

ENGL 099.009 English Reading, Writing and language Term: Fall 2023
3 Credits, 3 Contact hours

Professor: John Egan Phone: (973) 596-6305
Office: Cullimore 424 Email: jegan@njit.edu
Meeting Times: Tuesday and Thursday 11:30-12:50 CKB G 17A
Prerequisites: None. Entrance is by placement

OFFICE HOURS Fall 2023 These will change.

Monday 11:35-12:50 Tuesday 10:15-11:15 Thursday 10:15-11:15 Friday 11:35-12:35
Also before and after class, and by appointment; contact me to set up an appointment.

Course Description

Focuses on developing the reading and writing skills necessary for success in a college curriculum, including structuring effective sentences and paragraphs; preparing summaries; expanding vocabulary; developing grammatical fluency; formulating a thesis, and other steps toward writing expository essays.

Students develop skills in evaluating, editing, and proofreading their writing. Intensive work in developing college-level reading skills. Gives attention to specific needs of students whose native language is not English as well as of native speakers of English. Small class size ensures students receive individualized attention.

Course Text. **Funk, Wilfred and Norman Lewis. *30 Days to a More Powerful Vocabulary*.**
Pocket Books. ISBN 1982194715. Gallery Books. The course instructor will provide you with a free copy of this text early in the semester.
Other course texts will be supplied by your instructor.

This course has no final examination in the final examination period in December.

Course Objectives

By the end of the course, you should have developed the following abilities:

- **To write college-level text-based essays.** (A “text” is something you can read, like a book or article or even a painting.)
- **To evaluate and improve your writing** on your own so that you can write final on the level of your “personal best”.
- **To understand and use words** needed to understand college-level reading and to express your meaning in college-level writing.
- **To proofread**, which consists in finding and correcting errors in grammar, spelling, and punctuation, and also in checking that the word(s) that express the ideas clearly;
- **To understand college-level essays, reports and other writings that you read**, so that you can state the thesis of the essay and the support for the thesis along with commenting critically on the essay content.

- **To document (cite the source of)** any ideas and quotations you use in your writing from “outside sources”, such as books, the internet, ChatGPT, and so on.
- **To make oral presentations** with skill and confidence.

Tutoring. Individual tutoring outside of the class meeting is a required part of this course.

A Note About Masks: Following NJIT’s policy, masks are not required in classrooms but are welcome.

Laptops: If you do not have access to a laptop or another device you can bring to class, please let the instructor know.

Special Needs. Every attempt will be made to accommodate qualified students with disabilities. If you are a student with a documented disability, please speak to the instructor as early in the semester as possible to discuss the necessary accommodations and/or contact Student Disability Services at 973-596-3420.

Free Resources

- **The Purdue Writing Lab** (formally the Purdue OWL): <https://owl.purdue.edu/>
- A free *NY Times* e-subscription (available from the NJIT Library homepage)

COURSE POLICIES

1—Students are expected to attend every session and to arrive on time. If you cannot attend class, please email the instructor paris@njit.edu in advance, if possible. Many in-class activities are graded.

2 - The audience for your writing in this course is the instructor and sometimes your colleagues (the other students in this course). **If you don’t want other students to read a specific assignment you have written,** please write that on your assignment.

3 - An assignment submitted late will have the **grade lowered by 1/3 grade level for each day** it is late. Assignments will not be accepted more than one week after the due date, and an ‘F’ will be the grade for that assignment unless you contact the Dean of Student about your absence.

If a difficult personal situation or other difficulty prevents you from handing in an assignment on time, please let the instructor know as soon as possible.

4 - There will be 5 or 6 homework writing assignments, along with **homework exercises in vocabulary and writing mechanics.** There are also **6 to 8 in-class writing assignments.**

Keep a back-up file of any writing you send to the instructor, just in case the file you send is somehow lost and not able to be found. Also, **keep all of your in-class handwritten essays in a folder** to make available to the instructor at the end of the semester.

5 – Different students may sometimes be given different assignments, depending on their reading and writing skills, along with their knowledge of vocabulary and grammar.

6 - In the upper right-hand corner of the 1st page of your assignment, put **the following heading:** Name, Course/Section, Assignment Due Date, Assignment Number.

7 - **You will have to edit** (correct grammar, spelling, punctuation, vocabulary) some of your assignments **and/or revise them** (developing and adding ideas, improving the organization, stating ideas clearly). You can get a higher grade on the assignment if you make it better by editing and revising.

8 – **Course Final Grade** The percentages are approximate. The longer essays and reading assignments will count more than the shorter essays and reading assignments.

Writing and Reading	
Assignments	70%
Quizzes	12.5%
Class participation, debates,	
Oral presentations	17.5%

9--**Violations of academic integrity (cheating / plagiarism / academic dishonesty) will be handled in accord with school policy.** This means, among other things, that a final grade of ‘F’ in this course because of a violation of academic integrity is recorded as an “XF” on the student’s transcript, with a statement on the student transcript that says that this grade indicates a violation of academic integrity. The University Code on Academic Integrity is available at: <http://www.njit.edu/academics/integrity.php>

“Academic Integrity is the cornerstone of higher education and is central to the ideals of this course and the university. Cheating is strictly prohibited and devalues the degree that you are working on. As a member of the NJIT community, it is your responsibility to protect your educational investment by knowing and following the academic code of integrity policy that is found at: <http://www5.njit.edu/policies/sites/policies/files/academic-integrity-code.pdf>.

Please note that it is my professional obligation and responsibility to report any academic misconduct to the Dean of Students Office. Any student found in violation of the code by cheating, plagiarizing or using any online software inappropriately will result in disciplinary action. This may include a failing grade of F, and/or suspension or dismissal from the university. If you have any questions about the code of Academic Integrity, please contact the Dean of Students Office at dos@njit.edu”

- A) **Copying one or more sentences or even parts of sentences** from a source (something on the internet or in hard copy) without putting quotation marks around what you copied and also identifying your source is plagiarism.

Copying from a source and changing some of the words is also plagiarism unless you put quotation marks around the words you copy and identify your source (where you are getting the sentences from).

- B) **Copying ideas from a source** without giving the name of the source is plagiarism even if you use your own words (and not the words in the source) to express the ideas.

10 – **Use of ChatGPT and other AI programs.** This course focuses on the development of reading, writing, and thinking skills. Some people may find use of ChatGPT and other AI programs useful in the development of these skills. However, the development of these skills in a person mostly depends on the person’s own efforts. No pain, no gain.

Use of ChatGPT and similar AI programs will be allowed and even required on some assignments in this course. It will not be allowed on some other assignments, and its use on these assignments will result in a grade of “F” for the assignment. The instructor will indicate which assignments AI can be used in. Do not use it on other assignments.

11- A final grade of ‘C’ or higher is required in lower-division CSLA (College of Science and Liberal Arts) courses to go to the next course in a course sequence. **Therefore, a grade of ‘D’ or ‘F’ in ENGL 099 requires the student to repeat the course** and receive a ‘C’ or higher before taking ENGL 101.

12 –Tutoring - This course includes 5 or 6 required tutoring sessions.

13 - There may be some changes in the assignments indicated in this syllabus. If anything is changed, I will let you know.

CLASS SCHEDULE

WEEK ONE

1- Tuesday, September 5

Introduction

In-class Writing 1 (handwritten)

2- Thursday, September 7

Introduction to *30 Days to a More Powerful Vocabulary*

In-Class Reading: “Why College Is Necessary But Gets You Nowhere”,
by Robert Reich.

Homework 1 Due: Monday, September 11. email to jegan@njit.edu

WEEK TWO

Monday, September 11 Last Day to Drop/Add a Course

3- Tuesday, September 12

Vocabulary Quiz 1, Fourth Day, “Words for Mature Minds”

Discussion of HW Writing 1. Essay: “Why College Isn’t (and Shouldn’t Have to be) for Everyone”, by Robert Reich

3- Thursday, September 14

To be announced

Homework 2 Due: Wednesday, September 13

WEEK THREE

4- Tuesday, September 19 Last Day for 100% Refund, Full or Partial Withdrawal

In-class Essay 2

5 - Thursday, September 21

Vocabulary Quiz 2

Discussion: How to Compare Two Paintings. Art vocabulary.

WEEK FOUR

6 - Tuesday, September 26

In-Class Writing 3 In-class Essay 3: Comparing Two Paintings

7 - Thursday, September 28

Vocabulary Quiz 3

Discussion: Documentation

[Microsoft Word - NJIT University Policy on Academic Integrity.docx](#)

[Avoiding Plagiarism - Paraphrasing | Academic Integrity at MIT](#)

Discussion: "Can I Use the Same Paper for Multiple College Courses", by Chuck Klosterman

WEEK FIVE

8- Tuesday, October 3

Vocabulary Quiz 4

Preparation for Debate 1

9 - Thursday, October 5

Debate 1

WEEK SIX

10—Tuesday, October 10

Vocabulary Quiz 5

Discussion of reading for HW Writing 3: "In What Ways Might Human and Animal Consciousness Differ?", John Parrington

11 - Thursday, October 14

Punctuation 1

Proofreading Practice

WEEK SEVEN

12 - Tuesday, October 17

In-class essay 4

Vocabulary Quiz 6

Proofreading Practice

13 - Thursday, October 19

To be announced.

Sunday, October 22. Due Date. Homework Writing 3. Essay: Animal Consciousness.

WEEK EIGHT

14 - Tuesday, October 24

Vocabulary Quiz 7

Preparation for Debate 2

15 - Thursday, October 26

Debate 2

WEEK NINE

16 - Tuesday, October 31

Vocabulary Quiz 8
Proofreading Quiz

17 - Thursday, November 2

In-class Essay 5

WEEK TEN

18 - Tuesday, November 7

Vocabulary Quiz 9
Preparation for Debate 3

19 - Thursday, November 9

Debate 3

Monday, November 12, HW Essay 4 Due

WEEK ELEVEN

20 - Tuesday, November 14 **Last Day to Withdraw**

Vocabulary Quiz 10.

21 - Thursday, November 16

Vocabulary Quiz 11
Punctuation Quiz

WEEK TWELVE

22 - Tuesday, November 21

In-class Essay 6

23 - Thursday, November 23 - No class – School is closed for Thanksgiving

WEEK THIRTEEN

24 - Tuesday, November 28

Vocabulary Quiz 12.
Proofreading Quiz

25 - Thursday, November 30

Oral Presentation: An Error in My Writing

Monday, December 3 – HW Essay 5 due

WEEK FOURTEEN

26 - Tuesday, December 5

Vocabulary Quiz 11
In-Class Writing 7

27 - Thursday, December 7

Review for Final Vocabulary Quiz.

Review for Final Writing Mechanics Quiz.

WEEK FIFTEEN

28 - Tuesday, December 12

Final Quiz, Vocabulary.

Final Quiz. Writing Mechanics.
