English 812: Seminar in Theories of Composition and Rhetoric: Language, Race, and Culture
Thursdays 4:30-7:10pm, Curtin 386

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Course Description: This seminar will examine theories about language difference in Composition and Rhetoric, with a specific focus on how language, race, and culture have been, and continue to be, discussed in the field. We will study some of the major texts, theories, and terms that have been used in scholarly conversations about working with students, literacies, and discourses that are identified as “different” in academic spaces. We will also investigate how and when race is part of conversations about literacy and language difference, and what role culture plays in these theories. Finally, this class will include a series of think tank sessions where we will collaboratively identify practices that can be implemented to reflect the theories we have studied throughout the semester.

Reading List: You will need to either purchase or borrow the following books*:

1) Errors and Expectations: A Guide for the Teacher of Basic Writing by Mina Shaughnessy
2) Other People’s Children: Cultural Conflict in the Classroom by Lisa Delpit
3) *Whistlin’ and Crowin’ Women of Appalachia: Literacy Practices since College by Katherine Kelleher Sohn
4) *Language Diversity in the Classroom: From Intention to Practice edited by Geneva Smitherman and Victor Villanueva
5) *Your Average Nigga: Performing Race Literacy and Masculinity by Vershawn Ashanti Young
6) *Minor Re/Visions: Asian American Literacy as a Rhetoric of Citizenship by Morris Young
7) *Brokering Tareas: Mexican Immigrant Families Translanguaging Homework Literacies by Steven Alvarez
8) Performing Antiracist Pedagogy in Rhetoric, Writing, and Communication edited by Frankie Condon & Vershawn Ashanti Young, available at: https://wac.colostate.edu/books/antiracist/
9) Rhetorical Listening: Identification, Gender, Whiteness by Krista Ratcliffe
10) *Fashioning Lives: Black Queers and the Politics of Literacy by Eric Darnell Pritchard

*Available online through UWM Libraries
+We will also read selected Chapters and Articles that will be available on D2L