Fall 2018

HUM 102-H03: Writing, Speaking, Thinking II

Jon Curley

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HUM 102(H03): Writing, Speaking, Thinking II

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Office hours: Wednesdays, 3-5 or by appointment

(Nota Bene: This syllabus is provisional and subject to minor alteration)

Prerequisites: Successful completion of HUM 101 with a grade of C or better.

HUM 102 builds and extends academic reading, writing, and presentation skills learned and practiced in HUM 101.

HUM 102 is an introduction to writing from research.

Students should engage in a multi-stage inquiry project that leads them through the practices of university-level research that will be central to their success at NJIT and beyond. In addition to practicing research skills by searching for and collecting primary and secondary sources, students will practice synthesizing elements of research into coherent wholes. Successful synthesis of research requires that one understand and interpret one’s sources and put them in conversation with each other. This work also emphasizes correctly documenting and attributing one’s sources.

Conceptually, students will:

- Explore and refine research questions and topics
- Demonstrate the ability to do problem-based research
- Find, evaluate and choose sources effectively
- Practice writing from primary and secondary research, developing different types of research projects that use fieldwork, library, and online research methods
- Demonstrate knowledge of the conventions of bibliographic citation
- Demonstrate an understanding intellectual property, plagiarism, and the importance of distinguishing between source material and one’s own work.
- Draft, review, and revise multiple versions of a single writing project
- Examine and self-examine the writing life and writing process
- Discuss and analyze pressing contemporary ethical issues pertaining to Science, Engineering, and Technology (our textbook will provide our source material)
- Critique the writing strategies of these ethical essays and, by doing so, gain a sense of how to construct, deconstruct, and evaluate the strengths and weaknesses of various genres of writing
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. Participation cannot be demonstrated by chronic absences or sickness, similar to the professional world. 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 may miss up to one week of class without penalty. Every subsequent unexcused absence will result in the deduction of participation points. If you are absent for legitimate reasons (family emergency, illness) you must provide a doctor’s note or a note from your dean.

Attendance on workshopping days is mandatory. If you know in advance that you will miss one of these days, please meet with me to arrange an alternative solution.

Please contact your classmates for missed work.

Assignment Submission
All assignments must be submitted in typed hard copy. I will not accept emailed work. Specific formatting guidelines will vary according to each assignment, so please follow the explicit guidelines found on individual assignment sheets.

Assignments are due at the beginning of class. Late class work and homework will only be accepted if your absence is excused.

Cell phones should not be used during class unless needed for a specific activity. Please set them to silent as a courtesy to your classmates and instructor.

Laptops should only be open when we are drafting. For discussions and presentations they should remain closed.

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:


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”

Special 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 Student Disability Services at 973-596-3420.

The Writing Center
The Writing Center (115 Cullimore Hall) is available for one-hour individual and group appointment with professional writing tutors both onsite and online. This resource is intended to help you improve your communication and writing skills. Tutors and help with planning assignments, improving your writing, refining an essay or multimedia project, or other communication-based needs. For more information, please visit http://humanities.njit.edu/writingcenter.

If you are absent, find out what you missed from a classmate:

**Your Class Contacts**

Name:

Phone: _________________

Email: _________________

Name:

Phone: _________________

Email: _________________

**Critical Research Paper**

In HUM102, the Critical Research Paper should be a well-written, analytical, researched, and documented paper based on some convergence of science, technology, and/or engineering with a pressing contemporary and local issue: the revitalization of the City of Newark. **How can your concentration help improve conditions here?**

This research should reflect a close, careful reading of strategic sources and demonstrate thorough critical analysis. This project should also contain some evidence of fieldwork. The final paper should be roughly 10-12 pages in MLA or APA format and contain 5-6 sources (primary and secondary). **An annotated bibliography is required.**

**Continued…and Regarding Other Formal Writing Assignments**

In addition to the Critical Research Paper, two critical essays will be assigned. The second half of the course will be organized around one major research project and its online and in-class presentation. Topics, guidelines and expected word counts will be provided for each separate paper well in advance of the deadline. Students will be expected to use the available time to develop each essay project properly, a process that includes formal planning, thesis construction
and at least one full draft for revision. Essay drafts will serve as a prerequisite to the final submitted copy; therefore, if drafts are not submitted, then the final assignment will not be accepted. This course relies on the process of reviewing drafts via peer review (in class and online) and, as such, students should expect to share their work, and to provide constructive feedback to fellow students for the duration of the course. Final versions should be submitted in accordance with the MLA style sheet as laid out in the most recent edition of the *MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers*. The correct use of sources and their documentation remain important factors in the grading schema.

**Late Penalty:** All assignments are to be submitted on or before the specified deadline. The standard late policy is 5 per cent per calendar day. I reserve the right to refuse any assignment submitted more than two weeks late.

**Online Course Resources: MOODLE**

Access to all assignments, readings and class forums will be provided via the course Moodle site, located at [http://njit2.mrooms.net/](http://njit2.mrooms.net/)

**Electronic Course Portfolios**

Students should save all written assignments and drafts of their work, assembling them in an electronic portfolio. The portfolio software we will be using is the Google Sites Platform access to which is gained through either Google or a direct link via Moodle. At the end of the semester, the student and the instructor should discuss the portfolio, taking note of the progress that has been achieved and the challenges that remain as the student moves forward to the next Humanities course.

**Course Text**


Please also consult [www.njitwrc.pbworks.com](http://www.njitwrc.pbworks.com) for useful writing and grammar guidance.

**Course Requirements**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Requirement</th>
<th>Points</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Attendance/Participation</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Weekly Online/Written Assignments</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(includes writing journal)</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Oral Presentation</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Essay One</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Essay Two</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Essay Three</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Critical Research Paper</td>
<td>30</td>
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<tr>
<td>(Final Paper is worth a total of 20 points; proposal; working works cited page; outline; self-reflection writing; peer review workshop reflection all worth 2 points each)</td>
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</table>

Total 100 points
Grading and Grading Profile

All grading will be done numerically. For instance, if an assignment is worth 10%, it will receive a grade from 1 to 10. These grades will then be added at the end of the semester for the final grade.

A = 90-100  C+ = 75-79
B+ = 85-89   C = 70-74
B = 80-84    D = 60-69
F = 0-59 (But this is not a grade to which we will aspire to…)
FALL 2018 CALENDAR

Week 1 [9/4-9/7]
Course Introduction
Writing About Writing: What is it?

In-Class Diagnostic Essay (“Writing about Writing”)

Week 2 [9/11-9/14]
Topic: What Are We Reading For? What Are We Living For? What Are We Writing For?
Readings: Atul Gawande, “When Doctors Make Mistakes”
Sheryl Gay Stolberg, “The Biotech Death of Jesse Gelsinger”

Topic: What is Research Writing?

Week 3 [9/18-9/21]
Topic: Science, Society & the Ethical Ideal
Readings: Freeman J. Dyson, “Science, Guided by Ethics, Can Lift Up the Poor”
Ernst Mayer, “Darwin’s Influence on Modern Thought”

Topic: How to Read Research

Peer Editorial Workshop Analysis of Essay 1 (9/21)

Week 4 [9/25-9/28]
Topic: Science, Society & the Ethical Ideal II

Essay 1 Due (9/25)
Readings: Lauren Slater, “Dr. Daedalus”
Gary Taubes, “The Soft Science of Dietary Fat”

Week 5 [10/2-10/5]
Topic: Echoes of Mortality & Innovation
Readings: Danielle Ofri, “Common Ground”
Floyd Skloot, “The Melody Lingers On”
Topic: Concept Mapping

Critical Research Paper In-Class Brainstorm I (10/6)

Topic: *Framing Your Research Questions*

**Week 6** [10/9-10/12]

Roundtable Discussion/Workshop (10/10)

Topic: *Writing Proposals*

**Peer Editorial Workshop of Essay 2** (10/22)

Reading: Jerome Groopman, “What’s Normal”
Amy Harmon, “Facing Life with a Lethal Gene”

**Week 7** [10/17-10/19]

**Final Research Paper Proposal (Provisional) Due 10/17**

**Essay 2 Due** (10/27)

Information Literacy Session with NJIT Librarian Davida Scharf, 10/19 (Location TBA)

Topic: *What Are Research Methodologies?*

**Week 8** [10/24-10/26]

Critical Research Paper In-Class Brainstorm II

Topic: *Searching and Evaluating Sources*

**Week 9** [10/31-11/2]

Topic: Science, Society and the Ethical Ideal III

**Final Research Paper Working Work Cited Page Due (10/31)**

**Peer Editorial Workshop of Essay 3** (11/2)

Reading: Lawrence Altman, “The Man on the Table Was 97, But He Devised the Surgery”
Jennifer Couzin-Frankel, “Truth and Consequences”
**Week 10 [11/6-11/9]**

Film screening (T.B.A.)

Topic: *Writing Research*

**Essay 3 Due 11/6**

**Week 11 [11/13-11/16]**

Workshops, Updates, Catch Ups

Creative Assignment

**Outline of Final Research Paper Due (11/16)**

**Week 12 [11/21]**

Class Meets Wednesday Following Thursday Schedule

Oral Presentations

**********Thanksgiving Recess 11/22-11/25**********

**Week 13 [11/27-11/30]**

Oral Presentations

**Week 14 [12/4-12/7]**

**Rough Draft of Critical Research Paper Due (at least 6 pages—12/7)**

Oral Presentations

**Week 15 (12/11)**

LAST Day OF CLASS

Last Roundtable Discussion

**Final Draft of Critical Research Paper Due by 6 pm Friday, 12/14 at 409 Cullimore along with self-reflection writing and peer review workshop reflection**