



Friday, March 28, 2003

Writing festival features multiple formats

By **Jeff Samoray**, OU Web Writer

To showcase student writings in different forms from across the curriculum, Oakland University's rhetoric program is sponsoring the 2003 Festival of Writing Tuesday, April 1, from 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. in the Oakland Center Heritage Room and Gold Rooms.

"Writings of the 21st-century seem to be taking on new opportunities and showing new potential," said OU Special Instructor of Rhetoric Anne Becker. "Student writing is done in many different formats than the traditional paper and oral presentations. Students are very encouraged by Web design and other digital and multi-dimensional formats. People think of writing just as a written page, but we communicate today through different mediums."

Close to 150 students from applied language studies, communication, linguistics, psychology, rhetoric, women's studies and other courses will present a wide range of written work from traditional reports and presentations to three-dimensional formats that incorporate artwork, photographs, videos, PowerPoint or CD displays, or Web sites. The festival is open to any student with a written project from an OU course.

"Students are either participating as individuals, with a partner or as a class," said Becker, who is the festival organizer. "The topics touch on all kinds of things. A linguistics student will focus on the speech of the deaf, one class is focusing on fairy tales and myth, another project will be a visual and oral presentation on Greta Garbo and Mae West.

"By displaying their projects and answering questions from visitors, students learn that people are really interested in what they've written about. It makes students proud of what they're doing. We hope that people will visit and enjoy the different forms that writing can take."

For more information on the 2003 Festival of Writing, visit the **Rhetoric, Communication and Journalism** Web site or contact Becker at (248) 370-4125 or abecker@oakland.edu.

SUMMARY

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