WRD 523: Editing

Course Description

This course addresses editing in professional and other non-literary contexts, with a particular focus on editing practices and roles in non-profit organizations. This course is motivated by four questions:

1. What is editing?
2. What is the editor's role in the contemporary organization?
3. How does technology shape editing practices?
4. What are the implications of the language practices of an editor, and for whom?

In this course we will pursue answers to these questions by thinking through issues in the professional field of editing, doing an editing project for a non-profit client partner and learning about the structure and function of language.

Readings

Technical Editing, 5th Edition by Carolyn Rude and Angela Eaton

Rhetorical Grammar, 6th Edition by Martha Kolln and Loretta Gray

The Chicago Manual of Style, 16th Edition. Available *free* to students online via the DePaul Library

The Yahoo! style guide: the ultimate sourcebook for writing, editing, and creating content for the digital world, Barr, Chris, ed.

Sample Assignments

Class Reading Summarize, Synthesize and Response (SSR) paper: Students take turns preparing short papers that summarize and synthesize course readings. These papers are read to the class to initiate discussion.

Rhetorical Grammar Lesson: Students will prepare a lesson on a topic of rhetorical grammar to present to the class. Students will also present a rhetorical grammar analysis of a real-world document as an example of the topic in action.

Organizational Editorial Style Guide: Students work in small teams to prepare an organizational editorial style guide for a client partner in the community.