

Fall 2023

ENGL-101 (069-094): Introduction to Academic Writing

Larry Berstein

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ENGL 101: Writing, Speaking, Thinking

Professor: Larry Bernstein

Email: larbern@njit.edu

Term: Fall 2023

Office Hrs.: By appointment on WebEx and post/pre class

Class/Location/Meeting Day and Time:

ENGL 101-069 205 Faculty Memorial Hall

Tuesday/Thursday 8:30 AM – 9:50 AM

ENGL 101-094 220 Central King Building

Tuesday/Thursday 10:00 AM – 11:20 AM

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

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:

Attendance/Participation/Classwork	15%
Literary Narrative Essay	15%
Argument position essay	20%
Rhetorical analysis essay	15%
Research argument essay	25%
Oral Presentation	10%

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

A = 100-90	B+ = 89-87	B = 86-80	C+ = 79-77	C = 76-70	D = 69-60	F = 59-0
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Participation/attendance/classwork 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.

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 (3-4 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 10%

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

First-Year Writing Procedures for Student Success:

Attendance and participation

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 workshoping 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). If you are absent for legitimate

reasons (family emergency, illness) you must provide a doctor's note or a note from your dean. If you know in advance you will miss class, let me know so arrangements can be worked out.

Lateness disturbs the class session. **Therefore, the door will be shut 20 minutes after class time, and entrance will not be allowed unless there are unforeseen circumstances.**

Assignments may be submitted via Google Doc, or as a word document.

Please note late work will be penalized. If you are having trouble meeting a due date, reach out to me as soon as possible. With advance notice, accommodation can be made.

Canvas/Technology

Canvas is NJIT's learning management system. I will use Canvas on a regular basis to communicate class news, assignments, etc. Therefore, it is your responsibility to pay attention and be responsive to Canvas to stay up to date with our class.

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.

Use your NJIT Email to contact me (NOT Canvas). I will respond to your emails within a reasonable amount of time. Please plan accordingly.

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. 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.

ChatGPT

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.”

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 (G17 Central King) is available online for individual and group appointments with professional writing tutors. This resource helps you to 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. The Writing Center is not simply a grammar fix or editing service. For more information, please visit: <http://www5.njit.edu/writingcenter/schedule-writing-center-appointment/>

This syllabus is subject to change. By enrolling in this class, you automatically agree to the assignments, rules, policies, and procedures outlined in this syllabus and in all communications pertaining to this class.

ENGL 101 Course Schedule

		In Class Topic/Work	Assignments/Due dates
WK 1	9/5	Introductions, syllabus, etc.	
	9/7	In class Writing Sample	
WK 2	9/12	Journal	
		Introduction to writing process and concepts https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=V1pnpL8295E&t=4s Discussion	
	9/14	Literacy narrative Tone Anecdotes/so what? In-class reading: “Coming to An Awareness of Language” by Malcolm X. So What, Anecdotes In-Class Reading: “Mother Tongue” by Amy Tan Compare texts, common themes Thesis	Read: The Art of Easting Spaghetti by Russell Baker
WK 3	9/19	Discuss “The Art of Eating Spaghetti” Further comparison of texts Journal entry In-Class Reading: “Shitty First Drafts,” by Anne Lamott.	
		9/21	Review assignment 1 Samples Writing methods
WK 4	9/26	In- class writing day	

	9/28	Tone In-class Reading: 'My Face' by Robert Benchley Thesis statement https://opentextbc.ca/writingforsuccess/chapter/chapter-5-putting-the-pieces-together-with-a-thesis-statement/	
WK 5	10/3	First draft of essay 1 due. it must be fleshed out. Be prepared to share it. Group work Journal	Draft 1 of essay One due
	10/5	Class canceled.	Draft two of essay one due on 10/3
WK 6	10/10	Revision https://writingcenter.unc.edu/tips-and-tools/revising-drafts/#:~:text=What%20does%20it%20mean%20to,your%20presentation%2C%20revising%20stale%20prose Essay Review Relevant details - https://guidetogrammar.org/grammar/paragraphs.htm	
	10/12	Journal CEA Defining a research argument essay	Final Draft of essay one is due on 10/15
WK 7	10/17	In-class Writing Pre-reading	
	10/19	Report/share out Group work Argument position essay assigned	Argument position essay assigned
WK 8	10/24	In- class writing day	
	10/26	Group work	Draft one of argument position essay due
WK 9	10/31	Revision Essay Review	
	11/2	Journal Discussion Watch and Critique	
WK 10	11/7	What is rhetorical analysis? Review terms Sample/breakdown/Groupwork	Final draft of argument position essay due 11/8.
	11/9	Rhetorical analysis essay assigned In-class writing day	Rhetorical analysis essay assigned.
WK 11	11/14	First draft of Rhetorical analysis essay due. Be prepared to share it. Journal Video/Discussion	First draft of rhetorical analysis essay due.
	11/16	Discussion/definition In-class readings Better solution?	Second draft of rhetorical analysis essay due on 11/19
WK 12	11/21	Revision Essay Review	
	11/23	Thanksgiving Break	
WK 13	11/28	Assign essay four In-class writing day	Final draft of rhetorical analysis essay due 11/28. Research argument essay assigned
	11/30	Journal Oral Presentation assignment	

		Irony Video Work in class	
WK 14	12/5	First draft of Research argument essay due. Be prepared to share it. Journal Class Review	First draft of research argument essay due. Journals due
	12/7	Oral Presentations	
WK 15	12/12	Oral Presentations	Final draft of rhetorical analysis essay due 12/13.

Assignment Due Dates			
Essay I	Essay II	Essay III	Essay IV
Assign	Assign 10/19	Assign 11/9	Assign 11/28
Draft 1 10/3	Draft 1 10/26	Draft 1 11/14	Draft 1 12/5
Draft 2 10/5	Draft 2 10/29	Draft 2 11/19	Draft 2 12/13
Draft 3 10/15	Draft 3 11/8	Draft 3 11/28	



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