ENGL 101 Honors
Section: H07
Time: Tuesday and Friday 2:30 - 3:50
Room: FMH 205
Fall 2025

Instructor: Jake Slovis
Email: Slovis@njit.edu
Office: Cullimore 115 D
Office Hours: Tuesday 4:00 - 6:00 by appointment

<u>Prerequisites</u>
Entrance is determined by placement test score or completion of ENGL 099 with a grade of C or better.

<u>Course Content</u>
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.

<u>Conceptually, students should</u>
- 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

<u>Required Texts</u>:
  o All required texts and assignments will be posted to Canvas

<u>Assignments</u>
You are required to write four formal essays during the course; each essay will be based on primary readings that we will discuss in class. Refer to your schedule for due dates on readings, writings, and other assignments. 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. *Essays are due on the date indicated. Papers which are up to one week late will be penalized by up to a full letter grade; papers over one week late will receive a failing grade.*

<u>In-class Writings and Low-stakes Assignments</u>
In-class writings, both graded and ungraded, will be used to help you develop your skills as a writer throughout the various stages of the writing process. There will be frequent in-class writing assignments designed to help you develop skills in constructing a thesis statement, creating a clear focus on your paper's argument through strong topic sentences, working on paragraph development, effectively using textual

support, writing introductory or concluding paragraphs, and editing for grammatical errors. These assignments will be collected through Canvas.

Late in-class and low-stakes assignments submitted within a week of the due date will be evaluated for partial credit. Assignments submitted after a week will receive no credit (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. 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 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. Written and visual works are to be completed individually unless otherwise specified.

Artificial Intelligence
In this class, we are piloting the use of generative AI as a training partner to train your unassisted human composition skills. You may not use any additional generative AI composition assistance except **as specifically directed by your instructor**. Except with explicit instructor permission, all generative AI use is forbidden, including use of Grammarly, or Undetectable, or similar tools to rewrite sentences.

All assignments must be submitted on Canvas, which automatically assesses for plagiarism and AI generation using Turnitin. Unauthorized use of generative AI is a violation of the Code of Academic Integrity. 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.

Attendance

Attendance is critical to your success in this class. Participation in in-class activities, discussions, and workshops will contribute to your knowledge, ability, and performance. At a minimum, this means showing up on time, being prepared, and contributing to class discussions. Your level of engagement with the material will subsequently impact how much you get from the class.

You are permitted three absences—for each additional absence you may be penalized a half letter grade. Six or more absences may result in a failing grade. Classes will start on time – two late arrivals (more than ten minutes late) will count as one absence. Arrivals more than twenty minutes late will be marked as an absence.

Student Absences for Religious Observance
NJIT is committed to supporting students <u>observing religious holidays</u>. Students must notify their instructors in writing of any conflicts between course requirements and religious observances, ideally by the end of the second week of classes and no later than two weeks before the anticipated absence. When properly notified in writing two weeks in advance, I will provide academically reasonable accommodations, allowing students to complete missed assignments, exams, quizzes, or other coursework within the term.

Grading
All essay and high-stakes assignment prompts will be posted to Canvas. Your grade will breakdown as follows:

Preparedness and Participation 10%	Includes regular attendance, preparing for class meetings, doing readings and writing drafts in advance, and fully participating in class exercises and investigations. You must submit a metacognitive overview of your participation at the end of the term to build **metacognitive awareness of skill and process**.
Personal Observation 15%	In this short first-person (3-4 page) essay, you will document a personal observation, analyze it, reflect upon it, and narrate it, developing skill in **observation**, **inference**, **critical reflection**, and **metacognition**.
Rhetorical Analysis 20%	In this short academic (3-4 page) essay, you will analyze the rhetorical methods a single text uses to persuade its audience. You will be provided with the text and a short summary of its claims; you need not summarize its arguments in depth, only analyze how the text presents the arguments as persuasive, citing examples from the text and explaining how they operate rhetorically, practicing **close reading**, **textual** and **argument analysis**, and **metacognition**.
Critical Review 20%	In this 4-6 page academic essay, you will describe and evaluate a pair of papers or essays at the edge of your current comprehension. You should explain the rhetorical context of the papers or articles, describe and evaluate their arguments, and bring them into conversation with each other and your own knowledge to assess their contributions to the subject, practicing **critical thinking**, **textual** and **argument analysis**, and **evaluation**.
Refutation 25%	In this 4-6 page academic essay, you will explain and refute a generative AI-created bad-faith argument that calls into question your entire career trajectory, practicing **critical thinking**, **argument analysis**, and **argument**.
Oral Presentation 10%	Using PowerPoint or comparable presentation software, **present** a concept, method, or idea that you learned in this class to **teach us something** about observation, analysis, reasoning, or campus life.

Final grades will be determined according to the following grading scale:

A = 100-90.00	B+ = 89.99-87.00	B = 86.99-80.00	C+ = 79.99-77.00	C = 76.99-70.00	F = 69.99 - 0

Midterm and Final
There is no scheduled midterm or final exam for this class.

Please Note
On occasion, examples of student work will be presented anonymously in class. Student writing is an invaluable resource that is used to illustrate writing strategies. Authors' names are never included on the distributed copies.

Student 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 the Office of Accessibility Resources and Services at 973-596-5417.

The Writing Center:
The Writing Center (G17 Central King) is available for 45-minute 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. To make an appointment, please visit https://njit.mywconline.com

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

Reading Schedule:
All readings and low-stakes assignments will be posted to Canvas. This schedule is tentative and subject to change. Please rely on Canvas for updates on these materials.

Week 1	9/2 Course overview/diagnostic 9/5 The Writing Process • Analyzing Jokes • **Read before class:** Shitty First Drafts • What is a process? What is writing process? • Introduce Personal Observation Assignment
Week 2	9/9 Essay structure and argument development • **Read before class:** Mother Tongue • What is a close reading? What do we learn when reading rhetorically? • Composing observational analysis. How do we make clear and specific observations? How do we render our observations into concrete evidence? 9/12 Close reading, paragraph development, creating structure • **Read before class:** They Asked an AI Chatbot Questions. The Answers Sent Them Spiraling. • **Read before class:** ChatGPT May Be Eroding Critical Thinking Skills." • **Review in class:** Your Brain on ChatGPT: Accumulation of Cognitive Debt when Using an AI Assistant for Essay Writing Task • Thesis Construction Workshop
Week 3	9/16 Writing workshop and developing a revision plan • **Read before class:** Your Brain On ChatGPT: Accumulation of Cognitive Debt when Using an AI Assistant for Essay Writing Task • **Personal Observation Essay Draft Due** 9/19 Close reading and rhetorical analysis • **Review in class:** Unsettled Science • **Review in class:** Global Warming FAQ • Introduce Rhetorical Analysis Paper **Personal Observation Essay Due 9/20**
Week 4	9/23 Writing process reflection and self-evaluation 9/26 Guided rhetorical analysis workshop • **Read before class:** It's No Wonder the World is Cooling on Climate Change

Week 5	9/30 Rhetorical analysis, essay paragraph structure • **Read before class:** Climate Change Deniers Are Giving Us Skeptics a Bad Name 10/3 Writing workshop and developing a revision plan • Rhetorical analysis drafts due
Week 6	10/7 Modes of reasoning • **Review in class:** Philosophy Tube, "Logic" • **Review in class:** The Great Refusal • Introduce Critical Review Assignment 10/10 Argument structure • **Read before class:** Priming Students For Foundational Learning by Investigating Foundational Assumptions **Rhetorical Analysis Due 10/12**
Week 7	10/14 Conferences 10/17 Conferences
Week 8	10/21 Source literacy workshop • How to identify effective sources • How to frame worthwhile questions • Introduction to NJIT Library resources 10/24 Textual analysis workshop • Summary, synthesis, framing, evaluation
Week 9	10/28 Reading TBD 10/31 Writing workshop and developing a revision plan • Critical Review Draft Due
Week 10	11/4 Reading rhetorically and methods of argumentation • How can we argue for the truth in a world of empty rhetoric? Self-metacognition and self-analysis. AI-generation of personal adversarial essay. • Introduce Refutation Essay 11/7 Read AI-generated essays to refute **Critical Review Essay Due 11/9**
Week 11	

	11/11 Design refutations
	11/14 Gather and assess evidence
Week 12	11/18 Reading TBD
	11/21 Writing workshop and developing a revision plan • Refutation Essay Draft
Week 13	11/25 Thursday Classes Meet (No Class)
	11/26 Conferences and workshop
	Thanksgiving Recess
	Refutation Essay Due 11/30
Week 14	12/2 Refutation in-class self-assessment
	12/5 **Presentations**
Week 15	12/9 **Presentations**