Open Spring 2016 Critical Reading and Writing Course
for sophomores, juniors, and seniors who want to

• learn alongside other new transfer students
• improve their ability to develop longer papers
• write successfully in their majors and/or other disciplines

The goals and capabilities of Interdisciplinary Critical Thinking are the same as those of Intermediate Seminars.

Students complete a potential Writing Proficiency Requirement Portfolio supporting paper as part of their CRW 221 coursework.

Prerequisites: Transfer students with 30+ credits including both ENG 101 and ENG 102, or permission of the instructor or department.

This course is usually followed by an Intermediate Seminar.

Spring 2016 Interdisciplinary Critical Thinking Section

The Role of Prior Knowledge in Teachers’, Students’, and Other Authors’ Work

What types of knowledge have UMass Boston students gained from other academic communities and other contexts? This initial question forms our foundation; we move on to explore how authors who synthesize disciplines such as medicine, women’s studies, ecology, education, cosmology, economics, and history depend on their readers’ prior knowledge while persuading readers about new and complex arguments. Students will have opportunities to decide which authors and strategies are most successful at this process, and students will use these observations to help strengthen their own ability to write successfully. To understand the ways in which teachers also depend on prior knowledge, students have the opportunity to design their own interdisciplinary courses for their final projects.

Sec 1 TuTh 12:30-1:45 McCarthy class# 1984 M-2-421

"I knew very little when I arrived at UMass, but I learned to understand and write clearly and respond."

"I loved all the readings in this class."

This class taught me "How to write a paper and to critically think. The other school I attended did not teach me this."

"The best ever . . . I would highly recommend this class."

"I absolutely loved this class." It was "great and helpful" and the "best . . . since ever."

--testimonials from CRW 221 students