

ENGL 100: English Composition: Introduction to Academic Reading and Writing

Professor: Dr. Victoria Livingstone
Office: Cullimore 423
Office Hours: Tue. 12-1 p.m.; Wed. 11:30-12:30 or by appt. (appointments may be scheduled in person or via Webex)
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Webex Room (by appt.): <https://njit.webex.com/meet/vjliv>
Course location: Central King Building G-17A (Writing Center classroom)
Course Schedule: Mondays and Wednesdays 10-11:20 a.m.

Course Description

This course is designed for students whose first language is not English but who have advanced level English language skills. The class emphasizes writing college-level text-based essays, reading strategies, and advanced critical thinking. You will strengthen skills in analysis and argumentation. You will expand your vocabulary and improve your grammar. The course includes extensive practice in editing (proofreading) and revision skills. The class involves frequent oral presentations. There is some attention to rhetorical analysis and basic documentation. Small class size and weekly individual tutoring sessions ensure students receive individualized attention. Passing this course with a grade of C or higher satisfies the [ENGL 101](#) General Education Requirement (GER).

Note: After passing ENGL-100 with a 'C' or higher, you do not take ENGL 101 but go directly to ENGL 102 (English Composition: Introduction to Writing for Research).

Prerequisites:

Entrance is determined by placement test or completion of ENGL 096 with a grade of C or higher.

Learning Outcomes

1. Write at least 6 college-level, text-based essays in class.
2. Write at least 3 homework essays.
3. Critique your own writing drafts (argument, organization, and so on) so as to produce final drafts at the level of your personal best.
4. Use a wide range of English grammatical structures, with increased correctness, in speaking and writing.
5. Increase English language awareness and accuracy in grammar, spelling, and punctuation. Proofread effectively.
6. Read college-level articles, reports, essays and other documents with comprehension, as evidenced in the ability to state the thesis of the document and the support for the thesis, and comment critically on the essay content.
7. Use appropriate documentation (basic level: using quotations and ideas from other sources in your essay) when you bring material from sources (texts, websites) into your own writing.
8. Give oral presentations with some confidence and skill.

ChatGPT (and other Generative AI)

In this class, we will spend some time discussing generative AI (e.g., ChatGPT, Bard, Bing, etc.) and I will give you some assignments that involve the use of these tools. However, the primary goal of this course is to help you become a stronger writer, speaker, and thinker. For that reason, any use of ChatGPT or other generative AI is prohibited unless it is built into the assignment.

*****Any use of generative AI without the explicit permission of the instructor will be considered a violation of academic integrity and referred to the Dean (see the academic integrity policy below). Please note that Grammarly uses AI.*****

It is also important to recognize that generative AI is limited and unreliable. If you ask ChatGPT to produce a bibliography, for example, it will invent citations. You cannot rely on these programs! Further, ChatGPT (and other generative AI) is a large language model (LLM) that does not produce original material. Rather, it is trained on existing data and tends to produce uninteresting text. **It will not help you become a stronger thinker or researcher.**

As generative AI is so new, we are learning about it together. Do not hesitate to bring up any questions or concerns.

Academic Integrity

“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”

All assignments submitted shall be considered “graded work” and all aspects of your coursework are covered by the Code on Academic Integrity. All projects and homework are to be completed individually unless otherwise specified.

A Note on the Use of Technology

We will often work on writing and editing in class, so you should bring your laptop to class. However, I expect you to be focused on the work for our class. If I notice you are distracted, on your phone, or doing work for other classes, your participation grade will be significantly lowered.

Special Needs

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

OTHER COURSE POLICIES:

1. This syllabus is subject to change. I will notify you in advance of any change.
2. You are responsible for checking your email and the Canvas page for updates.
3. I will do my best to respond to emails within 24 hours.
4. **Policy on Late Assignments:** The general policy is the following: **For each day (not class period) the assignment is late, the grade will drop by half a letter grade.** If you have some extenuating circumstance, please let me know. You must submit work on time! You cannot pass the class by trying to do all the work at the end of the semester.
5. Students are expected to attend every session and to arrive on time.
6. There will be 3 to 4 homework essays, including some homework reading exercises. Homework assignments must be word processed. Put a heading with your name, course, and due date in the upper right-hand corner of the first page.
7. **Use of online translation programs/software:** You may consult online dictionaries when working on your homework assignments. However, you should not use automatic translation programs to translate whole phrases from your native language into English. **Doing so is a form of academic dishonesty.** If you are having trouble writing any assignment, please speak with me or with your tutor.
8. **See the policy above regarding the use of generative AI (such as ChatGPT).**
9. A final grade of 'C' or higher is required in lower-division CSLA (College of Science and Liberal Arts) courses to move to the next course in a course sequence. A grade of 'D' or 'F' in this course requires the student to repeat the course and receive a 'C' or higher before taking ENGL 102 or any other course for which ENGL 100/101 is a prerequisite.
10. Students who hand in all of the work but are below the minimum writing level required to pass this course will receive a grade of 'S' ('Satisfactory') and be required to repeat the course and get a 'C' or higher to get credit for the course. (An 'S' is not included in a student's GPA.)
11. The professor will hold occasional one-on-one writing conferences in place of class.

TUTORING

A weekly tutoring session is a required part of this course. Failure to attend your tutoring sessions will affect your final grade in the course.

COURSE TEXTS

- Keen, Dennis. *Developing Vocabulary Skills*, Second Edition. Cengage Learning, 1994. <https://a.co/d/2kIVyyi> You can buy a used copy for around \$5. Please order this book ASAP (as soon as possible) as I will only scan readings for the first week or two of class.
- Cain, Joyce S. *Eye on Editing 2*. Pearson, 2003. NJIT will loan you a copy of this book. However, you may not write in the copy and must return it at the end of the semester! If you prefer to have your own copy, you can purchase a used copy on Amazon for around \$38: <https://www.amazon.com/Eye-Editing-Developing-Skills-Writing/dp/B008NY8MDM>
- All other material will be provided and uploaded to Canvas.

DESCRIPTION OF ASSIGNMENTS AND GRADE BREAKDOWN

Grading Scale

A = 90-100	B+ = 87-89	B = 80-86	C+ = 77-79	C = 70-76	D = 60-69	F = 0 – 59
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ASSIGNMENT	DESCRIPTION	PERCENTAGE OF FINAL GRADE
Homework Essays	3-4 homework essays and revisions	30%
In-class Essays	6-7 in-class essays	15%
Short homework assignments	Submitted on time via Canvas; there is a penalty for late work (half a letter grade per day). Type all of your assignments unless instructed otherwise For vocabulary and grammar homework, I will check the homework for completion during class. You are welcome to handwrite these assignments.	20%
Quizzes	Vocabulary, grammar, and reading quizzes	15%
Presentations and debates	Assigned in advance. Presentations may include group work (such as debates) and individual presentations. For group work, grades are still assigned individually. Individual presentations may include a discussion of homework essays followed by questions.	10%
Class participation	Active participation in class. Note that if you are on your phone, arrive late, or I notice you doing work unrelated to ENGL-100 your participation grade will be substantially lowered.	10%

Class Calendar

The instructor reserves the right to modify class topics. Changes for assignments and due dates will be announced in advance.

Week 1 (Wed., Sep. 6)

Introductions

In-class writing (diagnostic)

Homework: Vocabulary chapters 1-3 (I will check and we will go over this in class); Letter to instructor (submit via Canvas)

Week 2 (Mon., Sep. 11, Wed., Sep. 13)

Monday Sept. 11th: Last Day to Add/Drop a Class

Vocabulary Units 1-3

Homework essay #1 assigned: what is the goal of a college education?

Eye on Editing Chapter 1: Tenses and Time Shifts

Week 3 (Mon., Sep. 18, Wed., Sep. 20)

Monday Sept. 18th: “Common”/In-class essay #1 (to be evaluated by 3 instructors)

Eye on Editing Chapter 2: Modals

Week 4 (Mon., Sep. 25, Wed., Sep. 27)

Eye on Editing Chapter 3: Nouns and Determiners

Homework essay #1 due

Week 5 (Mon., Oct. 2, Wed., Oct. 4)

Monday: Individual writing conferences

Eye on Editing Chapter 4: Passive Voice

In-class essay #2

Week 6 (Mon., Oct. 9, Wed., Oct. 1)

Homework essay #1 revision due

Eye on Editing Chapter 5: Coordination and Parallel Structure

Week 7 (Mon., Oct. 16., Wed., Oct. 18)

Monday Oct. 16th: “Common”/In-class essay #2- (to be evaluated by 3 instructors)

Eye on Editing Chapter 6: Adjective Clauses

Week 8 (Mon., Oct. 23, Wed., Oct. 25)

Eye on Editing Chapter 7: Adverb Clauses

Homework essay #2 due

Analysis of visual art

Week 9 (Mon., Oct. 30, Wed., Nov. 1)

Monday: Individual Writing Conferences

In-class essay #3 on art

Week 10 (Mon., Nov. 6, Wed., Nov. 8)

Eye on Editing Chapter 8: Conditionals

Homework essay #2 revision due

Week 11 (Mon., Nov. 13, Wed., Nov. 15)

Monday Nov. 13th: Last Day to withdraw from a course

Eye on Editing Chapter 9: Noun Clauses

In-class essay #4

Discussion of “The Pedestrian”

Week 12 (Mon., Nov. 20 only; no class on Wednesday)

Mon. Nov. 20th: “Common”/in-class essay #5 (to be evaluated by 3 instructors)

Wed., Nov. 22 there is no class—Friday schedule. Happy Thanksgiving!

Week 13 (Mon., Nov. 27, Wed., Nov. 29)

Eye on Editing Chapter 10: Word Order

Film screening: Nosedive

Homework essay #3 due

Week 14 (Mon., Dec. 4, Wed., Dec. 6)

Eye on Editing Chapter 11: Extra Editing Practice

In-class essay #6

Week 15 (Mon., Dec. 11, Wed., Dec. 13)

Homework essay #3 revision due

In-class essay #7 (tentative)

Course wrap-up; reflections on how to be a good editor of your own work; review of proofreading strategies.

I will not accept work submitted after the last day of class (Wed., Dec. 13th) without a documented reason (from the Dean of Students).

* There is no final exam in this course *