Professional Writing and Rhetoric sample

Comps Reading List

**History and Definition of Technical Communication**

Allen, J. (1990). The case against defining technical writing. *Journal of Business and Technical Communication*, *4*(2), 68-77.

Henning, T., & Bemer, A. (2016). Reconsidering power and legitimacy in technical communication. *Journal of Technical Writing & Communication*, *46*(3), 311-341.

Johnson-Eilola, J., & Sebler, S. A. (2004). *Central works in technical communication*. New York, NY: Oxford University Press.

* Chapter 1: “The rise of technical instruction in America” – R. J. Connors (pp. 3-19)
* Chapter 2: “History, rhetoric, and humanism” – Russell Rutter (pp. 20-34)
* Chapter 4: “A humanistic rationale for technical writing” – Carolyn R. Miller (pp. 47-54)
* Chapter 8: “What’s technical about technical writing?” – David N. Dobrin (pp. 107-123)
* Chapter 14: “Political ethical implications of defining technical communication as a practice” –Dale S. Sullivan (211-219)

Johnson-Eilola, J., & Sebler, S. A. (2013). *Solving problems in technical communication*. Chicago, IL: University of Chicago Press.

* Chapter 8: “What is the future of technical communication?” – Brad Mehlenbacher (pp. 187-208)

Longo, B. (2000). *Spurious coin: A history of science, management, and technical writing*. Albany, NY: State University of New York Press.

**Research and Theoretical Foundations in Technical Communication**

Gurak, L. J., & Lay, M. M. (2002). *Research in technical communication*. Westport, CT: Praeger.

* Chapter 1: “Considering ethical issues in technical communication research” – L. K. Breuch, A. M. Olson, & A. B. Frantz (pp. 1-22)
* Chapter 10: “Cultural studies: An orientation for research in professional communication” – C. Thralls, & N. Blyler. (pp. 186-209)

Johnson-Eilola, J., & Selber, S. A. (2004). C*entral works in technical communication*. New York, NY: Oxford University Press.

* Chapter 5: “Understanding the writing context in organizations” – L. Driskill (pp. 55-69)
* Chapter 9: “The social perspective and professional communication: Diversity and directions in research” – C. Thralls, & N. Blyler (pp. 124-145)
* Chapter 11: “The technical communicator as author” – J. D. Slack, D. J. Miller, & J. Doak (pp. 160-174)
* Chapter 13: “The ethic of expediency” – S. B. Katz (pp. 195-210)
* Chapter 18: “Taking a political turn: The critical perspective and research in professional communication” – N. R. Blyler (pp. 268-280)

Johnson-Eilola, J., & Selber, S. A. (2013). *Solving problems in technical communication*. Chicago, IL: University of Chicago Press.

* Chapter 19: “What do technical communicators need to know about international environments?” – St. Amant, K. (pp. 279-496)

Jones, N. N. (2016). The technical communicator as advocate. *Journal of Technical Writing & Communication*, *46*(3), 342-361.

Jones, N. N., Moore, K. R., & Walton, R. (2016). Disrupting the past to disrupt the future: An antinarrative of technical communication. *Technical Communication Quarterly*, *25*(4), 211-229.

Mirel, B., & Spilka, R. (2015). *Reshaping technical communication*. New York, NY: Routledge.

* Chapter 1: “Cultural impediments to understanding: Are they surmountable? – S. R. Dicks (pp. 13-25)
* Chapter 2: “Jumping off the ivory tower changing the academic perspective” – D. S. Bosley (pp. 27-39)
* Chapter 3: “Researching a common ground: Exploring the space where academic and workplace cultures meet” – A. M. Blakeslee (pp. 41-55)
* Chapter 8: “Migrations: Strategic thinking about the future(s) of technical communication” – B. Faber (pp. 135-148)

Thatcher, B., & St. Amant, K. (2011). *Teaching intercultural rhetoric and technical communication: Theories, curriculum, pedagogies, and practices*. Amityville, NY: Baywood Publishing Co.

* Chapter: “Global revisions: (Re)thinking the future of technical and professional communication competencies” – J. Melton (pp. 131-157)

Wang, J. (2013). Moving towards ethnorelativism: A framework for measuring and meeting students' needs in cross-cultural business and technical communication. *Journal of Technical Writing and Communication, 43*(2), 201-218.

**Digital Literacies**

Ashton, D., Bower, G. J., & Hollyman, S. (2017). Writing digital: Practice, performance, theory. *Convergence*, *23*(1), 3-4.

Frankham, B. Writing with the small, smart screen: Mobile phones, automated editing and holding on to creative energy. *Journal of Writing in Creative Practice*, *9*(1-2), 47-66.

Hall, F. (2013). *The business of digital publishing: An introduction to the digital book and journal industries*. New York: Routledge.

* Chapter 1: “Developments toward digital production” (7-13)
* Chapter 3: “Working with the web” (22-25)
* Chapter 5: “The context for ebook formats and e-readers” (31-36)
* Chapter 9: Developments in digital publishing for consumer markets (109-134)

Koltay, T. (2011). The media and the literacies: media literacy, information literacy, digital literacy. *Media, Culture & Society*, *33*(2), 211-221.

Lankshear, C., & Knobel, M. (2008). *Digital literacies: Concepts, policies and practices*. New York: Peter Lang.

* Chapter 1: “Origins and concepts of digital literacy” – David Bawden (17-32)

Rajesh, V., Singh, R. K., & Someswar, G. M. (2017). A research analysis on making the connection between social media writing and international technical communication. *Compusoft*, *6*(12), 2469-2482.

Rife, M. C. (2007). Technical communicators and digital writing risk assessment. *Society for Technical Communication*, *54*(2), 157-170.

Selber, S. S. (2004). *Multiliteracies for a digital age*. Carbondale, IL: Southern Illinois University Press.

Spilka, R. (2010.) *Digital literacy for technical communication*: 21st century theory and practice. New York: Routledge.

* Chapter 2: “The effects of digital literacy on the nature of technical communication work” (51-82)
* Chapter 4: “Information design: From authoring text to architecting virtual space” (103-127)

**Technical Editing**

Brady, K. (2011a). Freelance technical writers and their place outside corporate culture: High and low corporate styles. *Technical Communication Quarterly*, *20*(2), 167-207.

Brady, K. (2011b). Freelance technical writers: Does temporary work promote ethical issues? *Journal of Information, Communication & Ethics in Society*, *9*(1), 34-48.

Clayton, M. (2013). *How to manage a great project*. Pearson.

* Chapter 1: “How managing a great project works” (1-41)

Fretz, M. J. H. (2017). Speaking of editing: The nomenclature of copy-editing. *Journal of Scholarly Publishing*, *48*(4), 243-267.

Ginna, P. (2017). *What editors do: The art, craft, and business of book editing.* Chicago: The University of Chicago Press.

Mackiewicz, J., & Riley, K. (2003). The technical editor as diplomat: Linguistic strategies for balancing clarity and politeness. *Technical Communication*, *50*(1), 83-94.

McCarthy, J. (2017). Evaluating manuscripts for copy-editing: The view from a managing editor. *University of Toronto Press*, *48*(3), 160-167.

Murphy, A., & Sides, C. (2013). *New perspectives on technical editing*. New York: Baywood Publishing Company, Inc.

* Chapter 5: “The editor within the modern organization” – Michelle Corbin (67-84)
* Chapter 6: “Copyediting and beyond” – Jean Hollis Weber (85-106)

Shevchuk, A., & Strebkov, D. (2017). Safeguards against opportunism in freelance contracting on the internet. *British Journal of Industrial Relations*, *56*(2), 342-369.

Sutherland, W., Jarrahi, M. H., Dunn, M., & Nelson, S. B. (2019). Work precarity and gig literacies in online freelancing. *Work, Employment and Society*, *34*(3), 457-475.

Whiteside, A. L. (2003). The skills that technical communicators need: An investigation of technical communication graduates, managers, and curricula. *Journal of Technical Writing and Communication*, *33*(4), 303-318.