

Fall 2024

ENGL 101-013-037: English Composition: Introduction to Academic Writing

Nicole James

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Recommended Citation

James, Nicole, "ENGL 101-013-037: English Composition: Introduction to Academic Writing" (2024).
Humanities Syllabi. 898.
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New Jersey Institute of Technology
ENGL 101
Introduction to Academic Writing

Name: Dr. Nicole James

Email: NJ342@NJIT.edu | Drjay1908@Outlook.com

Cell: 908-230-1339

Office hours: Tuesday/Thursday, 3 pm-4 pm

Office location: CULM332

Course Description

ENGL 101 is an introduction to college-level writing. This course introduces students to the rhetorical dimensions of writing by asking them to consider the purpose, audience, occasion, and genre that are called for in various 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, self-reflection, and peer and class feedback. Academic writing begins from the assumption that written, visual, and spoken texts can be in conversation with each other.

This course will require students 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' 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 uses books and resources on <http://library.njit.edu> and other PDF and Word document files provided by the instructor and Open Educational Resources (available for free on the Web).

Assignments & Assessment

A student's final grade for the course will be divided into the following parts:

Participation and attendance - 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, and 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. Your level of engagement with the process and materials is often tied to success on assignments. Classroom activities are designed to aid in students' understanding and developing a writing process of their own that can be applied to most writing tasks.

Literacy narrative essay (3-4 pages) – 15% (3 weeks)

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% (3-4 weeks)

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 academic knowledge. **(TEACHER CHOOSES ARTICLES)**

Rhetorical analysis essay (3-4 pages) – 15% (2-weeks) – IN CLASS

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% (4 classes)

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 your research findings to the class. You will be evaluated on individual and group work according to the university's grading scale:

A = 100-90	B+ = 89-87	B = 86-80	C+ = 79-77	C = 76-70	F = 69-0
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Incomplete Grades: The grade of "Incomplete" may be given under rare, documented circumstances. Instructors must provide written details of the remaining work and deadlines to the student and the Department Chair. The "Incomplete" grade must be resolved in the next regular semester to avoid automatic conversion to a failing grade. Instructors should not accept work by a student after the end of the semester following the one in which the Incomplete was issued, unless the Dean of Students certifies extenuating circumstances, the instructor is willing to process a late change of grade, and the Office of the Provost pre-authorizes such a change.

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 workshops 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).

All assignments must be submitted on Canvas (which automatically assesses for plagiarism and AI generation using Turnitin). Please follow the specific instructions for each assignment.

Essays

There are four formal essays completed in ENGL 101:

- ✓ Literacy Narrative
- ✓ Argument (position)
- ✓ Rhetorical Analysis
- ✓ Research Argument

Students must submit at least one rough draft and a final draft to be considered for a grade for that assignment. Without engaging in the writing process throughout the semester on required assignments, students cannot pass the course.

Students will receive feedback from instructors as a vital step in the writing/revision process. Students should follow these guiding comments in the drafting process, and this process will be assessed as part of your participation grade. Drafts may also be reviewed in small peer groups during class time or in whole-class review (when students volunteer their drafts to be improved by the class).

Class activities and discussion are vital in evaluating students' engagement with coursework and are often graded as part of the participation grade (15% of their overall grade for the course).

Late work will not be accepted (except in the case of an excused absence). Students should contact their instructor before due dates when having difficulty completing an assignment.

Student-Athletes

College student-athletes are still responsible for classes. To remain eligible, they must attend classes, study, take exams, and maintain a minimum grade point average (GPA). The NCAA requires all Division 1 athletes to take at least six credit hours per semester, usually two or three classes.

Student-athletes are also responsible for their team, which can include:

- Practicing, which can be 20 hours per week according to the NCAA
- Training when classes are not in session
- Representing the college during games and competitions

Student-athletes are responsible for any course material they miss due to scheduled athletic competitions or related travel. When there are schedule conflicts, absences, or other issues, the faculty athletics representative (FAR) and the director of student-athlete services will work with the student-athlete, faculty member, and the coaching staff to find a solution.

Technology

Canvas is NJIT's learning management system. In First-Year Writing (FYW), instructors and students use this system for all activities, including submitting essays, sharing course materials, creating discussions, and grading assignments. There are no written exams in FYW. Participation on discussion boards or other short essays or responses is regularly completed on Canvas and will count toward students' participation grades.

Students use their NJIT email as the primary method of communication. Maintain an appropriate tone in all school-related correspondence. Include a relevant and appropriate subject line and your name in all emails for more efficient correspondence.

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 drafting, researching, note-taking, or engaging in classroom activities.

Students should practice professional, focused behavior 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 your degree. 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 found here: <http://www5.njit.edu/policies/sites/policies/files/academic-integrity-code.pdf>

Please note that my professional obligation and responsibility is to report any academic misconduct to the Dean of Students Office. Any student found in violation of the code by cheating, plagiarizing, or misusing any online software will result in disciplinary action. This action 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 get in touch with 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.

Chat GPT

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 with professional writing tutors for individual and group appointments. This resource helps you to improve your communication and writing skills. Tutors can help plan assignments, improve your

writing, refine 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/>

ENGL 101 Course Schedule

Class time may consist of readings, mini-lectures, videos, visuals, workshops on the writing process, small and whole group activities, and reviews of drafts and reflections.

Date	Details Due
Thu Sep 5, 2024	Assignment Life's a Beach (In Class Diagnostic)
Tue Sep 10, 2024	Assignment Academic Engagement: Fall 2024
Thu Sep 12, 2024	Assignment First Draft (Prewriting)
Sat Sep 14, 2024	Discussion Topic Literacy Narrative - My Article Review
Mon Sep 16, 2024	Assignment Middle Draft (Drafting)
Sun Sep 22, 2024	Assignment Final Draft
Sun Sep 29, 2024 class Discussion)	Discussion Topic Argumentative Essay - College Behind Bars (In-
Mon Sep 30, 2024	Assignment 1000 Words
Tue Oct 1, 2024	Assignment First Draft (Prewriting)
Tue Oct 8, 2024	Assignment Middle Draft (Drafting)
Sun Oct 13, 2024	Assignment Final Draft
Assignment Millennials vs. Gen Z	
Thu Oct 17, 2024	Discussion Topic Rhetorical Analysis - Visual Rhetoric
Sun Nov 24, 2024	Assignment Rhetorically Speaking
Sun Dec 1, 2024	Assignment Writer's Letter Assignment Annotated Bibliography

Assignment APA Diagnostic
 Assignment Argument (position) essay instructions and submission
 Assignment Argumentative Essay - College Behind Bars (In-class Discussion)
 Assignment Final Draft
 Assignment Final Draft
 Assignment First Draft (Prewriting)
 Assignment First Draft w/Thesis (Prewriting)
 Assignment GER: Written Communication (TEST)
 Assignment Literacy Narrative - Assignment Instructions
 Assignment Middle Draft (Drafting)
 Assignment Oral Presentation Assignment
 Assignment Research Argument Essay Instructions
 Assignment Research argument essay instructions and submission
 Assignment Rhetorical Analysis - Visual Rhetoric
 Assignment Rhetorical Essay Assignment Instructions and Submission
 Assignment Roll Call Attendance
 Assignment sample NJIT students' research argument essays



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