

# First-Year College Composition

## Rhetoric and the Value of Money



### Course Description:

### Required Texts:

*Money*. Kenneth Gillam, ed. Fountainhead Press, 2011.

A rhetoric (addressing research, argument, and/or analysis) of the instructor's choosing.

### Assignments:

There are 12 short writing assignments based on activities listed after the articles, song lyrics, and comic strips in *Money*.

Major Assignments 1, 2, and 5.

These writings are to be collected into a portfolio at the semester's end.

## Schedule of Readings and Assignments

### Week 1 Introduction: The Value of Money

Readings: "Introduction: The Money in Your Hand and the Money in the Sky" (pp. ); "U.S. Economy Grinds to a Halt" (pp. ); "The Evolution of Money" (pp. )

Assignments Due: Short writing based on the Collaborate activity (p. 16—after Onion article)

## Week 2 Money in the Public Imagination

Readings: "Billionaire" (pp. 9); "Got" (pp. 115); "Economic Bill of Rights" (pp. 17); *Calvin & Hobbes*: Money, Power, or Fame" (p. 57)

Assignments Due: Begin work on Major Assignment #2 (pp. 188); Short writing based on Compose activity (p. 11 after "Billionaire")

## Week 3 Stuff

Readings: "Buy Yourself Less Stuff" (pp. 19); "A Lexus in Every Garage" (pp. 59)

Assignments Due: Continued work on Major Assignment #2 (pp. 188); Short writing based on Collaborate activity (p. 29)

## Week 4 Money and Religion

Readings: "The Gospel of Bling" (pp. 45)

Assignments Due: Major Assignment #2 due; Short writing based on Compose activity (p. 52)

## Week 5 Money and the Public Good

Readings: "Why Do Teachers Make So Little?" (pp. 41); "Burning Down the House" (pp. 53)

Assignments Due: Begin work on Major Assignment #1 (pp 217-218); Short writing based on Collaborate activity (p. 55)

## Week 6 The Great Recession

Viewing: film, *Inside Job*

Assignments Due: Research for Major Assignment #1

## Week 7 Equality and Inequality

Readings: from *The Smartest Guys in the Room* (pp. 63); “Of the 1%, For the 1%, By the 1%” (pp. 79)

Assignments Due: Continued work on Major Assignment #1; Short writing based on Invent activity (p. 67)

## Week 8      Equality and Inequality

Readings: “Household Wealth Inequality in the United States” (pp. 69); “Hard Times Come Again No More” (pp. 87)

Assignments Due: Continued work on Major Assignment #1; Short writing based on Invent activity (p. 77)

## Week 9      Down and Out in America

Readings: “Being Poor” (pp. 89); “Serving in Florida” (pp. 95)

Assignments Due: Continued work on Major Assignment #1; Short writing based on Compose activity (p. 94)

## Week 10     Down and Out in America

Viewing: film, *The Grapes of Wrath*

Assignments Due: Major Assignment #1 due

## Week 11     Gender and Money

Readings: “A Dollar of Her Own” (pp. 109)

Assignments Due: Short writing based on Collaborate activity (p. 114)

## Week 12     The Flipside of What You Think About Money

Readings: “Paying More for Less” (pp. 119); *Calvin & Hobbes* Walking Billboard (p. 155)

Assignments Due: Begin Major Assignment #5; Short writing based on Invent activity (p. 156)

## Week 13 Satire

Readings: from *Catch-22* (pp. 157)

Assignments Due: Continued work on Major Assignment #5; Short writing based on Explore activity (p. 167)

## Week 14 Virtual Currencies

Readings: “The Decline and Fall of an Ultra-Rich Online Gaming Empire” (pp. 139); “You are not a Gadget” (pp. 125)

Assignments Due: Continued work on Major Assignment #5; Short writing based on Collaborate activity (p. 137)

## Week 15

Portfolio Workshop

## Week 16

Portfolio and Major Assignment #5 due.