

Before and After: Statements about Course Content

It has become fairly common practice to include a statement in one's syllabus about possibly offensive material or language in one's course. Below is an annotated look at one example of such a statement and why and how it might be revised.

Before:

Course Content Disclaimer

In this course students may be required to read texts or view material that they may consider offensive. The ideas expressed in any given text do not necessarily reflect the views of the instructor, the department, or the University. Course materials are selected for their historical and/or cultural relevance, or as an example of stylistic and/or rhetorical strategies and techniques. They are meant to be examined in the context of intellectual inquiry of the sort enco