

# Introduction to Research Writing—ENGL 102:104

## SPRING 2024

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Mondays 6pm-8:50pm	CKB G-17A

### Our Course:

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.

### Learning Goals and Objectives:

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.

### Textbook and Required Readings:

- Any and all readings will be supplied and posted via Canvas!

### Grading:

Grades will be evaluated according to the university's grading scale:

A = 100-90	B+ = 89=87	B = 86-80	C+ = 79-77	C = 76-70	F = 69-0
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Your grade will be calculated as follows...

<b>Participation, 10%</b>	Includes attendance AND your consistently active presence in class, submission of all assignments on time, and satisfactory completion of in-class mini-writing activities
<b>Job Description &amp; Oral Presentation, 5%</b>	Written job description of the job you wish to have someday, addressed to professional colleagues, a first sketch of a researchable problem or issue in the field, AND a 2-minute oral presentation in class
<b>Museum Visit &amp; Critical Review, 10%</b>	Visit a local museum, conduct research, and write a critical review of one exhibit and its significance (4-5 pages)
<b>Reference Pages &amp; Proposal of Written Work, 10%</b>	Two References (4% each) pages on two disciplinary lenses and 500-word proposal (2%)
<b>General Audience Paper &amp; Video Essay, 35%</b>	Research content and targeted publications for 8-10 page written General Audience paper (30%)
	Video Essay on article (5%)
<b>White Paper &amp; Infographic, 25%</b>	Research content and targeted audience to write a 5-6 page document presenting a problem and proposed solution (20%)
	Infographic for white paper (5%)
<b>Oral &amp; Visual Presentation, 5%</b>	Present either your video essay (general audience) or your white paper (targeted audience)

### **Assignments:**

All major assignments MUST be submitted on Canvas on the day that they are due. Emailed work will not be accepted. In the event you will be unable to come to campus on the day that one of these assignments is due, you must email me AHEAD OF TIME so that we can discuss alternatives. Emergency situations will be evaluated as they arise. Generally, late work is not accepted. Please note that while I am *very likely* to offer extension requests *up to the day before* something is due, I will not offer them on the due date and will not accept them after the fact without a one-on-one discussion. Regardless, late work without an extension *will* result in a significantly deducted grade.

### **Attendance:**

In the spirit of transparency, this grade will be kept up to date in Canvas via an “assignment” each week that I will “grade” with full marks if you are present. If you notice an error, or have an excused absence, please email me. *Do not leave a comment on the assignment. I will not see it.*

### **The Writing Center at NJIT:**

The Writing Center is available for free 40-minute individual and group The Writing Center (G17 Central King) is available for one-hour individual and group appointment with professional writing tutors both onsite and online. This resource is indented to help you improve your communication and writing skills. Tutors help with planning assignments, improving your writing, refining an essay or multimedia project, or other communication-based needs. For more information, please visit <http://humanities.njit.edu/writingcenter>.

### **NJIT Library**

The [NJIT Library](#) will help you find good quality background information and research articles for your ENGL102 paper. Consult the [ENGL102 Research Guide](#) at all stages of the writing process to point you in the right direction. [Get in touch with an NJIT Librarian](#) for all things research-related. Hop on the NJIT Library Discord Server to interact with fellow NJIT researchers and librarians. There is a designated channel for ENGL 102 students to ask questions about their research and topic.

### **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>.

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](mailto:dos@njit.edu)

### **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.

### **Exams:**

Please note that due to the nature of this course, there will be no exams (midterms, finals, or otherwise).

### **Odds & Ends:**

If you need to get a hold of me at any time in the semester it is advised that you do so by email. Please remember to maintain an appropriate tone in all school-related correspondence. This means including an appropriate *subject* line and your *name* in all emails. I will not respond to emails that do not include the sender's name. Please make sure that you allow for sufficient response time for each email you send.

If there are issues or questions about assignments, I ask that you *do not* leave them as comments in Canvas, but rather email me directly (Canvas messages also work).

Computers will be used to compose assignments, interact with classmates, and complete workshops and group work. If you do not have a laptop to use when we meet, please let me know so that we can discuss an alternative.

Please note that unless otherwise indicated, the use of ChatGPT is prohibited in this class and will not be accepted.

### Schedule\*

While all formal writing assignments are represented in the below schedule, there will be a significant amount of in class assignments to be completed when we meet each week and readings to be explored/completed in class and as homework.

Our course at a glance...	
Week 1	Introductions & Beginnings
Week 2	Future Job (Writing & Presentation)
Week 3	Museum Visit
Weeks 4-9	General Audience Paper & Video Essay
Weeks 10-13	White Paper
Week 14	Oral presentations

Date	In class...	Due before class...
Week 1 1/22	Introductions Semester & Syllabus Overview Cohort Introductions & Selections Diagnostic Writing Sample	
Week 2 1/29	Explanation & Preparation of Future Job Assignment: --Prompt Review --Find Resources  Begin exploring General Audience Paper --Questions?	
Week 3 2/5	Explanation & Preparation for Museum Visit & Review: --Research Museums --Find an exhibit --Understand multidisciplinary/interdisciplinary lenses  Continue to explore/discuss General Audience Paper --Further Questions?	<b><i>Due: Explanation of Future Job &amp; Oral Presentation</i></b>
Week 4 2/12	Complete introduction to General Audience Paper Understanding lenses & rhetorical strategies How do I use the NJIT Library? APA Citations CRAP Test	<b><i>Due: Museum Visit &amp; Critical Review</i></b>
Week 5 2/19	Complete introduction to Video Essay What is a proposal? Why are introductions important?	
Week 6 2/26	Thesis Statements Rhetorical Modes General Audience Paper: Outline	<b><i>Due: References Pages &amp; Proposal</i></b>
Week 7 3/4	<b>Peer Review &amp; Conferences</b>	<b><i>Due: Draft of General Audience Paper (4-5 Pages)</i></b>
Week 8	Arguments: --What are my own ideas and positions?	

3/18	Counterarguments & Lenses: --What are my sources telling me?	
Week 9 3/25	Text Integration Practice Synthesizing Sources  Begin Exploring White Paper --Questions?	<b><i>Due: General Audience Paper &amp; Video Essay</i></b>
Week 10 4/1	Complete introduction to White Paper Arguments: What are my own ideas and positions? Counterarguments & Lenses: What are my sources telling me?	
Week 11 4/8	<b>Peer Review &amp; Conferences</b>	<b><i>Due: Draft of White Paper</i></b>
Week 12 4/15	Infographic Workshop	
Week 13 4/22	Text Integration Practice Synthesizing Sources  Understanding the Oral Presentation --Questions?	<b><i>Due: White Paper &amp; Infographic</i></b>
Week 14 4/29	Oral Presentations & Discussions	<b><i>Due: Oral Presentations</i></b>

*\*Syllabus & Schedule may be subject to change per instructor's discretion!*