This upper level course is required for English majors (112) with the writing emphasis and serves as an elective for English majors with the literature emphasis. English Ed. Students (707) may also use the course as an elective. The course this term emphasizes writing for publication and is deeply involved with service learning, pairing students with older writers from Mangum, the Southwest Oklahoma Writers’ League, who need their work edited and targeted to an appropriate market. Students taking this course will:

- further master MLA format and style for academic writers;
- refine skills as academic writers, producing critical and interpretive papers on literature, conference abstracts, etc.;
- create non-academic, non-fiction prose, identify an appropriate market for it, and polish it for submission;
- develop greater skill in self-editing;
- develop skills in the editing of other writers’ work and helping them identify and target a publishing market;
- investigate unfamiliar forms of expository writing, such as ethnographic writing, for ex.;
- become more sophisticated users of rhetorical strategies and style.

The students went to Mangum (or sent a bio) on Sept. 10; we met the OWLS, as the Mangum group members refer to themselves, introduced ourselves, got to know each other and assess needs, and then paired off to begin work. Since that time the students have been in communication with their partners by e-mail or by regular mail, even occasionally by phone. The students do editing log entries on their interactions with their writers, and we have had several large group discussions of their editing challenges. We have tentative plans to go back in Nov. and a firm plan to go back at end of term to do a group reading and celebration. It is already apparent that working with the OWLS has sharpened the SWOSU students’ awareness of the protocol of editing, as well as giving them hands-on practice with the technical side of editing serious writers.