

New Jersey Institute of Technology

ENGL 102 - Introduction to Research Writing Fall 2025 - Section 029

Meeting Times: Mondays & Thursdays, 2:30-3:50 PM

Location: Central King Building (CKB) Room G-17A (Writing Center)

Semester Dates: September 2 - December 11, 2025

Instructor Information

Name: Professor Benjamin Delloiacono

Email: bendell@njit.edu

Office Hours: Before/after class (2:00-2:30 PM, 3:50-4:20 PM), by appointment, and via Zoom

Course Description

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.

Course Goals

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.

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).

Assessment and Grading

Grade Distribution:

- **Professional Identity (5%):** Career exploration and research foundation
- **Cultural Analysis & Video (10%):** Disciplinary analysis and video communication
- **Research Foundation (10%):** Advanced research skills and expert preparation
- **Expert Analysis (35%):** Professional communication and expertise demonstration
- **Public Communication (25%):** Science translation and multimedia excellence
- **Learning Record (5%):** Portfolio synthesis and professional development
- **HW/Attendance/Participation & Research Insights (10%):** Weekly documentation, discussion boards, drafts, conference participation

University Grading Scale:

A: 100-90 | B+: 89-87 | B: 86-80 | C+: 79-77 | C: 76-70 | F: 69-0

Major Assignments and Learning Progression

Assignment 1: Professional Identity Discovery (5%)

Step into your future professional role by writing a job description for colleagues in your field while identifying a specific research problem that will guide your entire semester investigation. This assignment establishes your professional focus and creates the foundation for all subsequent work.

Assignment 2: Cultural Analysis & Video (10%)

Investigate how your field intersects with public understanding through analysis of a museum exhibit or cultural site. Develop video communication skills while examining how your discipline appears in public spaces, preparing you for Assignment 5's public communication challenges.

Assignment 3: Research Foundation (10%)

Build comprehensive expertise through an annotated bibliography examining your research problem from multiple disciplinary perspectives. This assignment develops advanced research skills and establishes the evidence base for your Assignment 4 expert analysis.

Assignment 4: Expert Analysis Project (35%)

Position yourself as an emerging expert by writing professional analysis in your chosen genre (policy brief, industry analysis, technical report, or research position paper). Demonstrate genuine expertise through evidence-based recommendations while creating a professional poster suitable for conference presentation.

Assignment 5: Public Science Communication (25%)

Transform your expert knowledge into compelling public communication by writing an article for a real publication and creating a marketing video. Learn the essential skill of science translation - making specialized knowledge accessible to general audiences while maintaining accuracy.

Assignment 6: Learning Record & Reflection Video (5%)

Synthesize your documented learning journey into a comprehensive analysis of your growth from student to emerging professional. Using your semester portfolio as evidence, create both written analysis and portfolio-quality video demonstrating your development.

Weekly Research Insights (Included in 10% participation category)

Document your learning journey through weekly 250-word reflections (150-word classroom verification + 100-word learning log) submitted every Tuesday. These insights capture your growth as it happens, building rich material for Assignment 6 synthesis while developing metacognitive awareness of your professional development.

Course Philosophy and Learning Outcomes

This course develops essential workplace skills through academic excellence, positioning you as an emerging professional in your chosen field. Rather than completing discrete assignments, you'll build genuine expertise through semester-long investigation of a professional challenge, developing:

- **Research expertise** applicable to professional problem-solving and evidence-based decision-making
- **Communication competency** across multiple audiences and formats essential for career advancement
- **Collaboration skills** crucial for professional networking, teamwork, and cross-disciplinary projects
- **Digital literacy** including multimedia communication increasingly important in all professional fields

The course emphasizes authentic communication targeting real audiences, collaborative learning through Research Communities, and portfolio development creating career-ready materials. Your transformation from Assignment 1 professional exploration to Assignment 6 expertise documentation represents genuine intellectual and professional growth serving your academic and career goals throughout your professional life.

This course prepares you for success in major coursework and professional career by developing genuine expertise, essential communication skills, and portfolio-quality materials demonstrating your growth as an emerging professional in your chosen field.

First-Year Writing Procedures for Student Success

Participation and Attendance

Attendance and participation are critical to your success in this class. Participation is required for all in-class activities, including 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 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 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) is 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 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.

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, AI generation and grammar assistants using Turnitin). Please follow the specific instructions for each assignment.

Essays

There are 5 written assignments -- a job description, a critical museum review, a proposal with References pages, a white paper and an essay/article for a general audience.

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 written 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 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 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 (10% of their overall grade for the course).

Visual arguments

In conjunction with the written assignments. The white paper will be accompanied by an infographic or other substantial visual effort. Students will create a video essay for their writing for a general audience.

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 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.

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 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. 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.

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 40-100% 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.

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 (Central King Building G17) is available for help. 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/>.

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

Detailed Weekly Schedule

Course Foundation (Weeks 1-2): September 2-11

Technology mastery, portfolio setup, Research Community formation

Week 1 (September 2-5)

- **Friday, September 5:**
 - Canvas Navigation Scavenger Hunt (Quiz)
 - Google Doc Portfolio Setup (Assignment)
 - Week 1 Boot Camp Discussion Board

Week 2 (September 8-11)

- **Tuesday, September 9:** Research Insight #1
- **Friday, September 12:** Career Path Brainstorming Discussion Board

Professional Identity & Cultural Analysis (Weeks 3-5): September 15-October 2

Week 3 (September 15-19)

- **Tuesday, September 16:** Research Insight #2
- **Friday, September 20:** Assignment 2 Site Selection Discussion Board
- **Sunday, September 14:** Assignment 1: Professional Identity (5%)

Week 4 (September 22-26)

- **Tuesday, September 23:** Research Insight #3 (Monthly Meeting Documentation)
- **Wednesday, September 25:** Assignment 2 Draft: Video Planning & Site Documentation
- **Sunday, September 28:** Assignment 2: Cultural Analysis & Video (10%)

Week 5 (September 29-October 3)

- **Tuesday, September 30:** Research Insight #4
- **Friday, October 4:** Assignment 3 Source Sharing Discussion Board
- **Friday, October 4:** Assignment 3 Draft: Annotated Bibliography Progress

Research Foundation (Weeks 6-7): October 6-16

Week 6 (October 6-10) - Conference Week

- **Tuesday, October 7:** Research Insight #5

- **October 6-9:** Individual Conferences (Class cancelled - 10-minute meetings only)
- **Friday, October 10:** Week 6 Conference Completion Assignment
- **Friday, October 10:** Assignment 4 Genre Selection Discussion Board
- **Sunday, October 12:** Assignment 3: Annotated Bibliography & Research Proposal (10%)

Week 7 (October 13-17)

- **Tuesday, October 14:** Research Insight #6

Expert Analysis Development (Weeks 8-10): October 20-November 6

Week 8 (October 20-24)

- **Tuesday, October 21:** Research Insight #7 (Monthly Meeting Documentation)
- **Thursday, October 23:** Assignment 4 Draft: Expert Analysis Development

Week 9 (October 27-31) - Conference Week

- **Tuesday, October 28:** Research Insight #8
- **October 27-30:** Individual Conferences (Class cancelled - 10-minute meetings only)
- **October 24-29:** Assignment 4 Peer Review Participation (2 drafts, 5 comments each)
- **Friday, November 1:** Week 9 Conference Completion Assignment
- **Friday, November 1:** Assignment 4 Professional Writing Reflection Discussion Board

Week 10 (November 3-7)

- **Sunday, November 2:** Assignment 4: Expert Analysis Project & Professional Poster (35%)
- **Tuesday, November 4:** Research Insight #9

Public Communication (Weeks 11-13): November 10-28

Week 11 (November 10-14)

- **Tuesday, November 11:** Research Insight #10
- **Friday, November 14:** Assignment 5 Publication Selection Discussion Board

Week 12 (November 17-21)

- **Tuesday, November 18:** Research Insight #11 (Monthly Meeting Documentation)
- **Friday, November 21:** Assignment 5 Draft: Public Communication Article

Week 13 (November 24-28) - Thanksgiving Week

- **Tuesday, November 25:** Research Insight #12
- **Thursday, November 27:** Thanksgiving - No Class
- **Sunday, November 30:** Assignment 5: Public Science Communication Article & Marketing Video (25%)

Portfolio Synthesis (Weeks 14-15): December 1-11

Week 14 (December 1-5)

- **Tuesday, December 2:** Research Insight #13
- **Friday, December 6:** Assignment 6 Learning Journey Highlights Discussion Board

Week 15 (December 8-11)

- **Tuesday, December 9:** Research Insight #14
- **Wednesday, December 10:** Assignment 6: Learning Record & Reflection Video (5%)
- **Thursday, December 11:** Final class - Submission verification and course celebration