English 430: Advanced Writing Workshop
Tuesdays & Thursdays 12:30-1:45pm, Curtin 468

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Course Description: This section of English 430 will focus on advocacy writing across genres and for diverse audiences. In being an advanced writing workshop, we will have intensive practice in a variety of writing activities, both in class and for homework. The topics that you will write about will be driven by personal interest in issues of advocacy. What are issues or topics of public and personal interest that you care about? As a class, we will identify 3-4 overarching themes to guide our writing throughout the semester. We will focus on how writing is a process and identify ways to enjoy that process of revision, editing, asking for feedback and responding to it in developing our writing. The class will also emphasize the social nature of writing in the conversations you will have with each other and with me about your ideas and experiences with writing.

The texts that you will produce will address three major audiences: personal (friends and/or family), academic, and public. Although these types of audiences may overlap, we will look at how to write about the same topic in different ways, while keeping in mind the various factors that impact how our audiences receive our work and whether we are convincing and credible in the points we're trying to make or the social change we're trying to influence. We will also consider what genres work best for different rhetorical situations and audiences: posters, blogs, formal letters, position statements, open letters, and more. You’ll have the chance to experiment, to be creative, and to strengthen your writing and revision skills across the semester.

Texts: You are not required to purchase any books for this class. We will read a selection of articles that will be provided online, and you will find credible sources to support your research and writing. The writing that you and your classmates produce in the class will be the most important texts for our time together. We will also reference the Purdue Online Writing Lab (OWL) for research & citation help: https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/section/2/