

New Jersey Institute of Technology
ENGL 102
Introduction to Research Writing

Name Markita N. Schulman
Email mns9@njit.edu
Office hours: Wednesday & Friday,
11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.
Cullimore Hall, Rm. 315
Reserve an appointment via [this link](#)

Course Description

ENGL 102 takes a multidisciplinary approach to researching and writing in various genres while emphasizing information literacy. While building on the skills learned and practiced in ENGL 101, students will research and write about issues in their disciplines in various genres, investigating a wide range of sources, crafting arguments and proposing solutions. To reinforce the arguments in these written works, students will create visual arguments with the course culminating in oral presentations of these written and visual works. Students will immerse themselves in various types of research and information gathering and make appropriate choices in genre, format, development and style to create their own original texts geared toward existing publications or organizations. The purpose of this class is to prepare students for research and writing in various genres in their majors, and, ultimately, for communication (written, visual, oral) in their professional work.

Course Goals

During this course students will:

- Review the writing process and its non-linear, recursive nature.
- Research, draft, revise and edit various genres on topics of your choice.
- Find, evaluate and choose sources effectively, building on rhetorical analysis skills from ENGL 101.
- Create multimodal visual arguments supported by your research on your chosen topics.
- Demonstrate an understanding of academic integrity in the creation of your own original written and visual work for all assignments.
- Demonstrate knowledge of formatting for American Psychology Association (APA) citation style.

No required text

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

Assignments & Assessment

Students' grades will be calculated as follows based on a 100-point scale:

Participation 10%

| |
|---|
| Includes attendance AND your consistently active presence in class, submission of all assignments on time and satisfactory completion of in-class mini-writing activities |
|---|

Job description and oral presentation 5%

| |
|--|
| Written job description of the job you wish to have someday, addressed to professional colleagues, and a first sketch of a researchable problem or issue in the field (500 words) |
|--|

| |
|--|
| Oral presentation in class (2 minutes) |
|--|

Museum visit and critical review 10%

| |
|--|
| Visit a local museum, conduct research and write a critical review of one exhibit and its significance (4-5 pages) |
|--|

References pages and proposal for written work 10%

| |
|---|
| Two References pages on two disciplinary lenses and 500-word proposal |
|---|

Written work for a general audience and video essay 35%

| | |
|--|-----------|
| Research content and targeted publications for 8-10 page written article | 30 |
|--|-----------|

| | |
|------------------------|----------|
| Video essay on article | 5 |
|------------------------|----------|

White paper and infographic

25%

| | |
|--|-----------|
| Research content and targeted audience to write a 5-6 page document presenting a problem and proposed solution | 20 |
|--|-----------|

| | |
|-----------------------------|----------|
| Infographic for white paper | 5 |
|-----------------------------|----------|

Oral and visual presentation

5%

| |
|--|
| Present either your video essay (general audience) or your white paper (targeted audience) |
|--|

University grading scale:

All assignments and other required work will be graded using the following scale:

| | | | | | |
|----------|----------|---------|----------|---------|--------|
| A 100-90 | B+ 89-87 | B 86-80 | C+ 79-77 | C 76-70 | F 69-0 |
|----------|----------|---------|----------|---------|--------|

First-Year Writing Procedures for Student Success

Participation and Attendance

Attendance and participation are critical to your success in this class. Participation is required for all in-class activities, including drafting, revising, discussions, peer support and discussion board writings. Students need to attend AND participate in class with regularity in all class activities including reading, writing, critical thinking, discussing, interpreting, analyzing, synthesizing, asking questions and responding to one another. Additionally, there will be informal class writings (often in discussion boards and graded) as well as regular workshopping in which students apply the day's lesson to their writing in progress. We will also politely do peer and class reviews. Level of engagement with the material is often correlated with success on assignments. Classroom activities are designed to aid in students' developing a writing process of their own that can be applied to most writing tasks.

Attendance

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 (many are graded) is required to earn participation points. Not participating in the writing process will be met with further deductions. More than six unexcused absences (three weeks of the course) can result in failure of the course: Activities and workshopping 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 5 written assignments (a job description, a critical museum review, a proposal with 2 References pages, a researched essay for a general audience and a white paper).

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 written feedback from instructors as a vital step in the writing/revision process. These guiding comments should be followed by students in the drafting process, and engagement in this process will be assessed as part of students' participation grade. Drafts may also be reviewed in small peer groups during class time or in whole-class review (when students volunteer their drafts to be improved by the class).

Class activities and discussion are vital in evaluating students' engagement with coursework and are often graded as part of the participation grade (10% of their overall grade for the course).

Visual arguments

In conjunction with the written assignments, students will create a video essay or journal-like layout with visuals for their writing for a general audience. The white paper will be accompanied by an infographic or other substantial visual effort.

Late Work

Late work will not be accepted (except in the case of an excused absence). Students should contact their instructor in advance of due dates when having difficulty completing an assignment.

Technology

Technology of all kinds is prohibited in the classroom, unless otherwise indicated. You will be expected to take notes and complete in-class exercises with pen and paper, so come prepared. There may be designated opportunities to complete work during class time using a laptop or tablet; I will inform you of these opportunities in advance.

If you need tech for accessibility reasons, let me know. I am happy to work with you and NJIT's Office of Accessibility Resources and Services to make necessary accommodations.

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. All projects and homework assignments 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 (Central King Building G17) is available for in-person and virtual sessions. This resource is free and intended to help you improve your writing and communication skills with tutors who help with planning assignments, improving your writing, refining an essay or multimedia project, for classes, personal statements, etc. For more information or to make an appointment, please visit <https://www.njit.edu/writingcenter/>.



NEED HELP? KNOW WHO TO CALL

Please note following important numbers that will come in handy in case of emergency:

| EXTERNAL RESOURCES | AVAILABILITY | CONTACT NUMBER |
|---|--------------------------------------|--|
| Suicide Prevention | 24 hrs/ 7 days a week | (973) 623-2323 (University Hospital-Newark) |
| Drug/ Alcohol Addiction | 24 hrs/ 7 days a week | (877) 630-8262 |
| Crime Victim Compensation Office | Monday – Friday 8 AM – 8 PM | (877) 658-2221 |
| Rape Care Center | 24 hrs/ 7 days a week | (877) 733-2273 (Essex County) |
| Sexual Assault Hotline | 24 hrs/ 7 days a week | (800) 656-HOPE (National) |
| Psychiatric Emergency | 24 hrs/ 7 days a week | (973) 924-7416 (Newark Beth Israel Hospital) |
| NJIT RESOURCES | AVAILABILITY | CONTACT NUMBER |
| NJIT Public Safety | 24 hrs/ 7 days a week | (973) 596-3111 (Emergency) (973) 596-3120 (Non-Emergency) |
| Dean of Students (TITLE IX – Sexual Misconduct Report/Response) | Monday – Friday 8:30 AM - 4:30 PM | (973) 596-3466 |
| Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS) | Monday – Friday 8:30 AM - 5 PM | (973) 596-3414 |
| Student Health Services (SHS) | Monday – Friday 8:30 AM - 4:30 PM | (973) 596-3621 |

ENGL 102 - Spring 2024 Schedule (Subject to Change)
Professor Markita N. Schulman

| Week | Date | | Due |
|-------------|-----------------------|---|--|
| 1 | Wednesday, Jan. 17 | Introductions Syllabus | |
| | Friday, Jan. 19 | In-class read & discuss: TBA Job description brainstorming/pre-writing exercise(s) | |
| 2 | Wednesday, Jan. 24 | NJIT Library resources Job description/presentation preparation/pre-writing (cont.) | Read & reflect |
| | Friday, Jan. 26 | Job description oral presentations Explore topics, target publications for general audience writing assignment. | Job description & oral presentation |
| 3 | Wednesday, Jan. 31 | Museum visit and critical review preparation: Research a museum of your choice; find an exhibit for critical review; visit and analyze the exhibit from multidisciplinary and/or interdisciplinary lenses. Continue to read and explore for writing project for general audience | Read & reflect |
| | Friday, Feb. 2 | Museum visit and critical review preparation: Research a museum of your choice; find an exhibit for critical review; visit and analyze the exhibit from multidisciplinary and/or interdisciplinary lenses. Continue to read and explore for writing project for general audience | |
| 4 | Wednesday, Feb. 7 | Continue collecting sources; discuss topics, narrowing down and taking an argumentative stance in a project geared toward a general audience | Read & reflect |

| | | | |
|--|-----------------------|---|--|
| | Friday, Feb. 9 | Continue collecting sources; discuss topics, narrowing down and taking an argumentative stance in a project geared toward a general audience | Museum critical review |
| 5 | Wednesday, Feb. 14 | Continue exploring your topic for the general audience essay through the lens of 2-3 academic disciplines; discuss rhetorical strategies used in various types of sources including peer-reviewed journal articles. | Read & reflect |
| | Friday, Feb. 16 | Continue exploring your topic for the general audience essay through the lens of 2-3 academic disciplines; discuss rhetorical strategies used in various types of sources including peer-reviewed journal articles. | 2 reference pages & proposal |
| 6 | Wednesday, Feb. 21 | Professor conferences re: proposal Continue research and begin planning and prewriting for writing project for a general audience. | Read & reflect |
| | Friday, Feb. 23 | Professor conferences re: proposal Continue research and begin planning and prewriting for writing project for a general audience. | |
| 7 | Wednesday, Feb. 28 | General audience writing assignment cont. | Read & reflect |
| | Friday, Mar. 1 | General audience writing assignment peer review | General audience writing assgmt. 1 st draft |
| 8 | Wednesday, Mar. 6 | Revision & development Visual rhetoric, essays | Read & reflect |
| | Friday, Mar. 8 | Revision & development Visual rhetoric, essays | |
| <i>No Class</i> <i>Spring Recess</i> | | | |
| 9 | Wednesday, Mar. 20 | Revision & development | Read & reflect |

| | | | |
|-----------|-----------------------|--|---|
| | | Visual rhetoric, essays | |
| | Friday, Mar. 22 | Begin work on a white paper on your second discipline (or interdisciplinary approach); find publications or other target audiences (include a separate paragraph explaining proposed audience) | General audience writing assignmt. final draft and video essay/visual argument |
| 10 | Wednesday, Mar. 27 | Begin work on a white paper on your second discipline (or interdisciplinary approach); find publications or other target audiences (include a separate paragraph explaining proposed audience) | Read & reflect |
| | Friday, Mar. 29 | <i>No Class Good Friday</i> | |
| 11 | Wednesday, Apr. 3 | White paper drafting process | Read & reflect |
| | Friday, Apr. 5 | White paper peer review | White paper 1 st draft |
| 12 | Wednesday, Apr. 10 | Infographics, visual rhetoric White paper cont. | Read & reflect |
| | Friday, Apr. 12 | Infographics, visual rhetoric White paper cont. | |
| 13 | Wednesday, Apr. 17 | Final revisions of white paper; final editing for grammar, mechanics, citations; finishing touches on infographic | |
| | Friday, Apr. 19 | Finishing touches on infographic | White paper final draft |
| 14 | Wednesday, Apr. 24 | Oral presentation prep | Infographic |
| | Friday, Apr. 26 | Oral presentations | Oral presentations |
| 15 | Tuesday, Apr. 30 | <i>Last Day of Class Friday Classes Meet</i> | Oral presentations |

| | | | |
|--|--|--------------------|--|
| | | Oral presentations | |
|--|--|--------------------|--|