

ENGL 3340 Advanced Composition  
Dr. Paul Butler  
Tuesday/Thursday from 1:00 to 2:30 pm  
Room TBA

#### DESCRIPTION OF COURSE:

In this course, we will examine the study of style in writing today. What do we mean by the word “style”? What are the social, political, cultural, rhetorical, and linguistic uses of the term? In addition to considering problems with the study of style, we'll look at examples of different styles used in a broad range of written genres (e.g., nonfiction, the essay, literature, journalism, law, science, and new media, including social media), and analyze what makes the style of various writers distinctive. In addition, students will use the broad-based analysis of style as a means of developing their own writing style. One assignment will allow you to write an essay in the genre of your choosing with careful attention to the stylistic elements we have learned in the course. The class will require several writing assignments of varying lengths, a midterm, and a final exam.

The course helps prepare students for law school, MBA programs, graduate school (MA and PhD programs), and is useful for students interested in creative writing, especially creative nonfiction.