

English 101 - 73

English Composition: Introduction to Academic Writing

Professor: Jennifer Fischl-Kruger

Class Location: Kupfrian 207

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Meeting times: Tue/Thurs 1-2:20 pm

Office Hours: Tue/Thurs 10:30-11:30 and by appointment

Office Location: Central King Bldg. G17

Course Description and Objectives

Course Description: ENGL 101 is an introduction to college-level writing. In this course, students are introduced to writing's rhetorical dimensions; they are asked to consider the purpose, audience, occasion, and genre that are called for in a variety of writing, speaking, or visual assignments. The course also focuses on writing processes, asking students to brainstorm topics, collect ideas and research, write drafts, and revise their writing based on writing's disciplinary rules, on self-reflection and on peer and class feedback. Academic writing begins from the assumption that written, visual, and spoken texts can be in conversation with each other. Students are asked to read challenging articles, essays, and prose (and to consider visual and spoken compositions) which serve as both models of effective communication and as beginning places for students' own arguments and analyses.

Prerequisites

Entrance is determined by assessment results. Students who have successfully completed ENGL 099 are admitted to this class. Students must receive a C or better to pass this course.

Course Goals

During this course you will:

- Gain knowledge of writing's rhetorical dimensions
- Use writing as a tool for critical thinking and reflection
- Practice writing as a process by using various brainstorming, invention, revision, and editing strategies
- Write in several genres that utilize analysis, reflection, narrative, critique, and argument skills
- Practice using the conventions of written, spoken, and visual composition
- Practice writing and creating in digital environments

Required readings and assignments

This course makes use of books and resources found on <http://library.njit.edu> and other pdf and word files provided by the instructor as well as Open Educational Resources (available for free on the Web).

Assignments & Assessment

A student's final grade for the course will be divided into the following parts:

Participation and attendance	15%
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Your participation and attendance grade includes attendance AND your consistently active presence and performance in class and submission of all assignments on time. Class participation includes regular attendance, engagement in class activities and discussions, reading, writing, critical thinking, discussing, interpreting, analyzing, synthesizing, asking questions and responding to one another. Participation is required for all in-class activities, including drafting, revising, discussions, peer and class reviews. Class time may consist of discussion board writings, short writing assignments which may include responses to assigned readings, topic exploration, prewriting activities including brainstorming and outlining, writing to learn, developing, organizing, transitioning and reflecting on the writing process. All of your work on these short assignments and in workshops is included in your participation grade. Level of engagement with the process and materials is often correlated with success on assignments. Classroom activities are designed to aid in students' understanding and developing a writing process of their own that can be applied to most writing tasks.

Literacy narrative essay (3-4 pages)	15
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This essay focuses on a notable moment or aspect of your becoming literate; it is written in the first person and defines and develops your approach to language use and genre.

Argument (position) essay (4-5 pages)	20
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This essay extracts academic arguments from 2 assigned readings/sources and presents a claim that may be supported or disputed by those sources, by real-world examples and by your own academic knowledge.

Rhetorical analysis essay (3-4 pages)	15
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This essay assignment analyzes (breaks down) two texts and examines the context and rhetorical strategies used; the two sets of parts are compared and synthesized using details from each source to form an overall assessment.

Research argument essay (5-6 pages)	25
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This essay is focused coherently on your argument and uses 4-5 library sources for support; this work will help prepare you for more extended research writing in ENGL 102.

Oral presentation and Powerpoint on research argument	10
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You will have the chance to present to the class your research findings.

Note on final examination: This course will emphasize writing as a process, focusing on taking a paper from initial brainstorming work through a final draft; therefore, a timed written exam is not required. The final presentation, given orally during the last week of class, is required in lieu of a final exam.

Individual and group work will be evaluated according to the university's grading scale. Each of the required essays must be completed in order to pass this course.

A = 100-90	B+ = 89-87	B = 86-80	C+ = 79-77	C = 76-70	D = 69-60	F = 59-0
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First-Year Writing Procedures for Student Success:

Attendance and participation

You may miss up to one week of class (or two classes) without penalty. Every subsequent unexcused absence will result in the deduction of participation points. Regular participation in class activities and workshops is required to earn participation points. More than six unexcused absences (three weeks of the course) can result in failure of the course. Activities and workshoping as part of the writing process cannot be made up, and not participating in these classes often leaves students disconnected from the practical skills needed for each genre.

Students who expect to miss class for religious observances should contact their instructor about these dates at the beginning of the semester (per university policy).

All assignments must be submitted on Canvas (which automatically assesses for plagiarism and AI generation using Turnitin). Please follow the specific instructions for each assignment.

Essays

There are 4 formal essays completed in ENGL 101: Literacy narrative, argument (position), rhetorical analysis, and research argument. Topics, guidelines and expected word counts will be provided on canvas in advance of the deadline.

Students must submit at least one rough draft and a final draft to be considered for a grade for that assignment. Without engaging in the writing process throughout the semester on required assignments, students cannot pass the course.

Students will receive feedback from instructors as a vital step in the writing/revision process. Students should also expect to share their work and to provide constructive feedback to fellow students for the duration of the course. These guiding comments should be followed by students in the drafting process. Drafts may also be reviewed in small peer groups during class time or in whole-class workshoping sessions.

Late Work

Late in class work will not be accepted, except in the case of an excused absence. The standard late policy for formal essay assignments is 5% per class. I reserve the right to refuse any assignment submitted more than two weeks late. Students should contact their instructor in advance of due dates when having difficulty completing an assignment.

Technology

Canvas is NJIT's learning management system. In First-Year Writing (FYW) instructors and students use this system for all activities including submitting essays, sharing course materials, creating discussions, and grading assignments. Participation on discussion boards or other short essays or responses are regularly completed on Canvas and will count toward students' participation grade.

Students use their NJIT email as the primary method of communication. Maintain an appropriate tone in all school-related correspondence. Include an appropriate subject line and your name in all emails for more efficient correspondence.

Laptops should only be used when we are drafting, researching, note taking or otherwise engaging in classroom activities. Students should practice professional, focused behavior now to enhance preparation for the work world! Students should not use cell phones during class unless needed for a specific activity.

NJIT University Code on 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. Written and visual works are to be completed individually unless otherwise specified.

Chat GPT

First-Year Writing (FYW) follows the guidelines from the NJIT University Code of Academic Integrity: "Artificial intelligence usage is not permitted in this course. The expectation of this course is for students to work through the course without assistance from any type of artificial intelligence to better develop their own skills in this content area. As such, artificial intelligence usage is not permitted throughout this course."

Accessibility 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 the Office of Accessibility Resources and Services at 973-596-5417.

The Writing Center

The Writing Center (G17 Central King) is available online for individual and group appointments with professional writing tutors. This resource helps you to improve your communication and writing skills.

Tutors can help with planning assignments, improving your writing, refining an essay or multimedia project, or other communication-based needs. The Writing Center is not simply a grammar fix or editing service. For more information, please

visit: <http://www5.njit.edu/writingcenter/schedule-writing-center-appointment/>

Class schedule

Writing Rhetorically

- Sept. 5** Introduction
- Sept. 7** Diagnostic writing and understanding the rhetorical situation

Writing a Literacy Narrative

- Sept. 12** Introduction to literary genres, emphasizing the narrative
- Sept. 14** Writing as a process: prewriting and developing a concept map
- Sept. 19** The literacy narrative as a subgenre, analysis of sample narratives
- Sept. 21** Developing a central claim and organizing a narrative
- Sept. 26** Revision techniques and group workshopping, draft due

Taking a Position

- Sept. 28** Evaluating an academic argument and topic exploration
- Oct. 3** Small group source analysis and brainstorming work, **final narrative due**
- Oct. 5** Organization of an argument and prewriting exercises
- Oct. 10** Writing and supporting an argumentative claim
- Oct. 12** Addressing and incorporating opposing viewpoints
- Oct. 17** Workshopping activities, draft due

Developing a rhetorical analysis

- Oct. 19** Understanding the rhetorical situation and topic exploration
- Oct. 24** Rhetorical appeals, **final argumentative paper due**

- Oct. 26** Analyzing source evidence for potential bias
- Oct. 31** Developing a strong claim and prewriting
- Nov. 2** Writing and organizing a balanced analysis, draft due

Writing a researched argument

- Nov. 7** Finding academic sources through library research
- Nov. 9** Student conferences
- Nov. 14** Evaluating source material, final rhetorical analysis due
- Nov. 16** Proving a researchable claim
- Nov. 21** Organizing a research paper
- Nov. 23-24** **Thanksgiving Recess**
- Nov. 28** APA citation and quotation work
- Nov. 30** Peer review and workshopping, draft due

Oral Communication

- Dec. 5** Presenting information orally and establishing authorial credibility across genres, **final essay due**
- Dec. 7** In class presentations
- Dec. 12** In class presentations cont.