

Spring 2021

HUM 102-108: Writing, Speaking, Thinking II

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▣ WRITING, SPEAKING, THINKING II

John Esche [417 Cullimore Hall; eschetic@live.com] Spring 2021

Syllabus - READ, KEEP & FOLLOW THESE INSTRUCTIONS [***SUBJECT TO REVISION*** at Class Election]

Office Hours: Wednesdays 4:00 – 5:30 pm and by Appointment

HUM 102-002 in Kupfrian 209

Tuesdays 2:30 - 3:50pm

HUM 102-012 in Kupfrian 209

Tuesdays 4:00 – 5:20pm

HUM 102-108 in Kupfrian 105

Wednesdays 6:00 – 8:50pm

"Writing, Speaking & Thinking II" will focus on improving our writing, research and citation skills in preparation upper class and post-collegiate standards. We will be using Introduction to Academic Research [an online text from TopHat.com and available at our book store] and "The Best of The Best Science Writing" [ECCO, an imprint of Harper Collins, Jesse Cohen, Ed., 2010 – see links to be posted during first week where you can find these articles online] as our text and Isaac Asimov's first novel in the FOUNDATION series (1951) [Bantam Spectra Books; Revised edition, 1991].

The Scott Foresman Handbook for Writers. Seventh Edition. Upper Saddle River, NJ: Pearson, Prentice Hall, 2004 is not required, but noted as a good reference. I will from time to time require some outside writings and handouts to flesh out topics we will be discussing and texts we will be examining.

The first of these will be a selection from an old CBS radio dramatization called YOU ARE THERE, (which can be found at <<http://www.archive.org>> Go to "Audio", print in "You Are There" and scroll down to "500514_ep88_William_Penn_Trial.mp3"). Before our second class you are to have listened to this program, done some "light research" on the event dramatized and be prepared to discuss what CBS got right and wrong in class. TAKE NOTES on your research (WHERE you went, how you got there and SPECIFICALLY what you found) to share in class! You will be writing a brief paper on the broadcast and citing your historical research *following* the class discussion.

Since part of the focus of this class will be on how the modern academic world is built on all that has gone before and how interrelated the developments in our culture are and have been, each class will begin with a brief recap of the previous class's issues and a discussion of any items appearing in the CURRENT news relating to the literature and historical developments we are looking at. There will be a **STANDING ASSIGNMENT** due the FIRST CLASS of each week of a citation from a GENERAL CIRCULATION NEWSPAPER or magazine (NOT a website - for reasons to be explained in class) with a typed paragraph from you explaining how the clipping illuminates or relates to an issue or text we are examining in class. **Original thought** is looked for.

WEEK of...	Chapters from "Best of The Best" for discussion	Notes (& areas of FOCUS)
Jan 19	"What Galileo Saw" pg. 139-152 [& Luke] Moodle Ass't	Research, Citation & Developing Topic
Jan 26	Mini-Research Paper due [& Poe's Dupin] Vote on 2 nd Reading	writing Haiku
Feb 02	Vote on Topic for Final Research Paper 1st Quiz	Navigating online resources / R.R. Exercises
Feb 09	First IN-CLASS Research Roadmap Workshop (?)	Prioritizing and organizing information
Feb 16	Re-Writing Thesis Statements	Reading strategies / writing Limericks
Feb 23	2nd Quiz	Start discussion of Asimov's FOUNDATION
March 02	Return to Citation Writing an Editorial	Writing Sonnets parallels to FOUNDATION
March 09	Shaw's Pygmalion	
March 16	-Spring Break -	Oral Communication - G. Bernard Shaw
March 23	Writing a review of Pygmalion 3 rd Quiz	If there's time: Has 400 Years Changed Much? Shakespeare
March 30		Research Posters
April 06	First Draft of Final Research Paper due	Peer review for revision of Final Paper
April 13	First Debates	If there's time: Langston Hughes
April 20	Final Research paper & posters due 4th Quiz	
April 27		E-Portfolios Due <i>[Please ace all your OTHER exams!]</i>
May 04	Final Class Debates	Final Grades Due April 15

*Please note that the above schedule is approximate and subject to change. We may move at a faster or slower pace depending on a number of factors, but you are responsible for the readings on the schedule indicated (which will be fleshed out later - a week or two in advance). I would recommend having prepared the readings at least one class in advance. EACH of the topics we will be covering bear on the others, and should be brought to bear as we progress through the semester. **DON'T FALL BEHIND!***

Class Assignments	Marks
Attendance/Participation:	10
Diagnostic Writing (Research & First Research Paper)	10
Quizzes	10
Formal Writing Assignments	
Writing as Persuasion Essay (The Editorial)	10
Writing as Analysis Essay (A Review)	10
Revision Work (at least first and final research papers)	10
Research and Documentation	
Documented Research (Final Research Paper)	20
In-class Panel Presentation (Debate)	10
Online & Hard Copy Portfolio	10

PLEASE NOTE:

We will be beginning the Semester ONLINE in deference to the current state of Covid 19 in New Jersey but anticipate going to the kind of "Converged" Classes used last semester with a ROTATING PART of the class invited to attend in person for each class (see later in this Syllabus). It is ESSENTIAL however, that when attending class online via Webex you MUST keep your webcams TURNED ON so that the rest of the class and I can interact with each other. If you have problems with your tech, contact the support department at NJIT who may be able to assist you. If you do not keep your webcam ON, it WILL affect your grade as it will not be clear you are actually attending and participating.

HOMEWORK, SCHEDULED QUIZZES & EXAMS

During each week, there will be a homework assignment or paper for independent research and/or viewing. These homework assignments, group projects, class participation and up to four *scheduled* quizzes during the semester will be allotted the points as noted above. Class attendance will be important and a student risks losing points in this portion of his grade if he or she misses classes without leave or is tardy too often. See the NJIT attendance policy:

<http://www.njit.edu/registrar/policies/attendancepolicy.php>. Students who expect to miss classes or exams because of religious observance must submit to their instructors a written list of dates that will be missed by the end of the second week of classes. Students are expected to make up missed work. ALL Quizzes and Exams are cumulative through the material assigned for that day - just like life. The anticipated progress of the classes and the general topics and deadlines currently anticipated are indicated above.

Please Note: All assignments, readings, etc., must have been prepared prior to class meetings on due dates. Revisions of work must be accompanied, when submitted for evaluation, by all prior drafts. 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 one week late.

PAPERS & E-Mails

All papers (unless otherwise specified, ANYTHING prepared outside of class) are to be college level research papers: type written, numbered by page, with citations to the research used in MLA format (parenthetical citations within the text linked to a final alphabetical reference page at the end - not included in the page count). Just as the proper presentation of your work and ideas is essential in the work world to ensure that they are received and evaluated properly, so it is in this class. Contractions, spelling errors, grammatical, punctuation errors and ESPECIALLY missing deadlines *will* hurt your grade. Clearly identify all abbreviations and acronyms and keep them consistent. A standard 12 point font, double spaced to facilitate corrections and comments, will be expected. YOUR NAME AND FULL CLASS NUMBER MUST BE IN THE **UPPER CORNER** OF THE FIRST PAGE of **EVERYTHING** handed in.

If you fear you may miss a deadline for work related or emergency reasons beyond your control, *explain* the reason to me *as soon as possible*, and I may be able to work with you. If you MISS a deadline, do NOT wait until the next class to get me an assignment, but get it immediately to the Secretary (Winifred) in the Humanities Office marked for my mailbox. Unless specifically prearranged, NO work may be submitted via e-mail, although questions or communications are welcome.

Be sure your FULL Class Number is the FIRST thing in the SUBJECT LINE on any e-mail so I will see it in my inbox. While questions are welcome, please do your best to ask them IN CLASS where all can benefit from the answer. If your question is merely something you missed in your notes, check with your class contacts FIRST. It's a major reason you have them - keep in touch with them. ALWAYS e-mail me within 24 hours of ANY absence (see below).

QUIZZES

ONE of the functions of the pop quizzes is to encourage you to be ON TIME for classes so you will not be permitted to make up missed quizzes unless you have a valid excuse and notify me within 24 hours of the absence. Do your best to notify me IN ADVANCE of absences and I will try not to schedule them when you cannot attend. Please note: Americans in recent years have been notoriously weak in their knowledge of geography and this can harm them in the business world - ALL my quizzes WILL have map questions! If a place is referred to in the text or in class discussion, FIND it on a map. You may be held responsible for locating it.

PORTFOLIOS

Every student will be required to maintain a both an “e-portfolio” (for your reference and later use) and a HARD COPY Portfolio of their class work and Quizzes which they will bring with them to each class and turn in **AT the Final class**. This hard copy portfolio will contain your class notes, clean **and** corrected copies of all papers, and any quizzes or exams. You should also maintain a record of your attendance in this portfolio. The student **MUST MAINTAIN and TURN IN** this Hard Copy portfolio to get a final letter grade. Failure to turn in a Portfolio (and a working link to your e-portfolio) will result in the filing of a grade of “F.” For the final Portfolio submission, three ring binders are **not acceptable**. Neither are loose papers sloppily shoved in an envelope or worse. I recommend the fold-over NJIT Folders with pockets in the front and back. A well organized folder which lies **flat** should represent your best work.

GRADE POINTS

93 - 100+ = **A** 89 - 92 = **B+** 83 - 88 = **B** 79 - 82 = **C+** 70 - 78 = **C** 60 - 69 = **D** 59 & below = **DON'T GO THERE!**

FURTHER IMPORTANT POINTS TO KEEP IN MIND:

Access and proper use of these electronic resources is your responsibility. Their availability is constant, 24/7. If you discover any technical problems with the software or have any interface difficulties during the course, it is up to you to contact your professor or one of the IT/Help resources associated with the website as quickly as possible. I will be on hand for advice and guidance via either email or office hours every day.

At the end of the fall and spring semester, the Humanities Department may schedule an additional review of a selected sample of students' portfolios. The teachers will be told in advance which portfolios will be included in the review. The portfolios will be read by two instructors and given a holistic score based on a six-point scale. The assessment is based on three criteria:

- evidence of analytical and critical thinking
- drafting and successful revision of papers
- Demonstrated skill in citing and documenting sources using MLA style.

The Departmental portfolio review will be used to monitor the writing program. The group reading session is intended to develop a communal sense of the program's goals and to track writing achievements. This additional review will NOT directly affect your grade, but it is essential that you co-operate with it in order to keep NJIT's writing program as good as you deserve – it cannot function if YOU don't keep up your Portfolios as described above!

Academic Integrity

Any evidence of cheating in any form, including plagiarism and cutting & pasting from the Internet, will be dealt with according to the Academic Integrity Code of NJIT (course failure and suspension or expulsion). Please note that to detect plagiarism, submissions may be reviewed using www.turnitin.com. The full text of the NJIT's Academic Integrity Code is available for your review at <http://www.njit.edu/academics/integrity.php>

The Writing Center at NJIT

The Writing Center is available for one-hour individual and group appointments with professional writing tutors both onsite and online. This resource is intended to help you to improve your communication and writing skills and has proven extremely helpful to many of your peers in the past. Tutors can help with planning assignments, improving your writing, refining an essay or multimedia project, or other communication-based needs. Students will most likely need to schedule one week in advance for appointments. For more information, please visit <https://www.njit.edu/writingcenter/>

If you have a work or other conflict or if you **MISS** your section for any reason email me **ASAP** with the specific reason (so that I can know if it is an **EXCUSED** absence and we can schedule a make-up for missed Quizzes. I am posting the roster here for your reference and will be posting video of this class in a Google Drive file for this class **OR** on the Canvas Gallery so you **NEVER** have an excuse for having missed the class itself. **PLEASE** note however, that you should never “blow off” another class to make up an assignment here – work due for another class is *never* a sufficient excuse for missing **ANYONE’S** class or deadline! While we are doing “Converged Classes” **DON’T forget to cancel your reservations if you cannot make a class when you are scheduled to be IN class or you may not get another “in Person” spot.** This is beyond my control, so follow up!
BUDGET your time – especially in the last weeks of any semester!!

I am including the Class Rosters for the Sections (as of 18 January 2021) to aid you in finding study partners; **PLEASE NOTE:** you have a standing invitation to sit in on any of the other sections I’m teaching of this class in the event you miss yours. While we may be researching different topics (by class vote), I’ll do my best to keep the basic schedule the same. Please do your best to take scheduled QUIZZES with your assigned Section and **MAKE SURE** to label your turned in assignments with your registered section.

HUM 102-002 Class Roster

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