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ENGL-102 (103-H09): Introduction to Research Writing

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English 102 Honors
Research Writing & Information Literacy

Instructor Markita N. Schulman
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Section # ENGL 102 – H09
Schedule Wednesday & Friday, 10:00 – 11:20 A.M.
Office Hours [By appointment via Google Meet](#);
On campus, by appointment

Course Description
ENGL 102 takes a multidisciplinary approach to research writing which emphasizes information literacy. While building on the skills learned and practiced in ENGL 101, students will develop a research question of their own choosing, research, analyze and synthesize evidence and create several multimodal assignments. To do so successfully, students will immerse themselves in various types of readings to inform and support their writing. Overall, the general purpose of this class is to prepare students for university-level writing and to establish a writing process that will be useful in the professions as well.

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

Objectives
During this course, you will:
- Review the writing process and its non-linear nature
- Create multimodal assignments supported by increasingly more complex research
- Explore and refine research topics using academic primary and secondary sources
- Find, evaluate, and choose sources effectively, building on rhetorical analysis skills from ENGL 101
- Draft and revise two research essays from two different disciplinary lenses
- Demonstrate an understanding of intellectual property, plagiarism, and the importance of distinguishing between source material and one's own work
- Demonstrate knowledge of formatting for American Psychology Association (APA) citation style
- Explain the relationship between academic disciplines and larger communities
- Use multiple disciplinary perspectives to develop understanding of interdisciplinary work

No Required Texts
This course makes use of books and resources available through NJIT's library, as well as documents provided by the instructor and Open Educational Resources available for free online.

Assignments & Assessment

All assignments must be submitted before class begins on Canvas, which automatically checks for plagiarism and AI generation using Turnitin, unless otherwise specified.

✓+ = 100	A = 100-90
✓ = 85	B+ = 89-87
✓- = 70	B = 86-80
	C+ = 79-77
	C = 76-70
	D = 69-60
	F = 59-0

10% Participation & Attendance
Class participation includes regular attendance, engagement in class activities and discussions, in-class writing, quizzes, reading responses, and other mini-assignments. Participation requires preparation.

5% Future Job Description (250 words)

5% Interdisciplinary Response to Metropolitan Museum of Art Trip

10% Research Proposal: Oral Presentation

10% Annotated Bibliographies/Reference Pages

45% Research Papers (1,250 words each)
You will draft and revise two papers (20% each) that address the same subject matter/content, each through a different disciplinary lens. You will choose one of your two research papers and complete it with a title, abstract, keywords, and discussion/conclusion (5%).

10% Research Poster & Presentation

5% Visual Argument

Writing Process

For both research papers, students must submit both a first and final draft in order to receive credit for the assignment. The final draft of each assignment should reflect significant revision and engagement with instructor and/or peer feedback. Students will receive a grade on both the first and final draft of each assignment; when both drafts are submitted on time, the grade on the final draft replaces that of the first draft. (For example, if a student receives a 75 on their first draft, revises their essay, then receives a 90 on their final draft, their grade for the assignment overall is a 90.)

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.

Writing Center

The Writing Center (G17 Central King) is available for one-hour individual and group appointments with professional writing tutors both onsite and online. Find more information here.

Attending office hours with me and/or appointment(s) in the Writing Center will contribute to your Participation grade.

Attendance

You may miss up to one week of class (or two classes) without penalty. Every subsequent unexcused absence will result in a grade reduction. More than six unexcused absences (three

weeks of the course) can result in failure of the course. Contact the Dean of Students in order to establish an excused absence.

Accessibility
If you are a student with a documented disability, please see me as early in the semester as possible to discuss necessary accommodations, and/or contact the Office of Accessibility Resources and Services (Kupfrian Hall 201).

Electronics
Technology of all kinds is prohibited in the classroom, unless otherwise indicated. You will be expected to take notes and complete in-class exercises with pen and paper, so come prepared. There may be designated opportunites to complete work during class time using a laptop or tablet; I will inform you of these opportunites in advance.
If you need tech for accessibility reasons, let me know. I am happy to work with you and NJIT's Office of Accessibility Resources and Services to make necessary accommodations.

Academic Integrity
See NJIT's University Policy on Academic Integrity here. Any student found in violation of the code by cheating or plagiarizing will receive a failing grade and be reported to the department and the Dean of Students. Violating the code may result in suspension or dismissal from the university.

Generative Artificial Intelligence (ChatGPT)
In concert with NJIT's University Policy on Academic Integrity, which mandates that "each student shall demonstrate honesty and integrity in the completion of all assignments and in the participation of the learning process," this course has been designed to promote your learning, critical thinking, skills, and intellectual development without reliance on unauthorized technology, including chatbots and other forms of "artificial intelligence" (AI). Although you may use search engines, spell-check, and simple grammar-check in crafting your assignments, your assignments must represent your own work, and you may not use any unauthorized or unacknowledged assistance or sources in completing it, including free or commercial systems or services offered on the Internet or text generating systems embedded into software.

Week	Date		Due
1	Wednesday, Sept. 6	Introductions Syllabus In-class read (15 min) & discussion: Bear & Skorton, "The World Needs Students with Interdisciplinary Education."	
	Friday, Sept. 8	*Class Cancelled*	
2	Wednesday, Sept. 13	In-class response to "Being Curious" (15 min) Writing process: pre-writing In-class write (15 min): *What job do you envision yourself having one day? What experience(s) influenced you to be interested in this field/career path?* Introduce jobs assignment; finding sources 101 & discuss potential research re: future jobs	[Register for free online access to *The New York Times* through NJIT Academic Group Pass](#) Read & respond: "Being Curious"
	Friday, Sept. 15	Class/group: Turning a topic into a question from multiple disciplinary POVs, operationalizing variables	Hurricane Katrina reading
3	Wednesday, Sept. 20	Sources: Boolean logic; academic vs. popular vs. trade sources; primary vs. secondary vs. tertiary sources	**Job explanation** (250 words, min. 3 sources)
	Friday, Sept. 22	*Visit with research librarian*	
	Saturday, Sept. 23	*Metropolitan Museum of Art*	
4	Wednesday, Sept. 27	Discuss Mona Lisa reading Sources quiz Finding sources re: individual research questions Oral presentation skills	Mona Lisa reading
	Friday, Sept. 29	*Class Cancelled*	**Met Museum special interdisciplinary assignment**
5	Wednesday, Oct. 4	Annotation skills (print and digital)	**Oral proposal**
	Friday, Oct. 6		

6	Wednesday, Oct. 11	Use annotations/various sources to explore organization strategies for research paper Synthesizing research	Annotation mini-assignment
	Friday, Oct. 13	Converting research question into declarative thesis (Use group research topic as model of thesis)	
7	Wednesday, Oct. 18	Evaluating effective theses Converting an annotated bibliography into a literature review	Read & respond TBA
	Friday, Oct. 20		**Reference pages**
8	Wednesday, Oct. 25	Outlining strategies/argument structure Logical argument, avoiding fallacious argument, "critical thinking" skills	Outlining mini-assignment Read & respond TBA
	Friday, Oct. 27		
9	Wednesday, Nov. 1	Discuss reading Logical argument	Read & respond TBA
	Friday, Nov. 3	Peer review	**1st draft research paper #1**
10	Wednesday, Nov. 8	Discuss reading Incorporating feedback, revision strategies	Read & respond TBA
	Friday, Nov. 10	Peer review	**1st draft research paper #2**
11	Wednesday, Nov. 15	Revision strategies Reflect on interdisciplinary writing process	Read & respond TBA
	Friday, Nov. 17		Read & respond TBA
12	Wednesday, Nov. 22	*Friday Classes Meet* Visual rhetoric, preparing for presentations & visual arguments Consider advantages of communicating across disciplines	Final drafts of both research papers; submit 1 paper of your choice to classmates
	Friday, Nov. 24	*No Class* *Thanksgiving Recess*	

13	Wednesday, Nov. 29	Visual rhetoric and visual argument Genre conventions: research poster	Select 1 of 2 papers to add abstract, key words, etc.; Read & respond TBA
	Friday, Dec. 1	Poster preparation	
14	Wednesday, Dec. 6	Small group poster presentations/Q&A	Poster presentations/Q&A
	Friday, Dec. 8	Visual argument presentations	Visual argument presentations
15	Wednesday, Dec. 13	*Final Class* Visual argument presentations	Visual argument presentations