

**English 101-041: Writing, Speaking, Thinking I**  
**Tuesdays and Fridays 1:00-2:20pm**  
**CKB G17-A**  
**Fall 2025 Syllabus**

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**Instructor: Professor Grisele Gonzalez-Ledezma**  
**Office: Cullimore 115G**  
**Office Hours: Tuesdays 11:30-12:30pm and Wednesdays 11:30-1pm or by appointment**  
**Email:gg62@njit.edu or grisele.gonzalez-ledezma@njit.edu**

**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 Texts**

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**

Your grade breakdown is as follows:

### **Participation, in class writings, short assignments, rough drafts and attendance 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%**

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%**

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%**

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%**

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.

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

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

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

|  |     |
|--|-----|
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| <b>Literacy narrative essay (3-4 pages)</b>  | 15% |
| <b>Argument (position) essay (4-5 pages)</b>   | 20% |
| <b>Rhetorical analysis essay (2 pages)</b>   | 15% |
| <b>Research argument essay (5-6 pages)</b>   | 25% |
| <b>Oral presentation and Powerpoint on research argument</b>                           | 10% |

Individual and group work will be evaluated according to the university’s grading scale.

**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 |
| <b>First-Year Writing Procedures for Student Success:</b> |          |         |          |         |        |

**Attendance**

Students who expect to miss class for religious observances must submit to me a written list of dates that will be missed by XXXX.

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).

### **Assignment Submission**

**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.** Assignments are due at the beginning of class or @11:59pm.

### **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. 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 the 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).

### **Masks:**

Masks will continue to remain optional. We remind all community members that people can wear a mask based on individual preference, informed by personal level of risk.

### **Assignment Submission**

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### **Late Assignments**

**Late Work is a deduction of 5 percent per day after the due date. Please note, each assignment has a specific closing date. Any assignment will not be accepted after the closing date of such assignment.**

### **Finals**

**There is NO FINAL for this course.**

### **Late Work**

**Students should contact their instructor at least 72 hours in advance of due dates when having difficulty completing an assignment. Late assignments lose 5% of points daily**

### **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 that practice professional, focused behavior now will be more prepared 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 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](mailto: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.”

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**Turnitin evaluates all sorts of academic integrity violations. This tool detects unauthorized use of quotes and repurposed text (including borrowing of papers). Turnitin allows 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 and ENGL 102. This includes Grammarly. 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.**

**The determination will be as follows:**

**If a rough draft is found to contain 20-40% AI-generated or assisted written work, 15 points will be deducted from the student's final grade on that assignment.**

**If a final draft is found to contain 20-40% AI-generated or assisted written work, 30 points will be deducted from the student's final grade on that assignment.**

**If a rough or final draft is found to contain 41-100% AI-generated or assisted written work, the work will be reported to the Dean of Students who will meet with the student and determine the final grade on that assignment and if any further action needs to be taken.**

**If a student uses AI generation or assistance on both a rough and a final draft for one assignment, this is reported to the Dean of Students for determination of final grade.**

**Accommodations**

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.

**The Writing Center**

The Writing Center (G17 Central King) is available for one-hour individual and group appointments with professional writing tutors both onsite and online. This resource is intended to help you 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. For more information, please visit: <http://www5.njit.edu/writingcenter/schedule-writing-center-appointment/>

**English 101 Course Schedule**

**Subject to change at instructor's discretion**

|  |  | <b>In Class Topic/Work</b> | <b>Work/Readings Due at the beginning of class unless specified otherwise</b> |
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| <p><b>Week 11</b></p> | <p>Tues<br/>11/11/25</p> <p>Fri<br/>11/14/25</p> | <p>Introduction to Argument (Research) Essays<br/>How to properly cite sources/<br/>Using multiple sources to make an<br/>argument Part 3/ Using the CARS<br/>test/Using the library<br/>Workshop Day</p> | <p><b>DUE: Final<br/>(Position) Essay<br/>11/12 @11:59pm</b></p>   |
| <p><b>Week 12</b></p> | <p>Tues<br/>11/18/25</p> <p>Fri<br/>11/21/25</p> | <p>Work on Argument (Research) essay/One to<br/>One meetings</p> <p>Oral presentation skills<br/><i>Assign Presentations- Presentation will be<br/>based on the Argumentative (position) essay</i></p>    |  |
| <p><b>Week 13</b></p> | <p>Tues<br/>11/25/25</p> <p>Fri<br/>11/28/25</p> | <p>Thursday classes meet on Tuesday 11/25<br/>Friday classes meet on 11/26</p> <p>THANKSGIVING BREAK Nov 27-Dec 30</p> <p>Work on Presentations</p>   | <p><b>Due:Argumentative (Research) essay<br/>draft #1 due 11/26<br/>@11:59pm</b></p> <p><b>Due: Oral<br/>Presentation<br/>Assignment 11/28<br/>before the start of<br/>class</b></p> |

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| <b>Week 14</b> | Tues<br>12/2/25 | Oral Presentations | <b>Due: Final<br/>(Research)<br/>Argumentative<br/>Essay 12/7<br/>@11:59pm</b> |
|                | Fri<br>12/5/25  | Oral Presentations |  |

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| <b>Week 15</b> | Tues<br>12/9/25 | Oral Presentations<br>Last Day of Class!<br><b>NO FINAL for this class! Good Luck on<br/>your Finals!</b><br><br><b>Dec 11th Last Day of Classes!</b><br>Reading Day December 12th-13th |  |
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