

# New Jersey Institute of Technology

ENGL 101- 019 and 094- Intro to Academic Writing

**Name:** Prof. Roberta Blender

**Email:** blender@njit.edu

**Office hours:** 2 hours per week

**Office location:** Monday and Thursday morning from 8:00 AM - 8:30 AM in CKB 220; Thursday from 12:50 - 1:30 in CKB 126 by appointment only and Mornings, Afternoons, Evenings via Zoom

## 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

### **No required text**

This course makes use of books and resources found on <http://library.njit.edu> and other pdf and word document 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, effort and attendance (homework, classwork, drafts) 15%**

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% Weeks 1-3**

This essay focuses on a notable moment or aspect of your becoming literate; it's written in the first person and defines and develops your approach to language use and genre.

#### **Argument (position) essay (4-5 pages) 20% Weeks 4-7**

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 (2+ pages) 15% Weeks 8-9** This essay assignment must be completed IN CLASS on the day scheduled by your instructor. You are required to analyze two media news outlets and analyze (break down) the two texts on the same issue and examine 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. You will be graded on your knowledge of rhetorical devices and your critical analysis in response regarding the use by the author.

### **Research argument essay (5-6 pages) 25% Weeks 10- 15**

This essay is focused coherently on your argument(which may have begun with your position paper) and uses an additional 4 library sources for support; this work will help prepare you for more extended research writing in ENGL 102. You may use a couple of non-library sources, but do so sparingly and be sure to use your information literacy skills to determine and insure credibility.

### **Oral presentation and Powerpoint on research argument 10%**

You will have the chance to present to the class your research findings.

**Individual and group work 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**

### **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 (many are graded) are 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 workshoping as part of the writing process cannot be made up, and not participating in these classes often leave 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.

**Students must submit at least one rough draft and a final draft to be considered for a grade for that assignment. The rhetorical analysis is completed in class in only one draft.** 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. These guiding comments should be followed by students in the drafting process, and 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 (15% of their overall grade for the course).

### **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**

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. There are no written exams in FYW. 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.

Students should not use cell phones during class unless needed for a specific activity. Resist the distraction and focus on one thing at a time - classroom lessons, activities and discussion. Active engagement in class leads to better outcomes in grading. Everyone should set phones to silent as a courtesy.

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!

### **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 :<http://www5.njit.edu/policies/sites/policies/files/academic-integrity-code.pdf>

[Links to an external site.](#)

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 zero on the assignment, a failing grade of F for the course, 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.**”

**Turnitin evaluates all sorts of academic integrity violations. This tool detects unauthorized use of quotes and repurposed text (including borrowing and purchasing of papers). Turnitin flags AI-generated text and use of “grammar” assistants that actually rewrite entire sentences. None of these tools are acceptable in student writing in ENGL 101 or ENGL 102. Your plagiarism percentage appears on the submission page for each assignment. The AI percentage is available only to instructors. Ask your instructor if you have questions about AI use.**

**Students in violation of the rules of academic integrity will be reported to the Dean of Students who will follow up with a meeting and a final determination of grade and status in the 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>

# Course Summary:

Date	Details	Due
Thu Sep 5, 2024	Assignment <a href="#">Writing process animation video</a>	due by 11:59pm
	Assignment <a href="#">Student Questionnaire</a>	due by 11:59pm
Mon Sep 9, 2024	Assignment <a href="#">Diagnostic Essay Prompt</a>	due by 1pm

	Discussion Topic	
	<a href="#">"Accumulating Literacy" Discussion Post</a>	due by 11:59pm
	Assignment	
Tue Sep 10, 2024	<a href="#">Academic Engagement: Fall 2024</a>	due by 11:59pm
	Assignment	
Wed Sep 11, 2024	<a href="#">Initial Sketch of Literacy Narrative</a>	due by 11:30pm
	Assignment	
Thu Sep 12, 2024	<a href="#">Academic Literacies Through Song</a>	due by 11:30pm
	Assignment	
Sun Sep 15, 2024	<a href="#">First Draft of the Literacy Narrative</a>	due by 11:30pm
	Discussion Topic	
Mon Sep 16, 2024	<a href="#">Annie Lamott Discussion Post</a>	due by 11:30pm
	Assignment	due by 11:30pm

	Peer Review of Draft One of the Literacy Narrative	
	Assignment	
Wed Sep 25, 2024	"Achievement of Desire" and "Mother Tongue" Readings	due by 11:30pm
	Assignment	
Thu Sep 26, 2024	Final Draft of the Narrative Essay	due by 11:30pm
	Discussion Topic Position Paper Choice	due by 11:30pm
	Assignment	
Wed Oct 2, 2024	Position Paper Annotated Bibliography	due by 11:30pm
	Assignment	
Sun Oct 6, 2024	Position Paper Initial Draft	due by 11:30pm
	Assignment	
Sun Oct 13, 2024	Position Paper First Draft	due by 11:30pm



Mon Oct 14, 2024	Assignment <a href="#">Position Paper Peer Review</a>	due by 11:30pm
Sun Oct 27, 2024	Assignment <a href="#">Position Paper Final Draft</a>	due by 11:30pm
Wed Oct 30, 2024	Assignment <a href="#">Rhetorical Analysis Draft One</a>	due by 11:30pm
Fri Nov 1, 2024	Assignment <a href="#">Rhetorical Analysis Draft One Peer Review</a>	due by 11:30pm
Fri Nov 8, 2024	Discussion Topic <a href="#">Argumentative Research Essay</a>	due by 11:30pm
Sun Nov 10, 2024	Assignment <a href="#">Final Draft of Rhetorical Analysis Paper</a>	due by 11:30pm
Thu Nov 14, 2024	Assignment <a href="#">Argumentative Paper Introduction, Conclusion and Sources</a>	due by 8:30am

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	Assignment	
Wed Nov 20, 2024	<a href="#">Academic Argument Essay Guidelines and Draft One</a>	due by 11:30pm

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	Assignment	
Wed Dec 4, 2024	<a href="#">Final Draft of Research Argumentative Essay</a>	due by 11:30pm

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	Assignment	
Thu Dec 5, 2024	<a href="#">Academic Argument Poster and Presentation</a>	due by 8:30am

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	Assignment	
Mon Dec 9, 2024	<a href="#">Critique of Poster</a>	due by 11:30pm

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