

Class and online participation

Bradley Dilger ~ 680 WPA ~ Spring 2016 ~ <http://dtext.org/>

Summary: Participate actively in our classroom discussions and course Mixable. Evaluate your participation in weeks 5 and 16.

Active engagement in class and in Mixable is expected. I will facilitate discussion, ask questions of individual students, provide in-class assignments, make stupid jokes, and do whatever else is necessary to ensure a lively, intellectual environment. Help your cause by doing the reading, coming to class prepared to ask questions and offer comments, and speaking up as often as you can:

1. Read the assigned texts carefully, taking notes and making lists of ideas you can use in your other coursework;
2. Bring your texts to class, and use them to drive our discussions forward—that is, talk about the readings early and often, and engage what others say, too;
3. Make concrete claims, use specific examples, and share interesting things;
4. Add to the discussion with humor and/or by encouraging others with your attention;
5. Connect what's said in class to Mixable, and vice-versa;
6. Visit office hours and/or contact me outside of class to improve your work and attempt to resolve any problems you have;
7. Support other students out of class by sharing books, articles, offering reviews of each others' work, sharing class notes in case of absence, etc.

Expectations

Everyone should participate actively in every class—asking questions or offering comments multiple times, engaging actively and continually in group work. I will not ask those who are silent to contribute—you need to speak up on your own.

If you miss more than two classes, expect to see a reduction in your grade. Miss more than four, and you need to consider dropping, barring spectacular effort in other ways.

I expect everyone to be visible and active on Mixable at least twice each week, either starting a conversation by posting, or contributing to one by commenting. This should be continual—not just the day before classes—and you should pay special attention to conversations over our long weekends. To help start conversations, I will post some discussion prompts. Our goal is an authentic conversation about the course content. Share your work, show your work, learn by doing.

Self-evaluation

On or just before Friday 02/12 and again Friday 04/29, write a brief evaluation of your participation performance. Simply email me, composing in the body—no attachment.

Please speak to both in-class and Mixable participation, referring to the criteria above as needed. Offer evidence as needed to support your argument. Assign yourself separate grades for both.

I will reply with my (dis)agreement, and perhaps an explanation. If we need to talk further about your grade, we will.