

Fall 2024

ENGL 101-H07: English Composition: Introduction to Academic Writing

Jake Slovis

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ENGL 101 Honors

Section: H07

Time: Monday and Thursday 11:30 – 12:50

Room: FMH 412

Fall 2024

Instructor: Jake Slovis

E-mail: Slovis@njit.edu

Office: Cullimore 115 D

Office Hours: Monday 5:30 – 6:30 and Tuesday 12:30 – 1:30

Prerequisites: Entrance is determined by placement test score or completion of ENGL 099 with a grade of C or better.

Course Content: 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.

Conceptually, students should:

- 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

Required Texts:

- All required texts and assignments will be posted to Canvas

Assignments:

You are required to write four formal essays during the course; each essay will be based on primary readings that we will discuss in class. Refer to your schedule for due dates on readings, writings, and other assignments.

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.

Essays are due on the date indicated. Papers which are up to one week late will be penalized by up to a full letter grade; papers over one week late will receive a failing grade.

In-class Writings and Low-stakes Assignments:

In-class writings, both graded and ungraded, will be used to help you develop your skills as a writer throughout the various stages of the writing process. There will be frequent in-class writing assignments

designed to help you develop skills in constructing a thesis statement, creating a clear focus on your paper's argument through strong topic sentences, working on paragraph development, effectively using textual support, writing introductory or concluding paragraphs, and editing for grammatical errors. These assignments will be collected through Canvas.

Late in-class and low-stakes assignments submitted within a week of the due date will be evaluated for partial credit. Assignments submitted after a week will receive no credit (except in the case of an excused absence). Students should contact their instructor in advance of due dates when having difficulty completing an assignment.

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 are regularly completed on Canvas and will count toward students' participation grade.

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.

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.

Artificial Intelligence:

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.”

Attendance:

Attendance is critical to your success in this class. Participation in in-class activities, discussions, and workshops will contribute to your knowledge, ability, and performance. At a minimum, this means showing up on time, being prepared, and contributing to class discussions. Your level of engagement with the material will subsequently impact how much you get from the class.

You are permitted three absences—for each additional absence you may be penalized a half letter grade. Six or more absences may result in a failing grade. Classes will start on time – two late arrivals (more than ten minutes late) will count as one absence. Arrivals more than twenty minutes late will be marked as an absence.

Students who expect to miss class for religious observances must submit to me a written list of dates that will be missed by the end of the second week of class.

Grading:

All essay and high-stakes assignment prompts will be posted to Canvas. Your grade will breakdown as follows:

- Participation and Attendance 15%**
- Personal Essay (3-4 pages) 15%**
- Synthesis Essay (3-4 pages) 15%**
- Visual Media and Rhetoric Essay (4-5 pages) 20%**
- Research Argument Essay (5-6 pages) 25%**
- Oral Presentation 10%**

Final grades will be determined according to the following grading scale:

A = 100-90.00	B+ = 89.99-87.00	B = 86.99-80.00	C+ = 79.99-77.00	C = 76.99-70.00	D = 69.99-60.00	F = 59.99-0
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Midterm and Final:

There is no scheduled midterm or final exam for this class.

Please Note:

On occasion, examples of student work will be presented anonymously in class. Student writing is an invaluable resource that is used to illustrate writing strategies. Authors' names are never included on the distributed copies.

Student Accommodations:

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 for 45-minute individual and group appointments with professional writing tutors both onsite and online. This resource is intended to help you 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. To make an appointment, please visit <https://njit.mywconline.com>

Important Dates:

Sept	2	Labor Day. University Closed
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Sept	3	First Day of Classes
Sept	9	Last Day to Add/Drop a Class
Sept	9	Last Day for 100% Refund, Full or Partial Withdrawal
Sept	10	W Grades Posted for Course Withdrawals
Sept	16	Last Day for 90% Refund, Full or Partial Withdrawal - No Refund for Partial Withdrawal after this date
Sept	30	Last Day for 50% Refund, Full Withdrawal
Oct	21	Last Day for 25% Refund, Full Withdrawal
Nov	11	Last Day to Withdraw from Classes
Nov	26	Thursday Classes Meet
Nov	27	Friday Classes Meet
Nov	28	Thanksgiving Recess Begins. No Classes
Dec	1	Thanksgiving Recess Ends
Dec	11	Last Day of Classes

Reading Schedule:

All readings and low-stakes assignments will be posted to Canvas. This schedule is tentative and subject to change. Please rely on Canvas for updates on these materials.

Week 1	Introductions 9/5: Diagnostic
Week 2	9/9: Anne Lamott, "Shitty First Drafts" Personal Narrative Assigned 9/12: John Maguire, "The Secret to Good Writing: It's About Objects, Not Ideas" Thesis Construction Workshop

Week 3	9/16: Joan Kron, "The Semiotics of Home Décor" 9/19: Personal Narrative Draft Due
Week 4	9/23: Nicholas Carr, "Is Google Making Us Stupid?" 9/26: Personal Narrative Due Synthesis Paper Assigned
Week 5	9/30: Zadie Smith, "Generation Why?" 10/3: Paper Two Development
Week 6	10/7: Steve Craig, "Men's Men and Women's Women" 10/10: Synthesis Paper Draft Due
Week 7	10/14: Jack Solomon, "Master of Desire" 10/17: Synthesis Paper Due Multi-Source Paper Assigned
Week 8	10/21: Naomi Klein, "New Branded World" 10/24: Michael Omi, "In Living Color: Race and American Culture"
Week 9	10/28: Writing Conferences 10/31: Multi-Source Paper Draft Due
Week 10	11/4: Research Paper and Presentation Assigned 11/7: Multi-Source Paper Due
Week 11	11/11: Finalize Research Question 11/14: Library session
Week 12	11/18: Bring Three Sources for Thesis Development 11/21: Friday Classes Meet
Week 13	11/25: Research Paper Draft Due 11/26: Presentation Visual Aid Review
Week 14	12/2: Presentations 12/5: Presentations
Week 15	12/9: Presentations

	12/13: Presentations Research Paper Due
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