software like [Connect](https://www.adobe.com/products/adobeconnect/trial.html) and [Google Docs](https://www.google.com/docs/about/). This course will require you to learn to use a program (or two as the case may be) of your choice. This class also introduces fundamentals of hypertext authoring, digital and visual rhetoric, and virtual collaboration. Additionally, you'll learn and apply rhetorical concepts to thinking about digital writing. By the end of the course, students will be able to

* Develop rhetorically and visually sound digital media that fits the needs of multiple audiences and is suitable for the context.
* Learn to read and write hypertext (HTML5) language.
* Gain practice working with various writing technologies and electronic genres.
* Identify and explore problems within a writing situation, design and implement appropriate



research strategies, and evaluate Internet sources.

* Write collaboratively (e.g., co-authorship) and provide colleagues with useful feedback.
* Work ethically and responsibly within the professional context and as a member of society.
* Learn the principles of usability testing and reporting along with implementation of revision based upon the results.



Required Materials

* *Web Style Guide* e-text provided to you
* *Learning Web Design* e-text provided to you
* A computer that allows you to download programs onto it
* Your university email

Assignments

* Workshops—20%
* Blackboard Quizzes—20%
* Instructional video—20%
* Web site—20%
* Final exam—20%

Grade Scale

0-59.9=F, 60-63=D-, 64-66=D, 67-69=D+, 70-73=C-, 74-76=C, 77-79=C+, 80-83=B-, 84-86=B, 87-89=B+, 90-94=A-, 95-100=A



## Preparedness & Participation

Your preparedness and participation will affect your grade, and *failure to hand in a major assignment constitutes failure of the course*. This online course requires you to have consistent access to a reliable computer of your own with a stable internet connection. If your personal computer breaks down, you are still responsible for turning in assignments on time. If you do not have a text editor program like Note Pad or Text Edit on your personal computer, you can download free applications like [NoteTab Light](http://www.notetab.com/notetab-light.php) for pc or [Vim](http://www.macupdate.com/app/mac/25988/macvim) for mac. Instructions for both are provided on Blackboard and on the web. Using WYSIWYG web development software like Dreamweaver or WordPress will be considered a violation of the honor code, as one purpose of this course is to learn how to write html in the development of a web page.

Distance course expectations Distance courses require you to be responsible for paying attention to assignment due dates and contacting the professor as soon as possible when you need assistance. It is a good idea to print out the syllabus and keep it in a visible place. You are also expected to complete the assigned readings, which are essential to your success in the course. If you do not expect to do the readings, then you should not expect to do well in the course. I expect that you know how to use your own computer, and that means knowing what programs and keystrokes your particular OS can use. As such, please don't select a program that your computer cannot use, as all associated assignments will still be your responsibility once you are placed in that software group. You should know how to Google search to troubleshoot problems. I cannot answer questions about your computer or OS. All assignments are due on Blackboard's assignments page unless otherwise stated. Late assignments and emailed assignments are not accepted until a [request letter](https://www.docformats.com/apology-letter-for-being-late-in-submission/) has been submitted and approved. Always consult the syllabus first when you have questions about course policies and due dates.

# Plagiarism Writers who use the words or ideas of others are obligated to give credit through proper acknowledgment and documentation. Failure to give credit is plagiarism, a violation of the ODU Honor Code that can lead to expulsion from the University. You are not permitted to change your project topic at the last minute, submit another’s work as your own (this includes the use of templates or purchased web sites), or submit work that you have previously submitted for evaluation in another class. Because you will be required to write HTML in this class, it is considered a violation of the honor code for you to use a WYSIWYG web design tool like iWeb, Dreamweaver, or WordPress. Similarly, if your source code indicates that you have purchased all or part of your site, you will be referred to the Honor Council.

Special Needs If you have special needs because of a documented disability, or if you have emergency medical information to share, please notify me *during the first week of class* so we may discuss the accommodation process. If you have a special situation related to family or work concerns, you should contact the office of Student Outreach and Support.

Major projects There are two major projects in this course, and failure to hand in either one of those projects will result in failure of the course. The term project is a four-page web site that you will create from scratch using HTML, which you will learn in this class. The other major project is a 3-minute instructional video covering a digital authoring or collaboration software commonly used by digital writers. Both projects must be submitted on time and in the form of a *web URL*. Individual files and folders cannot be accepted since the web URL is necessary for viewing the project. For the web site, a URL will be provided to you by ODU and you are required to use only that URL. However, for your video you may use any video host, such as Youtube. Further details and instructions will be provided in class.