

Fall 2023

## **ENGL-102 (031): Introduction to Research Writing**

Meghan Owen-Gosselin

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Introduction to Research Writing—ENGL 102:101  
FALL 2023

Instructor: Meghan Owens Gosselin, <a href="mailto:mowens@njit.edu">mowens@njit.edu</a>	Office Hours: Monday, 5pm-6pm or by appointment
Mondays 6pm-8:50pm	CKB G-17A

**Our Course:**

ENGL 102 takes a multidisciplinary approach to research writing and 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 purpose of this class is to prepare students for university-level research and writing and to continue to hone their process writing skills for transfer to the professions.

**Learning Goals and Objectives:**

During this course students 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

**Textbook and Required Readings:**

- Any and all readings will be supplied and posted via Canvas!

**Grading:**

Grades 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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Your grade will be calculated as follows...

<i>Participation (10%)</i>	<i>Informal Writing (15%):</i>	<i>Research Portfolio (60%)</i>	<i>Visual &amp; Oral Arguments (15%)</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● attendance</li> <li>● workshop &amp; class participation</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● discussion posts</li> <li>● responses to readings</li> <li>● reflection pieces</li> <li>● short essays</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Research Proposal (10%)</li> <li>● Research Question 1 (5%)</li> <li>● Research Paper 1 (20%)</li> <li>● Research Question 2 (5%)</li> <li>● Research Paper 2 (20%)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Visual Argument Assignment (5%)</li> <li>● Cumulative Research Poster (10%)</li> </ul>

**Assignments:**

All major assignments MUST be submitted on Canvas on the day that they are due. Emailed work will not be accepted. In the event you will be unable to come to campus on the day that one of these assignments is due, you must email me AHEAD OF TIME so that we can discuss alternatives. Emergency situations will be evaluated as they arise. Generally, late work is not accepted. Please note that while I am *very likely* to offer extension requests *up to the day before* something is due, I will not offer them on the due date and will not accept them after the fact without a one-on-one discussion. Regardless, late work without an extension *will* result in a significantly deducted grade.

#### **Attendance:**

In the spirit of transparency, this grade will be kept up to date in Canvas via an “assignment” each week that I will “grade” with full marks if you are present. If you notice an error, or have an excused absence, please email me. *Do not leave a comment on the assignment. I will not see it.*

#### **The Writing Center at NJIT:**

The Writing Center is available for free 40-minute individual and group The Writing Center (G17 Central King) is available for one-hour individual and group appointment with professional writing tutors both onsite and online. This resource is indented 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>.

#### **NJIT Library**

The [NJIT Library](#) will help you find good quality background information and research articles for your ENGL102 paper. Consult the [ENGL102 Research Guide](#) at all stages of the writing process to point you in the right direction. [Get in touch with an NJIT Librarian](#) for all things research-related. Hop on the NJIT Library Discord Server to interact with fellow NJIT researchers and librarians. There is a designated channel for ENGL 102 students to ask questions about their research and topic.

#### **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](mailto: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.

#### **Exams:**

Please note that due to the nature of this course, there will be no exams (midterms, finals, or otherwise).

#### **Odds & Ends:**

If you need to get a hold of me at any time in the semester it is advised that you do so by email. Please remember to maintain an appropriate tone in all school-related correspondence. This means including an appropriate *subject* line and your *name* in all emails. I will not respond to emails that do not include the sender’s name. Please make sure that you allow for sufficient response time for each email you send.

If there are issues or questions about assignments, I ask that you *do not* leave them as comments in Canvas, but rather email me directly (Canvas messages also work). Because I get notified whenever anyone does anything in Canvas, I get about a million notifications a day and treat them like notifications from a group chat I do not want to be in.

Computers will be used to compose assignments, interact with classmates, and complete workshops and group work. If you do not have a laptop to use when we meet, please let me know so that we can discuss an alternative.

**Please note that unless otherwise indicated, the use of ChatGPT is prohibited in this class and will not be accepted.**

#### **Schedule:**

While all formal writing and homework assignments are represented in the below schedule, there will be a significant amount of in class assignments to be completed when we meet each week.

<i>Our course at a glance...</i>	
Week 1	Introductions, Beginnings, Research Proposal
Weeks 2-6	Research Paper 1
Week 7	Research Debriefing/Transitions
Weeks 8-12	Research Paper 2
Weeks 13 & 14	Visual Arguments & Cumulative Research Posters

<i>Date</i>	<i>In Class</i>	<i>Due Before Class</i>
9/11 Week 1	Introductions Semester & Syllabus Overview Cohort Assignments Research Proposal Introduction Diagnostic Writing Sample	What do you want to spend time learning about this year?
9/18 Week 2	Research Question introduction Rhetorical Checklist  Research Skills Practical Skills introduction (text integration, counterarguments, synthesis)	READ: "The Role of Attention in Learning in the Digital Age"  <b><i>Due: Research Proposal</i></b>
9/25 Week 3	Paper Outline Rhetorical Modes Thesis Statements  <i>Visit from the Library!</i>	DUE: 1 Academic source  <b><i>Due: Research Question 1</i></b>
10/2 Week 4	CRAP Test 1 All things citations! What is an Annotated Bibliography?  <b>Paper 1 Peer Review &amp; Cohort Meeting</b>	DUE: 3 additional Academic sources (total of 4)  <b><i>Due: Paper 1 DRAFT</i></b>
10/9 Week 5	Arguments: What are my own ideas and positions? Counterarguments & Lenses: What are my sources telling me?	DUE: 1 additional Academic source (total of 5)  <b><i>Due: Paper 1 Annotation</i></b>
10/16 Week 6	Text Integration Practice	<b><i>Due: Research Paper 1</i></b>
10/23 Week 7	Paper 1 Debriefing ⇒ Cohort Discussion ⇒ Instructor Discussion  Paper 2 Preparation ⇒ A New Lens ⇒ What is synthesis?	
10/30	Research Questions Revisited Rhetorical Checklist Revisited	READ: "Fantastic Beasts and How to Rank Them"

Week 8		
11/6 Week 9	Paper Outline Rhetorical Modes Thesis Statements	DUE: 1 Academic source  <b><i>Due: Research Question 2</i></b>
11/13 Week 10	CRAP Test 2 Even more about citations! How can I improve my Annotated Bibliography skills?  <b>Paper 2 Peer Review &amp; Cohort Meeting</b>	DUE: 3 additional Academic sources (total of 4)  <b><i>Due: Paper 2 DRAFT</i></b>
11/20 Week 11	Arguments: How have my own ideas/positions changed? Counterarguments & Lenses: How can my previous sources help me better understand my current ones?	DUE: 1 additional Academic source (total of 5)  <b><i>Due: Paper 2 Annotation</i></b>
11/27 Week 12	More Text Integration Practice!  Multi Modal/Poster introduction & review: ⇒ Introduce Visual Argument ⇒ Introduce Research Poster ⇒ What makes a good presentation?	  <b><i>Due: Research Paper 2</i></b>
12/4 Week 13	Visual Argument Presentation	<b><i>Due: Visual Argument</i></b>
12/11 Week 14	Poster Presentations and Discussion	<b><i>Due: Cumulative Research Poster</i></b>

***\*\*Please note that the syllabus is subject to change!***