Composition Theory and Practice Final Project

Due Dates: Monday, April 24 – Proposal Due (electronic submission before class)
Wednesday, May 3 – Completed Project Due (by 5:00 pm)

Proposal: 1 page typed, single spaced, sketches and/or storyboarding for visual aspects of your project are encouraged. The proposal, as a genre, must consist of four moves:

1) Describe your topic
2) Describe your inquiry question or questions
3) Assertion of how you propose answering that question (this is your theory)
4) Provisional articulation of the stakes of your project (answering the question So what?)

Genre Portfolio: equivalent of 6-8 page "standard" essay

A manifesto, a critical review, a parody or spoof, a letter, a lesson plan, a workplace newsletter article. Working within these genres (and/or others), compose a portfolio of texts which articulate a sophisticated theory of composition that at least partially relates to practice. Whereas you might usually be asked to write a final paper, here you are being asked to compose in and through multiple genres. No matter your departmental major or future plans, your project should relate to the "scenes of writing" you are most interested and invested in.

I expect your theory of composition to connect to and synthesize a significant portion of the readings. By working with different genres in articulation, I expect your theory of composition to explore in some way how genre functions to inform, constrain, and even create writers.

Collaborative Option

For students wishing to compose the genre portfolio collaboratively, form groups on your own or let me know so I can find other group members for you to work with. Groups taking this collaborative option will have to produce an additional text (in the genre of a short report) about the nature of your collaboration. Groups will be expected to do more. Groups will be expected to maintain (even cultivate) difference between group members.