

**NEW YORK CITY COLLEGE OF TECHNOLOGY
OF THE CITY UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK**

POST OBSERVATION CONFERENCE MEMORANDUM

Date of Discussion 4/12/2016

Observation date 3/17/2016

Candidate's Name_____

Department English

Representatives Present

Course & Section ENG 11 _____
Name of Observer _____

Name of Observee _____

Date Observation Filed _____ with Chairperson _____

P&B member or other assigned by chairperson

(Attach additional pages if necessary.)

Signed _____ Title _____

I understand that my signature means only that I have read this memorandum and that I may attach any comments I wish.

Staff Member's Signature _____ **Date** _____

**NEW YORK CITY COLLEGE OF TECHNOLOGY CLASS OBSERVATION REPORT OF THE
CITY UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK**

Name _____ Rank Assistant Professor _____ (☒) Untenured

Department English _____ Course/Section _____

Date of Observation 3/17/2016 Room N 817

Lesson Topic & Brief Summary: Discussion of signs, representation, and hegemony

Please complete each item. This report will be returned unless each category contains supporting comments. Use additional pages if necessary.

1. CLASSROOM MANAGEMENT (prompt start, efficient attendance check):

(☒) Satisfactory () Unsatisfactory
The class began on time and attendance was taken.

2. PROFESSIONAL TRAITS (Professional appearance and demeanor; clarity, volume, and pace of speech; establishment of rapport with students)

(☒) Satisfactory () Unsatisfactory
Professor _____ presented class material in a clear and professional manner. She seemed to have established a very good rapport with her students.

3. SUBJECT MASTERY (accuracy of presented material, use of appropriate terminology, competence in use of equipment)

(☒) Excellent () Very Good () Satisfactory () Unsatisfactory
The class involved discussion of the interpretation of signs in relation to ideology and the concept of hegemony. Examples were discussed based on an article on graffiti and visual representations of public signs in both local and global contexts. Classroom technology was used effectively to present images to facilitate understanding of key concepts. Class discussion was dynamic and Professor _____ presentation of material was clear and engaging.

4. ORGANIZATION AND DEVELOPMENT OF MATERIAL (clear statement of objectives; logical sequence; budgeting of time; review, summary, and outside assignments as appropriate)

(☒) Excellent () Very good () Satisfactory () Unsatisfactory

This is an interdisciplinary course co-taught by _____ and Professor _____ from the _____ Department. Professor _____ started the class by discussing guidelines and protocols for turning in late assignments.

The first part of the class was devoted to class discussion of the relation between signs and cultural hegemony. Prof. _____ directed students to examine the article on the sanctioning of graffiti and connect ideas in text to the broader ideas of transgression and hegemony, denotative and connotative meanings. Students actively participated in the discussion of an array of examples, including the notion of culturally universal signs and symbols presented by Professor _____. Professor _____ used the case study of the electing “emoji” as “word of the year” to facilitate students’ understanding of the prescriptivist and descriptivist approaches to language. The entire session was coherent, both Professor _____ and Professor _____ were able to engage students in an intellectually interesting and inspiring conversation.

In the second part of the class, Professor _____ asked students to show their selected signs, which were posted on Blackboard. They then applied the concepts they learned in class to categorize the signs accordingly. While analyzing and elaborating their responses, students were able to engage in a metacognitive learning process that led to a deeper theoretical engagement in the areas of language, power, and ideology. This part of the lesson was well conducted.

The sequences were well-organized. Students seemed to enjoy the various in-class activities.

5. PRESENTATION OF MATERIAL (level and clarity of presentation, appropriate use of learning aids)

(x) Excellent () Very Good () Satisfactory () Unsatisfactory

The class was focused. Professor _____ effectively engaged students in specific tasks to enhance their understanding and analytical skills. Classroom technology was used effectively to facilitate presentation and learning of key elements.

6. STUDENT-INSTRUCTOR INTERACTION (relevance, variety, and clarity of questions; appropriate recognition of student contributions)

(x) Excellent () Very Good () Satisfactory () Unsatisfactory
Professor _____, very well coordinated with Professor _____ appropriately commented on each response and acknowledged students’ contributions. Students were comfortable to participate in class.

7. OVERALL EVALUATION (categories 1 through 6)

(x) Excellent() Very Good () Satisfactory () Unsatisfactory

This was a good class. The instructor was professional and her students were attentive.

8. SPECIFIC RECOMMENDATIONS FOR IMPROVEMENT (use additional pages if necessary)

None

I have read and have been given a copy of the above report, and so signify by my signature below. I understand that I may attach additional comments to this document.

++Signature of Observee

Date

Signature of Observer

Date