

Fall 2020

ENG 373-01 Place Matters: Place-Based Studies in Rhetoric and Writing

Special Topics in Rhetoric and Composition

Professor: Dr. Susan DeRosa

Places and people are tied together in intricate feedback loops by which they create each other.

Places and people interanimate...

Places capture the complex emotional, behavioral, and moral relationships between people and their territory.

~Kristie Fleckenstein



Why does place matter? How do places influence who we are and how we perform our identities? When we meet new people, the first question they often ask is, “where are you from?” In this course, we’ll investigate why place matters, and how place-based rhetoric influences the places – local or distant – we are shaped by. We’ll analyze rhetorics of place (e.g. monuments, maps, speeches) and produce place-based artifacts (e.g. interactive maps, photo essays, profiles), gathering local knowledge, stories, archival materials, public images, and architecture to rewrite and address the social issues of the day. As we do so, we’ll come to understand the interdependence and interconnectivity between places and people. This course asks us to consider the complexities of place: *where* we are, *who* we are, and *how* we choose to live and act as engaged writers and rhetors in the communities around us.

Meets a requirement in the Rhetoric and Composition Concentration and the General Studies Concentration in the English major, and fulfills the Writing Minor.

Date/Time: Wednesdays 4:00 – 6:45 p.m.