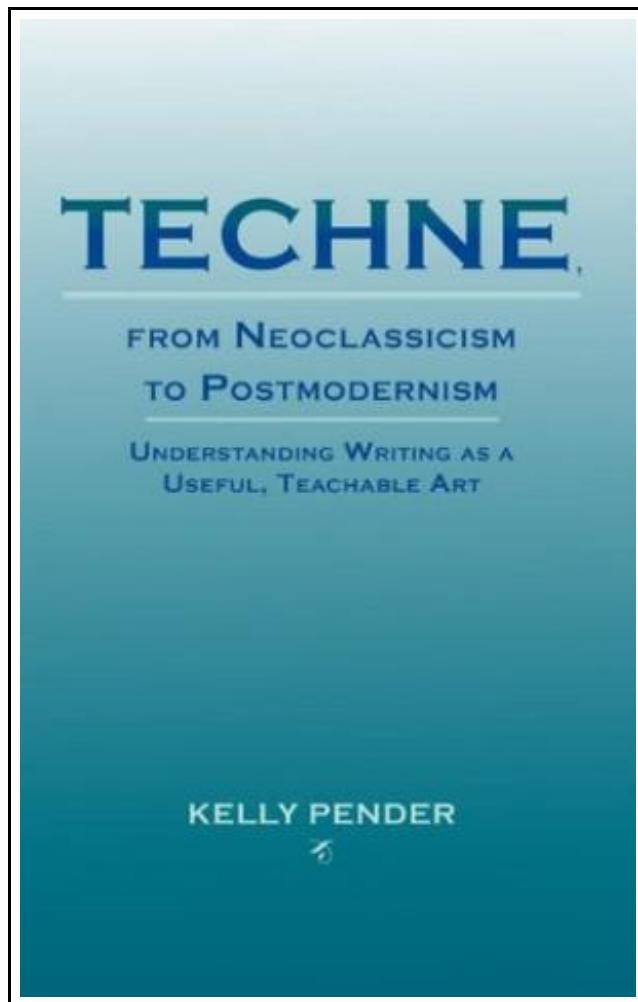


## Techne, from Neoclassicism to Postmodernism: Understanding Writing as a Useful, Teachable Art



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## TECHNE, FROM NEOCLASSICISM TO POSTMODERNISM: UNDERSTANDING WRITING AS A USEFUL, TEACHABLE ART

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Parlor Press. Hardcover. Book Condition: New. Hardcover. 198 pages. Dimensions: 9.1in. x 6.1in. x 0.8in. Kelly Penders final provocative suggestion—that it is precisely through the apparent opposition between closed and open that writing itself has been marginalized within the writing classroom—is an extraordinarily insightful point, one that deserves serious consideration within the rhetoric and composition community. —John Muckelbauer, author of *Invention and the Future: Rhetoric, Postmodernism, and the Problem of Change* The word *techne* has no equivalent in English and so is usually understood as one of the three terms that approximate its original Greek meaning: art, skill, craft. As a kind of productive knowledge, *techne* is often defined by its close association with rationality and instrumentality. TECHNE, FROM NEOCLASSICISM TO POSTMODERNISM: UNDERSTANDING WRITING AS A USEFUL, TEACHABLE ART is a book about the relationships among the many meanings of this complex term. Kelly Pender tells the story of *techne*s presence in the development of rhetoric and composition as an academic discipline in the mid-twentieth century, the influence of postmodern theory on that development, and what is often taught or not taught under the rubric of writing in contemporary composition courses. The arguments TECHNE, FROM NEOCLASSICISM TO POSTMODERNISM makes about these relationships are deconstructive and seek to challenge some of the fields most firmly entrenched binaries about what writing is and how (or if) it should be taught. To make these arguments, TECHNE, FROM NEOCLASSICISM TO POSTMODERNISM uses Samuel Webers retranslation of the Heideggerian term *Ge-stell* as a form of emplacement to show how composition theories and pedagogies based on *techne* work simultaneously to both close down and open up possibilities for experiencing writing as an inherently valuable, nonrational mode of bringing-forth. KELLY PENDER holds a PhD in English from Purdue University. She is an assistant professor of English at Virginia...



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