

ENG 102: First-Year Composition

Spring 2011

Class Section:
14000/14005

Class Time:
MWF 12:55-1:45/2:00-2:50

Class Location:
_____ / _____

Instructor: Ryan Shepherd

Office: LL205

Office Hours: T 2:30-4:30 / WF 3:00-4:00

Email: Ryan.Shepherd@asu.edu

Phone: (480) 965-3853 (messages only)

Course Blackboard Site: <http://my.asu.edu>

Writing Program: <http://english.clas.asu.edu/writingprograms>

Required Textbook :

Ramage, J. D., Bean, J. C., & Johnson, J. (2010). *Writing arguments: A rhetoric with readings*. New York: Longman.

Additional Requirements:

- An ASURITE ID and password to access MyASU
- An email account linked to MyASU that is checked regularly
- Daily access to a computer and the internet
- Access to a word processor that enables you to submit papers as either a MS Word document (.doc/.docx).

Course Description:

English 102 is designed to help students develop sophisticated, situation-sensitive reading and writing strategies. Students make arguments in formal and informal settings. Special attention is given to evidence discovery, claim support, argument response, and their applications to academic debate, public decision making, and written argument. During the 16-week semester students will complete four formal written projects. Combined the final drafts of these four projects should result in approximately 5,000 words (this is equivalent to about 20 pages using standard academic format). Additionally, a final reflection is required.

Course Goals:

Through this course, students will:

- express a working knowledge of key rhetorical features, such as audience, situation, and the use of appropriate argument strategies
- develop and support an argument that is convincing to a particular audience
- identify and evaluate key rhetorical strategies, with an emphasis on ethos, logos, pathos, and kairos

- engage in a variety of research methods to study and explore the topics. Research methods could include both secondary research (such as library and internet research) and primary research (such as fieldwork and observation)
- explore the complexity of an issue by seeking multiple perspectives
- write and revise drafts and integrate feedback from peers, teachers, and other readers
- use structure, language, documentation, and format appropriate for audience and purpose
- use a variety of organizational strategies (such as, for example, organizing main ideas chronologically, sequentially, deductively, and inductively)

Course and Writing Requirements

Attendance:

I expect you to attend all classes and to arrive on time; consistent attendance is the only way to make the most of the class. **If you miss more than six classes, you will fail the course**—this is Writing Programs policy. Being more than 15 minutes late to class, being 5-15 minutes late to class two times, or leaving class early without permission will each count as an absence. Several times during the semester we will cancel classes for conferences or workshops; if you miss one of these class periods, you will be counted absent for each day that class was canceled.

Classroom Environment:

Please silence all cell phones during class time. We should all give the class and each other our full attention for the duration of the session. If you answer a phone, text message, or use other media during class, you will receive no participation credit for that day, and I reserve the right to ask you to leave the class.

Please note that some course content may be sensitive. As we conduct scholarly investigation and engage in critical thinking about class topics, we will often entertain many different opinions about a topic or text or perspective; please be considerate of others' contributions and viewpoints. An environment of respect will allow all of us the opportunity to participate and learn.

Participation Work:

Participation work includes oral and written responses to readings and other course material, in-class writing, group work, drafts, revision, homework, and anything else we do in the course of the writing process for each project.

I will not accept make-up work for participation work that is done in class, so you need to attend regularly keep work and grades up-to-date. Homework is due at the time indicated on the syllabus; late or incomplete work will receive partial or no credit. Furthermore, be aware that **absence is not an excuse for being unprepared for class. If you are absent, you should still be prepared for the next class that you attend.**

Writing Projects:

There are four writing projects in English 102. **You must submit all writing projects to pass the course.** All drafts will be submitted electronically through the ASU Blackboard website. All projects must be submitted to the site by the due date listed on the syllabus. Computer problems are not valid excuses for late work.

Writing Project 1 requires students to critically analyze the rhetorical choices made by an author in a piece of formal writing.

Writing Project 2 involves exploring visual arguments from the viewpoint of both an observer and a creator.

Writing Project 3 allows students to create a proposal for change in their own circumstances.

Writing Project 4 allows students to craft an argument from definition to make a case for a certain point of view.

Grading:

The course grade will be determined by the following:

Project 1: 15%

Project 2: 15%

Project 3: 20%

Project 4: 20%

Participation

 Homework: 20%

 In-Class: 10%

Disability Resources for Students:

ASU complies with all federal and state laws and regulations regarding discrimination, including the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA). If you have a disability and need a reasonable accommodation for equal access to education at ASU, please contact Disability Resources for Students at 965-1234. Please feel free to discuss the special accommodations with all of your teachers.

NOTE: This syllabus is subject to change. In the event that a portion of the syllabus is changed, students will be notified during class time, and a new version of the syllabus will be made available through Blackboard.

Standard Writing Programs Policies

1. Policy on class attendance

Students are expected to attend all class sessions. Because Writing Programs courses incorporate frequent small- and large-group activities into lessons, students who are absent affect not only their own learning, but that of their fellow students. Therefore, only *two weeks'* worth of absences (see below) will be allowed for the semester, *regardless of reason, including documented illness or emergency*. Students who exceed two weeks' worth of classes will fail the course, unless they withdraw (see <http://students.asu.edu/withdrawal>).

- **For Fall and Spring semesters**, classes that meet three days a week (MWF, for example), the maximum number of allowed absences is six (6), for classes that meet two days a week, the maximum number is four (4), for classes that meet once a week, the maximum number is two (2). For classes that meet on other schedules, the number of absences allowed should reflect a similar ratio (two weeks worth of class meetings).
- **Note:** Students who participate in **university-sanctioned activities** and/or who will be unable to meet the attendance requirements for a particular section should move to another section where their activity schedules will not interfere with their classroom obligations (students can freely switch sections during the first week of the semester). To accommodate students who participate in university-sanctioned activities, the Writing Programs Office offers sections of this course online and at various times of the day and week. We have asked advisors across campus to help students enroll in appropriate sections. If you think that this course may conflict with a university-sanctioned activity in which you are involved—athletics or the debate team or another—please see me immediately.

2. Attendance: first week of classes

According to university policy, students who are registered but do not attend any of the first week of classes may be dropped.

3. If I am absent

If I need to cancel class for any reason, I will contact you via e-mail. If possible, I will also try to get someone to post a sign. However, if you come to class and I have not arrived by the time 15 minutes has elapsed (from when class is to start), please assume that class is cancelled, and check e-mail frequently afterwards for further instructions.

4. Grading

Grading is based on specific assignment criteria, and will follow English Department standards for content, organization, expression, and mechanics. To compute final course grades, the following values are assigned to the standard letter grades of A through E:

- A+..... 4.3 (only used internally at ASU)
 - A..... 4.0
 - A-..... 3.7
 - B+..... 3.3
 - B.....3.0
 - B-..... 2.7
 - C+..... 2.3
 - C..... 2.0
 - D..... 1.0
 - E..... .3
- No paper = 0

To compute final course grades, the following values are assigned to the standard letter grades of A+ through E:

Range on 4.0 scale	Letter grade
4.01 +	A+
3.70 - 4.00	A
3.50 - 3.69	A-
3.30 - 3.49	B+
3.00 - 3.29	B
2.70 - 2.99	B-
2.30 - 2.69	C+
2.00 - 2.29	C
1.00 - 1.99	D
.99 and below	E

If you ever have a question about a grade and/or a comment I've made, please ask me about it.

5. The public nature of class writing and discussions

Please consider every piece of writing you do for this class to be "public property." Remember that you will often be expected to share your writing with others, so avoid writing about things that you may not be prepared to subject to public scrutiny, or things you feel so strongly about that you are unwilling to listen to perspectives other than your own. This does not mean that you are not entitled to an opinion but that you adopt positions responsibly, contemplating the possible effect on others.

6. Late Writing Projects

Final papers are due at the beginning of class. I do not accept late final papers without penalty unless we have agreed to such an extension. To request an extension, you must contact me via email prior to class and explain why the project is late and when it will be turned in (which must be within one week of the original due date). If you do not contact me and receive permission to submit late, **late final papers will be penalized 1 full letter grade** for every calendar day that the paper is late.

7. All writing for this class must be written for this class

To pass this class all major writing assignments must be submitted, and note that all writing for this class must be written for this class. Reusing a paper from another class or elsewhere constitutes academic dishonesty.

8. Academic Dishonesty

Students are expected to write and submit original work in Writing Programs classes, and to incorporate others' words, images, or ideas into their writing using correct attribution practices. Academic dishonesty in any form (see <http://provost.asu.edu/academicintegrity/policy/StudentObligations>) will not be tolerated, and students are expected to be familiar with all relevant university policies. The Academic Integrity policy is located at <http://provost.asu.edu/academicintegrity>