Location: Room 230, Education Building
901 13th Street South

HON 101, 201, 301 English
HON 102, 202, 302 Literature
HON 103, 203, 303 Sociology
HON 104, 204, 304 Urban Studies
HON 105, 205, 305 Science
HON 106, 206, 306 Business

What Work Is

FULL-TIME FACULTY:

MICHELE WILSON (Sociology)  ADA LONG (English)  DAIL MULLINS (Science)
Ofc.: 239G ULL  Ofc.: 251 EB  Ofc.: 120 EB
Home Phone: 934-8685  Ofc. Phone: 934-3228  Ofc. Phone: 934-8381
email: mwilson@uab.edu  email: adalong@uab.edu  email: drdoom@uab.edu

ODESSA WOOLFOLK (Urban Affairs)  RUSTY RUSHTON (Literature)  SUSAN KEY (Business)
Ofc.: 232 EB  Ofc.: 210B BEC  Ofc.: 210B BEC
Home Phone: 942-0155  Ofc. Phone: 934-7338  Home Phone: 934-7338
email: wrushton@uab.edu  email: susankey@uab.edu

THE FOLLOWING INDIVIDUALS WILL BE GIVING GUEST LECTURES:

Harold L. Abroms, Retired Vice-Chairman, Parisian
Ashaki Benta, Coordinator of Programs, Brisbane Institute, Morehouse College
Jothan Callins, Jazz Musician
Colin Davis, Associate Professor of History, UAB
Harvey Henley, non-union employee, ACIPCO; elected member, Board of Arbiters
Horace Huntley, Assistant Professor of History, UAB
Tom Jambor, Associate Professor Emeritus of Curriculum & Instruction, UAB
Bronwen Lichtenstein, Research Assistant Professor of Sociology, UAB
Michael Neilson, Professor Emeritus of Geology, UAB
Frank Paige, Coalition of Black Trade Unionists
Oliver Robinson, former UAB Basketball player; Alabama State Legislator
Michael Sloane, Associate Professor of Psychology
Patricia Todd, owner of One Computer Training
Bobby Wilson, Professor of Government and Public Service, UAB
**TEXTS:**

The following texts are available at the UAB Bookstore and Snoozy’s; you will also purchase a packet of additional reading materials during the first week of class. If you buy—or already own—editions of the texts that are different from the ones ordered for the class, you may have trouble following references to page numbers during the lectures. **Books marked with an asterisk (*) are required summer reading.**


*Hurston, Zora Neale. Their Eyes Were Watching God.* Harper and Rowe, 1990


Reich, Robert B. *The Future of Success.* Alfred A. Knopf, 2000


**READING REQUIREMENTS:**

Reading assignments marked with an asterisk in the syllabus should be read before that class period. In addition to the texts listed above, you will need to buy a packet of photocopied materials containing all the additional readings; information will be provided about the purchase of this packet on the first day of class.

**WRITTEN REQUIREMENTS, DUE DATES, AND GRADE PERCENTAGES:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ASSIGNMENT</th>
<th>% OF GRADE</th>
<th>DUE DATE</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Literary Analysis</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>Sep 06</td>
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<tr>
<td>Term Paper Proposal (Required)</td>
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<td>Sep 11</td>
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<td>Library Assignment (Required)</td>
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<td>Sep 25</td>
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<tr>
<td>Midterm Exam</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>Oct 09</td>
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<tr>
<td>Term Paper Bibliography (Required)</td>
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<td>Oct 18</td>
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<tr>
<td>Term Paper Title and Thesis Statement (Required)</td>
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<td>Oct 30</td>
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<tr>
<td>Occupational Ethnography</td>
<td>05</td>
<td>Nov 20</td>
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<tr>
<td>Arrington Careers Project (journal/poster)</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>Dec 04</td>
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<tr>
<td>Term Paper</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>Dec 06</td>
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<tr>
<td>Final Exam</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>Dec 11</td>
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<tr>
<td>Attendance and Participation</td>
<td>05</td>
<td>Daily</td>
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SUMMER ASSIGNMENT:

During the summer you should read *Sister Carrie, Their Eyes Were Watching God, and The Bonfire of the Vanities*. These three novels will be the subject of your first written assignment. Ada Long and Rusty Rushton will lecture on the novels during the first week of class and provide written materials on the literary analysis assignment.

WEEKLY REVIEW SESSIONS (Optional):

Each Friday morning, from 10:00am—noon, has been set aside as an optional session for those students who may wish to meet further with faculty or who have questions about any lecture material. These sessions will take place in the seminar room (EB 257).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Faculty Name</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Aug 31</td>
<td>Mike Wilson</td>
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<td>Sep 07</td>
<td>Dail Mullins</td>
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<td>Sep 14</td>
<td>Susan Key</td>
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<td>Sep 21</td>
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<td>Oct 26</td>
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<td>Nov 02</td>
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<td>Nov 09</td>
<td>Dail Mullins</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nov 16</td>
<td>Mike Wilson</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nov 30</td>
<td>Dail Mullins</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

In addition, Ada Long and/or Rusty Rushton will meet with all interested students on Thursdays, from 8:30am – 9:20am, to discuss composition, the written requirements of the course, and any other topics students want to discuss.

MOVIES:

Course-related movies will be shown each Tuesday evening at 6:00pm in the main lecture hall of the Education Building (EB 230). Attendance at these is optional, but students can receive “Participation in Honors” credit. Also, exams may include the option of writing about one or more of the movies.

GROUP ACTIVITIES:

Each student will participate throughout the term in a group activity at Arrington Middle School, culminating in a Career Fair at Arrington on Tuesday, December 4.

COURSE WEBSITE:

This year the Honors Program’s interdisciplinary course is again “web-enhanced,” which means that many of the course documents, some lecture materials and reading assignments, helpful external links,
MLA and APA term paper format guidelines, and a Blackboard©-sponsored Resources site will be available to you on line, from any computer, anywhere. In addition, you will be able to use the Communication section of the website to correspond with one another, or the faculty, via email, and to participate in discussion threads with the other students in the class, or with those in your group. Participation in this part of the course will require that you have an email account, so if you do not yet have this, get one over the summer.

You will be given a complete set of instructions for accessing and navigating the course website on the first day of class.

WHAT WORK IS

1. Overview

Thursday, August 23
9:30am-12:15pm  Introductions, Announcements, etc.
2:00pm-3:15pm  “Personal and Professional Perspectives on Work” (Faculty)

Tuesday, August 28
9:30am-12:15pm  “Working the American Dream” (Rusty Rushton)
*Theodore Dreiser, Sister Carrie
2:00pm-3:15pm  Planning Session For Arrington School Projects
6:00pm  Film: “The Bonfire of the Vanities” (Ada Long)

Thursday, August 30
9:30am-12:15pm  “Mules, Wives, and Women at Work” (Ada Long)
*Zora Neale Hurston, Their Eyes Were Watching God
2:00pm-3:15pm  Session on Writing a Literary Analysis (Ada Long and Rusty Rushton)
*Tom Wolfe, The Bonfire of the Vanities
*Rodrigues & Tuman, Writing Essentials
II. Changing Definitions of Work

Tuesday, September 4

9:30am-10:45am  “The Origin and Evolution of Work” (Dail Mullins)
   *Roger B. Hill, “Historical Context of the Work Ethic”
11:00am-12:15pm  “Work: Social Surplus and the Division of Labor” (Odessa Woolfolk)
2:00pm-3:15pm  “Separation of Home and Work” (Mike Wilson)
   *Tamara Hareven, excerpt from *Families, History and Social Change*
6:00pm  Film: “Modern Times” (Odessa Woolfolk)

Thursday, September 6

9:30am-10:45am  “The Evolution of Commerce” (Susan Key)
11:00am-12:15pm  “Writing and Commerce” (Rusty Rushton)
2:00pm-3:15pm  “Working in the City” (Ada Long)
   *Philip Levine, “What Work Is”
   “To Cipriano in the Wind”
   “Detroit Grease Shop Poem”
   *Erica Funkhauser, “The Women Who Clean Fish”
   *Catharine Anderson, “Womanhood”
   *Maya Angelou, “Weekend Glory”
   “Times-Square-Shoeshine-Composition”
   *Studs Terkel, selections from *Working*:
      Washroom Attendant, pp. 153-58
      Factory Mechanic, pp. 158-61
      Domestic, pp. 161-68
      Supermarket Box Boy, pp. 371-74
      Supermarket Checker, pp. 374-80
      Housewife, pp. 396-401
      Factory Owner, pp. 515-521
      Ex-President of Conglomerate, pp. 530-40
      Fireman, pp. 748-62
6:00pm  1st Thursday Lecture: “Laziness and Cognitive Sloth”
   (Michael Sloane, Associate Professor of Psychology)
III. The Organization of Work

**Tuesday, Sept. 11**

9:30am-12:15pm  “Theories of Organization: Class, Privilege and Hierarchy”  
(Susan Key)

*Chris Argyris, *The Individual and the Organization: Some Problems of Mutual Adjustment

2:00pm-3:15pm  Arrington Middle School (see directions at end of syllabus)

6:00pm  Film: “Roger and Me” (Dail Mullins)

**Thursday, Sept. 13**

9:30am-12:15pm  “Division of Labor and the Issue of Alienation” (Ada Long and Mike Wilson)


*selection from John Ruskin, *Stones of Venice

* “Job Satisfaction”

2:00pm-3:15pm  “The Social Organization of Non-Human Primates: Are There Lessons to Be Learned?”

*Carl Sagan, “Lives of the Apes”

*Judith Rich Harris, “Human Nature”

*Steven Pinker, selections from *How the Mind Works

**Tuesday, Sept. 18**

9:30am-12:15pm  “The Rise of Organized Labor” (Odessa Woolfolk)

*excerpt on “Labor Unions” from West’s *Encyclopedia of American Law

2:00pm-3:15pm  “Theory X, Theory Y, and Theory Z” (Susan Key)

6:00pm  Film: “Glengarry Glen Ross” (Rusty Rushton)

**Thursday, Sept. 20**

9:30am-10:45am  “Power Dynamics in the American Workplace” (Rusty Rushton)

*David Mamet, *Glengarry Glen Ross
11:00am-12:15pm  “Globalization and Women” (Mike Wilson)

*Leslie Salinger, “Making Fantasies Real: Producing Women and Men on the Maquila Shop Floor”
*Sam Perry, “Nothing Is Free About Free Trade”
*Marcelline White, “GATs and Women”
*Sophie Bessis, “One Battle After Another”

2:00pm-3:15pm  “The Working Lives of Bees” (Michael Sloane)

Tuesday, Sept. 25

9:30am-10:45am  “The Regulation of Work” (Susan Key)


11:00am-12:15pm  “The Force of Sales” (Rusty Rushton)

*Arthur Miller, Death of a Salesman

2:00pm-3:15pm  Arrington Middle School

6:00pm  Film:  “Silkwood” (Dail Mullins)

Thursday, Sept. 27

9:30am-12:15pm  “Art and Music of the Labor Movement” (Ada Long)

2:00pm-3:15pm  “The Pecking Order in Science” (Dail Mullins)

*Selections from Sharon Traweek, Beamtimes and Lifetimes
*E. O. Wilson, “The Natural Sciences”
*E. O. Wilson, “The Social Sciences”
IV. The Labor Movement in Birmingham

**Tuesday, Oct. 2**

9:30am-10:45am  “Iron, Limestone, and Coal: The Reason for Birmingham”  
(Mike Neilson)

11:00am-12:15pm  “Race and Industry” (Bobby Wilson)

12:30pm-3:15pm  Lunch, Tours, and Activities at Sloss Furnace

6:00PM  Film: “Norma Rae” (Mike Wilson)

**Thursday, Oct. 4**

9:30am-10:45pm  “Mind, Mill, and Race” (Horace Huntley)

11:00am-12:15pm  “History of the United Mine Workers” (Colin Davis)

2:00pm-3:15pm  Panel Discussion of the Labor Movement in Birmingham (Frank Paige, Harvey Henley)

6:00pm  First Thursday Lecture Series: Ashaka Binti, “Labor Organization in Today’s South”

**Tuesday Oct. 9, 9:30am-3:15pm**  MIDTERM EXAM

**Thursday, Oct. 11, 9:30am-2:00pm**  Field Trips with Arrington Students

V. Access to Work

**Tuesday, Oct. 16**

9:30am-10:45am  “Privilege and Patronage: Keeping People Out” (Mike Wilson)

11:00am-12:15pm  “For Whom the Bell Curve Tolls” (Dail Mullins)

*Selections from Richard Hernstein and Charles Murray, The Bell Curve*
2:00pm-3:15pm  “Title VII Legal Regulations on Access” (Susan Key)

6:00pm  Film: “Philadelphia” (Susan Key)

**Thursday, Oct. 18**

9:30am-10:45am  “Non-Title VII Legal Regulations on Access” (Susan Key)

11:00am-12:15pm  “Moral and Immoral Criteria for Discrimination” (James Rachels)

2:00pm-3:15pm  “Open Forum: Is an Honors Program Moral?” (students)

**Tuesday, Oct. 23**

9:30am-10:45am  “Stories of Harassment” (Mike Wilson)

11:00M-12:15PM  “Patterns of Harassment” (Ada Long)

*William Faulkner, “Barn Burning”

2:00-3:15pm  Visits to Arrington

6:00pm  Film: “Oleanna” (Rusty Rushton)

**Thursday, Oct. 25**

9:30am-10:45am  “Cry of the Wolf: Harassment in the Teacher’s Office”  (Rusty Rushton)

*David Mamet, Oleanna

11:00am-12:15pm  “Panel on Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, and Transgender Issues in the Workplace” (Patricia Todd, Frank Romanowicz.)

2:00pm-3:15pm  **Meet at the Birmingham Civil Rights Institute**  

“Racial Discrimination” (Odessa Woolfolk)
VI. Non-Work

**Tuesday, Oct. 30**

9:30am-12:15pm  “Welfare: How Do You Spell RELIEF?” (Odessa Woolfolk)
                *Michael Harrington, *The Other America*

2:00pm-3:15pm  “Workfare” (Mike Wilson)
                *Excerpt from *Hard Labor*

6:00pm  Film: “The Grapes of Wrath” (Odessa Woolfolk)

**Thursday, Nov. 1**

9:30am-3:15pm  “Experiencing Non-Work” (faculty and students)

VII. Unpaid Work

**Tuesday, Nov. 6**

9:30am-12:15pm  “House Work” (Ada Long)
                *Virginia Woolf, *Mrs. Dalloway*

2:00-3:15pm  Visits to Arrington

6:00pm  Film: “Mrs. Dalloway” (Ada Long)

**Thursday, Nov. 8**

9:30am-10:45am  “Housework” (Mike Wilson)
                *Pat Mainardi, “The Politics of Housework”*

11:00am-12:15pm  “Poetry of Domestic Work” (Rusty Rushton)
                *William Carlos Williams, “To Elsie”
                *Sterling Brown, “Scotty Has His Say”
                *Natasha Trethewey, “Wash Women”
                “Domestic Work, 1937”
                “Housekeeping”

2:00pm-3:15pm  “Philanthropy and Volunteerism in America” (Susan Key)
6:00pm  First Thursday Lecture Series: “Reflections on Philanthropy” (Harold L. Abroms)

VIII. **Work and Play**

**Tuesday, Nov. 13**

9:30am-10:45am  “Sandbox of Words: The Poet’s Work” (Rusty Rushton)

* Sigmund Freud, excerpt from “Creative Writers and Day-Dreaming”
* Gerard Manly Hopkins, “God’s Grandeur”
* e. e. cummings, “n”
* A. R. Ammons, “Triphammer Bridge”
* Wallace Stevens, “The Poem That Took the Place of a Mountain”

11:00am-12:15pm  “Play as Children’s Work” (Tom Jambor)

2:00pm-3:15pm  “Sex Workers” (Bronwen Lichtenstein)

6:00pm  Film: “Carwash” (Dail Mullins)

**Thursday, Nov. 15**

9:30am-10:45am  “Tourism” (Aubrey Miller)

11:00am-12:15pm  “Athletics” (Oliver Robinson)


2:00pm-3:15pm  “Entertainment” Jothan Callins

* Studs Terkel, *Working*, Jazz Musician (pp. 596-600)
IX. The Future of Work

**Tuesday, Nov. 20**

9:30am-12:15pm  “The End of Work?” (Dail Mullins)

*Selections from Jeremy Rifkin, *The End of Work*
*Paul Kennedy, “Robotics, Automation, and a New Industrial Revolution”

2:00pm-3:15pm  Visits to Arrington

**Thursday, Nov. 22**  THANKSGIVING

**Tuesday, Nov. 27**

9:30am-10:45am  “The Global Shift to Transnationals” (Mike Wilson)

*George Draffan, “The Corporate Consensus”

11:00am-12:15pm  “Working: The Global Bazaar” (Odessa Woolfolk)

*Robert Reich, *The Future of Success*

2:00pm-3:15pm  “Computers and the Future of the Entertainment Industry” (Dail Mullins)

6:00pm  Film: “Rising Sun” (Mike Wilson)

**Thursday, Nov. 29**

9:30am-10:45am  “Corporate Power and the Decline of the Public Sphere” (Mike Wilson)

*Zbigniew Brzezinski, excerpt from *Grand Chessboard*
*Bill Tabb, “Progressive Globalism”

11:00am-12:15pm  “Today’s Elite Students and the Fears of Herman Kahn” (Dail Mullins)

*David Brooks, “The Organization Kid”

2:00pm-3:15pm  “The Work of Being a Student” (Open Discussion)

**Tuesday, Dec. 4, 9:30am-3:15pm**  CAREER FAIR AT ARRINGTON

**Thursday, Dec. 6, 9:30am-3:15pm**  Wrap-Ups, Discussion of Final Exam, Elections, Evaluations, and LUNCH
THURSDAY, DECEMBER 20, 6:00PM-??? HOLIDAY PARTY AT ADA’S LOFT

Honors Program/Arrington Middle School Career Research Project

Twenty groups of 10 students each, 5 from Arrington and 5 from the UAB Honors Program, will study the history and nature of various occupations during the fall semester of 2001.

All the students will meet in their groups of 10 each on five Tuesday afternoons throughout the semester (see schedule below).

In addition to the five Tuesday afternoon meetings from 2:00-3:15pm, the study will include one day of field trips to various professional sites and one day for a final Career Day/Poster Session.

Each group of 10 will study a cluster of five related occupations (e.g., legal system: policemen, judges, lawyers, secretaries, stenographers; or banking: management, tellers, security officers, public relations, accountants).

All students—both at Arrington and in the Honors Program—will write a paper for the course. The Honors students will do an occupational ethnography modeled on those in Studs Terkel’s Working.

Schedule:

Tuesday, Sept. 11
(Arrington)
2:00-3:15pm
Discussion of preconceptions about the cluster of professions

Tuesday, Sept. 25
(Arrington)
2:00-3:15pm
Sharing of facts and research about the cluster of professions

Thursday, Oct. 11
(off-site)
9:30am-2:00pm
Field trips to various professional sites

Tuesday, Oct. 23
(Arrington)
2:00-3:15pm
Interviews of people in each of the clustered professions

Tuesday, Nov. 6
(Arrington)
2:00-3:15pm
Planning papers and making posters for Career Fair
Tuesday, Nov. 20  Due date for papers; final poster construction for Career Fair
          (Arrington)         2:00-3:15pm

Tuesday, Dec. 4  Career Fair: poster exhibits and bound volumes of papers by all
             (Arrington)   students
             9:30am-3:15pm

Directions to Arrington Middle School

From the Honors House, go west on 10th Ave. So. to Green Springs Highway
Turn left and go about a half-mile to Green Springs Ave (Just past George Ward Park, on the left)
Turn right, go over the I-65 viaduct, and continue until the road becomes Dennison Ave
Continue on Dennison Ave, past the Elmwood Cemetery grounds on the right, until the road ends
(and forks) at Jefferson Ave
Bear left onto Jefferson Ave and go almost to the large viaduct you see ahead of you
Just past the 3rd traffic light (counting the one at Dennison and Jefferson), turn left onto 19th Pl SW
Go one block to the entrance to the Arrington Middle School parking lot on your right
Park in the lot and go in the far right-hand door; the school office is to your immediate left