

New Jersey Institute of Technology
ENGL 102 Honors – ENGL 102:H08
Introduction to Research Writing

TF 2:30—3:50pm in FMH 106

Dr. Drew Ciccolo

Email: via Canvas or via djc85@njit.edu

Office hours: Tuesdays and Fridays 10am – 11am and by appointment at mutually convenient times

Office location: Cullimore 115F (first office on the right once you enter the 115 suite)

Note on AI Usage:

This gets repeated later in the syllabus, but it's worth foregrounding here: 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." Please note that it is my professional obligation and responsibility to report any academic misconduct to the Dean of Students. All assignments are run through TurnItIn, which detects all forms of AI usage (**including Grammarly, apparently**).

Course Description:

ENGL 102 takes an interdisciplinary approach to research writing and emphasizes information literacy. While building on the skills learned and practiced in ENGL 101, students will develop an academic research question of their own choosing, research, analyze and synthesize various types of evidence and write a major research article (based on the IMRAD format). Students will create multiple multimodal visual arguments to accompany their written work. The purpose of this class is to prepare students for university-level, interdisciplinary research and writing and to continue to develop their process writing and communication skills (written, visual, oral) for transfer to the professions.

Course Goals

During this course students will:

- Approach research from multidisciplinary and interdisciplinary perspectives
- Review the writing process and its non-linear nature
- Explore and refine research topics using secondary sources
- Find, evaluate and choose sources effectively, building on rhetorical analysis and information literacy skills from ENGL 101
- Draft and revise a research essay from two different disciplinary lenses
- Create multimodal assignments supported by increasingly more complex research
- Demonstrate an understanding of intellectual property, plagiarism, and the importance of distinguishing between source material and one's own work
- 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). Note that you will be required, as far as I know, to pay for your travel to and from the Metropolitan Museum of Art in NYC

Assignments & Assessment

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

Participation & Attendance **10%**

Participation includes attendance and your consistently active presence in class, submission of assignments on time, and satisfactory completion of all assignments.

Zine or blog post **10%**

An interdisciplinary zine or blog post (your choice) – original visual and written work done on paper or in digital format – about one artwork or artifact observed on trip to the Metropolitan Museum of Art

References page(s) and proposal for IMRAD research paper **15%**

References page(s) reflecting two disciplinary lenses and a 500-word proposal for an original, interdisciplinary research paper that shows how your research addresses challenges to a community or communities.

Presentation on interdisciplinary connections **5%**

Oral and visual presentation identifying connections between interdisciplinary MET analysis and interdisciplinary research article

Research Notebook **10%**

This notebook chronicles your creative process while researching an original focus w/ an interdisciplinary lens.

IMRAD-inspired article/essay **35%**

All parts of the IMRAD-inspired essay, including: title, abstract, introduction, argument, results/evidence, discussion/conclusion, and references.

Poster creation and Honors Poster Showcase **15%**

Professional/academic poster created from your research article – includes condensed information and engaging visuals. Digital poster presentations from ENGL 102H will feature a topic of the scholar's choice and present the topic through two or more disciplinary lenses with the aim of creatively demonstrating interdisciplinary thinking.

Grading scale:

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

A = 90— 100	B+ = 87— 89.99	B = 80— 86.99	C+ = 77— 79.99	C = 70— 76.99	F = 0 -- 69.99
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First-Year Writing Procedures for Student Success:**Participation**

Attendance and participation are critical to your success in this class. Participation is required for all in-class activities, including group work, 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 two classes (equivalent to one week of class) without penalty. Every subsequent unexcused absence will result in the deduction of participation points. (In order for an absence to be excused, I must receive an Absence Excuse Letter from the Dean of Students.) After two unexcused absences, $\frac{3}{4}$ of a point will be deducted from the participation grade for each additional absence. After two unexcused lates, $\frac{1}{4}$ of a point will be deducted from the participation grade for each additional late. More than six unexcused absences (three weeks of the course) can result in failure of the course.

Regular participation in class activities and workshops is required to earn participation points. Lack of participation in the writing process will be met with deductions. 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. 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).

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).

Essays

For the IMRaD-inspired research paper, students must submit a proposal, a draft, and a final draft to be considered for a grade. 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 addressed 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 discussed in productive ways by the class).

Visual arguments

In conjunction with the written assignments, students will create a presentation connecting their MET assignment to their research articles.

Late Work

You are expected to submit all assignments, including drafts, on time. Points (calculated relative to the weighted value of the assignment) will be deducted for each day an assignment is late. For assignments requiring drafts, late drafts will result in a deduction of points from the final submission. In other words, submitting assignments late will have a negative impact on your grade in the class. Students should contact their instructor well in advance of due dates when having difficulty completing an assignment.

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

Technology

Canvas is NJIT's learning management system. In First-Year Writing (FYW), instructors share course materials, grade assignments, give feedback on drafts, participate in discussions while students read course material, view assignments, submit essays, write and create in discussion boards. 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 and maintain an appropriate tone. Include an appropriate subject line and 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 requiring them. Students who practice professional, focused behavior now will be more prepared for their professional careers.

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.”

TurnItIn evaluates all sorts of academic integrity violations. This tool detects unauthorized use of quotes and repurposed text (including borrowing of papers).

TurnItIn also flags AI-generated text and use of grammar assistants that actually rewrite sentences. None of these tools are acceptable in this course. 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 Center for Counseling and Psychological Services (C-CAPS) is located in Campbell Hall, room 205.

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/>.

ENGL 102 Honors Course Schedule

**(subject to small changes – all readings listed are or will be on Canvas)
(TBA = to be announced)**

Week 1 (Jan. 21st & 24th)

1. Introductions. Discuss syllabus and assignments.
2. Complete on Canvas: Academic Engagement: Spring 2025
3. Begin discussing interdisciplinarity, research article ideas, and social relevance elements. Discuss successful projects from past semesters.
4. Read together in class: Moonshot article.
5. Revisit our online library.
6. Preliminary research for MET visit.

Week 2 (Jan. 28th & 31st)

1. Have read: “Defining Interdisciplinary Studies” and “The Critical Museum Visitor.”
1. MET visit preparation: multidisciplinary/interdisciplinary lenses.
2. Watch in class: “What is Visual Literacy?” and “Making a Zine.”
3. Explore the Metropolitan Museum of Art through online sources.
4. Continue exploring topics for IMRAD-inspired article/essay.

Week 3 (Feb. 4th & 7th)

1. Have read: “Multidisciplinarity, Interdisciplinarity, Transdisciplinarity via OSU” and “The World Needs Students with Interdisciplinary Education.”
2. Go over Resources module in Canvas.
3. Review ENGL 101/102 NJIT library guides. Visit NJIT’s online library <https://library.njit.edu>
4. Explore databases.

5. Narrow down topic selection for IMRAD research essays.
6. Begin research.

Week 4 (Feb. 11th and 14th)
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1. Have read: “How to Write and Publish a Research Paper for a Peer-Reviewed Journal,” “IMRaD Guide via GMU”, and “IMRaD Guide via CMU.”
2. Review MET visits and interdisciplinary approaches.
3. QFT activity #1.
4. Discuss IMRaD format and the ways we can modify and use it for our projects.
5. Begin work on references pages: Collect 2 sets of references (8+ each) or one set with 15+ sources for 2 lenses on the same topic; sort and prewrite (paraphrase, collect content/quotations, arrange key concepts, and begin to outline written work).
6. Zine or Blog Post on MET artifact(s) due Feb. 16th at midnight.

Week 5 (Feb. 18th & 21st)
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1. Have read: TBA.
2. Discuss research notebooks.
3. QFT activity #2.
4. Continue collecting sources for your IMRAD article/essay; discuss topics, narrowing down and taking an argumentative stance.
5. Begin work on proposals: 500-word proposal for two lenses and how they will be used in writing assignments for a general audience and white paper for a targeted audience.

Week 6 (Feb. 25th & 28th)
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1. Have read: TBA.
2. Begin prewriting and drafting your IMRAD article/essay integrating more than one academic lens.
3. Reference page(s) and proposal (APA format with 15+ sources) due Sunday, Mar. 2nd at midnight.

Week 7 (Mar. 4th & Mar. 7th)

1. Have read: “How to Write an Introduction.”
2. Write introduction and first 5 pages of IMRAD article/essay. Test out preliminary outline and refine selection of sources to ensure specificity and organization. Synthesize argument, literature review, and summary to write the section of an

IMRAD article that appears as the Introduction and subsequent material that appears before the Methodology section.

Week 8 (Mar. 11th & Mar. 14th)

1. Presentations on connections between MET visit and interdisciplinary research article.
2. Have read: "Writing the Discussion and Conclusion."
3. Continue writing and research, conduct writing conferences with instructor.
4. Interdisciplinary research article due Friday, Mar. 23rd at midnight.

Week 9: SPRING BREAK!

1. Interdisciplinary research article draft due Friday, Mar. 23rd at midnight.

Week 10 (Mar. 25th & 28th)

1. Have read: TBA.
2. Reverse outline research papers using feedback.
3. Writing conferences with instructor.
4. Work on Discussion/Conclusion section for your complete research article.
5. Discuss creation of video essays.

Week 11 (Apr. 1st & Apr. 4th)

1. Have read: "Writing an Abstract via UW-M"
2. Write title, abstract and key words to complete your IMRAD article.

Week 12 (Apr. 8th & Apr. 11th)

1. Have read: TBA.
2. Research notebooks deadline.
3. Workshop research posters.

Week 13 (Apr. 15th)

1. Workshop research posters.
2. No class on Friday (Good Friday)

Weeks 14 and 15 (Apr. 22nd, Apr. 25th, May 5th, and May 7th)

1. Research posters due Thursday, April 24th at midnight.
2. Presentations begin on Friday, April 25th.

3. Interdisciplinary research article final draft due Sunday, May 4th at midnight.



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