

# English 102: College Research and Writing

Class Theme: *Media Intersections*

Section 112 – Spring 2016

**Instructor:** Jessica Johnston

**Email:** johnst84@uwm.edu

**Office & Hours:** Curtin 483, Tuesdays 1-3pm,  
and by appointment

**Days:** Tuesdays & Thursdays

**Time:** 3:30-4:45pm

**Location:** Curtin 109

## **Course Description**

English 102 introduces students to academic research writing through a sequence of assignments in which students pose and investigate questions based upon a research project they have developed. The course builds on and challenges students' understanding of the purposes and practices of research writing by asking students to explore and engage in critical inquiry. In this class, critical inquiry is presented as a process of positioning one's ideas in relation to others in order to develop knowledge and insight about the matter being researched. Students will then learn how to employ research strategies utilized in academia, critically read scholarly material for ideas, and engage with sources' perspectives through interpretation, analysis, and critique.

Throughout this course, students will propose an idea for their research paper and continue to build on it through academic research, drafting, and revision. Group conferences will be held at least twice during the semester for students to share their work with others and receive feedback and guidance on their projects. Towards the end of the course, students will construct an additional essay reflecting on the choices made in the research paper. After a series of rigorous revision workshops, students will then present their research paper and reflective paper in a final portfolio to be reviewed by other English 102 instructors.

## **Prerequisites**

In order to be enrolled in ENG 102, you must have scored a 3 or higher on the English Placement Test (EPT), received a grade of C or higher in ENG 101, or have placed in 102 based on transfer credit from another institution. If you have not met these prerequisites, please contact the English 102 coordinator, Chris Lyons, immediately. You can e-mail him at [bobdylan@uwm.edu](mailto:bobdylan@uwm.edu).

## **Course Materials**

- *A Student's Guide to the First Year Writing Program at UWM 2015-2016* (sold at Clark Graphics on Oakland for \$2.30)
- 1 manila file folder (to submit your final portfolio at the end of the semester)
- A notebook and writing utensil
- Reliable access to a computer with a word processor, the Internet, a printer, and a photocopy machine – all of which are available on campus
- A flash drive or external hard drive to back up your work

## **Grading System**

PASS = A, A-, B+, B, B-, C+, C

FAIL = C-, D+, D, D-, F

## Evaluation

Rather than receive letter grades on particular assignments throughout the semester, your grade in this class will be determined holistically at the end of the course. This means that your final grade will be dependent upon the progress you've made as a writer and researcher through class assignments, group activities, and your final portfolio. Halfway through the semester, I will conduct midterm evaluations so that everyone can get a clearer sense of what their letter grade might be at the end of the course.

For individual assignments, I will provide some idea as to how well you are performing in class through written feedback and distributing a score of 1-4 according to the quality of completed assignments. These scores should not be treated as grades, but rather, as an indication of how well the assignment was completed.

The 1-4 scale is as follows:

- 1 – did not meet all requirements but met some
- 2 – did meet all requirements but at a minimal level
- 3 – did meet all requirements but could use clearer language or more thought
- 4 – did meet all requirements and demonstrated critical thinking clearly and thoroughly

## Course Assignments

**1. Final Portfolio (50%):** Your final portfolio consists of a 10-12 page final research paper and a 5-6 page reflective essay that you have written, revised, organized, and presented to a committee consisting of English 102 instructors. It is then assessed by the committee and assigned either a PASS or FAIL. From there, I will assign a final letter grade to the portfolio based on the committee's decision and your overall progress in the course. The committee will assess your portfolio based on the English 102 course goals found in the *Student's Guide*.

For the research paper, you will select a topic from either 1) our class theme, "Media Intersections," or 2) an original topic related to a professional or academic interest approved by me. Research projects completed for other classes may NOT be used unless otherwise approved by the instructor who assigned the project and me. Throughout the course, you will develop a research question and proposal for critical inquiry, compile and analyze relevant sources, and write and revise a paper that engages your sources and supports your controlling purpose. Your research paper should have a total of **6-8 sources**, with at least 4 being academic, peer-reviewed articles. Lastly, you will write a reflective essay that considers the research and composing decisions you made in the research paper. **Your final portfolio will then include ONE inquiry-based research essay and ONE reflective essay.**

**2. Class Assignments (25%):** There will be a written assignment due nearly every class period. **I request that you upload these assignments onto D2L before 3:30 PM on the day that it's due** (refer to the **Course Calendar** for due dates). While you will submit your assignments online, I ask that you either bring a hard copy of the assignment or reading notes to class in order to help you contribute to class discussion. These assignments will ask you to reflect on various readings related to research, develop a research inquiry and proposal, annotate your bibliography, and draft parts of your paper. Individual assignments will not receive letter grades, but I will provide you with feedback on D2L to help guide your research and writing. Furthermore, this 25% of your semester grade will be calculated based on your ability to turn in assignments on time, how well your work addresses the requirements of the assignments, and the completion of peer feedback. Be sure to save your work electronically in a place where you can access it easily.

**3. Class Participation (25%):** In this course, we are reading and writing in order to exchange ideas and learn from each other. Therefore, in-class discussion and activities are extremely important. I expect you to contribute meaningfully to class on a daily basis. This means: arriving on time, completing assignments/readings before class begins, completing in-class activities, posing relevant questions/concerns, commenting thoughtfully, and showing overall engagement with the day's focus. Tardies, disruptions (texting, sleeping, talking while I'm talking, etc.), and/or failing to complete in-class activities will adversely affect this 25% of your final grade.

Outside of class, you will reflect on your research by contributing weekly to our D2L discussion board. Every Thursday, I will post a prompt on D2L to help guide your thinking about your research project and the direction in which you see yourself going. Think of this discussion board as a space to free write about your ideas, compile interesting facts about your topic, and vent your frustrations with the research process. **Complete your discussion post no later than the following Tuesday at 3:30 PM in order to receive participation credit.** This board is valuable not just for your thoughts but will also give you material to scaffold your reflective essay.

### Late Work Policy

You are required to complete every assignment given during this course in order to submit your final portfolio. An assignment is late when you turn it in after 3:30 PM on the day that it's due. Even if it is late, you are still expected to upload the assignment to its appropriate folder on D2L. If you are having computer issues preventing you from uploading your assignment, please e-mail it to me before the start of class; otherwise, it will be counted as late. Because I understand that circumstances beyond your control can prevent you from turning assignments in on time, **I will accept up to 2 different late assignments throughout the semester without grade penalty.** More than 2 late assignments will receive a zero. Additionally, late assignments must be submitted no later than a week after they are due. Failure to do so can result in disqualification from final portfolio review. I also do not comment on late work, and your peers will not be expected to give you feedback. If you feel you may have trouble turning assignments in on time, please discuss this with me.

### Major Due Dates

**Formal Research Proposal:** Thursday, March 3<sup>rd</sup>  
**Research Paper Draft:** Tuesday, April 5<sup>th</sup>  
**Reflective Essay Draft:** Tuesday, April 19<sup>th</sup>  
**Final Portfolio:** Thursday, May 5<sup>th</sup>

### Conferences

We will meet for group conferences TWICE during the semester. A one-on-one conference with me will occur once towards the end of the semester. Prior to these conferences, you will sign up for a 45-minute or 1-hour time slot that works best for you and your assigned group's schedule. Prior to these meetings, please exchange research materials and/or drafts of your paper with your group and read each other's work, jotting down notes or questions you want to ask each other at the conference. I will also be attending these conferences and mediating discussion so that everyone has a chance to discuss their research and receive the help they need. You are required to attend these meetings in lieu of a week's worth of scheduled classes. **Because I will be canceling two class periods, failure to attend your scheduled conference will result in two recorded absences.** If you arrive late or unprepared, you will receive one absence.

## Conference Dates

**Group Conference #1:** Week 5 (Feb. 22<sup>nd</sup> – 25<sup>th</sup>)

**Group Conference #2:** Week 9-10 (Mar. 23<sup>rd</sup> – 29<sup>th</sup>)

**Final Individual Conference:** Week 14-15 (Apr. 27<sup>th</sup> – May 4<sup>th</sup>)

## Attendance/Tardiness Policy

Many of the in-class discussions will cover responses to short readings and issues related to research, so it is important that you are there to participate. Program policy states: **“Students enrolled in face-to-face sections of English 100, 101, or 102 during the fall or spring semester who miss more than four 75-minute classes will not pass the course.”** Missing 5 classes will result in failing English 102.

Additionally, “students who do not comply with our attendance policy lose their eligibility to participate in final portfolio assessment and can earn no higher than a C-, resulting in the need to repeat the class.” If you have surpassed your absences, you are still permitted to attend class in order to receive a grade between a C-and an F on your transcript. Any student who does not attend the first week of classes (or its equivalent) will be dropped from the course.

There are no exceptions for doctor’s notes, sicknesses, funerals, broken down cars, late buses, or other emergencies. As such, you should reserve your allowance of absences in case any of these instances happen beyond your control. Using these absences will not affect your grade; however, I will expect you to turn in that day’s assignment on D2L.

If you anticipate any absences for religious observances or military obligations, please inform me at the beginning of the semester. You will still receive an absence for any time missed for these events, but by letting me know in advance, we can work together to make sure you complete your assignments on time. If you serve in any branch of military, please check

[http://www4.uwm.edu/current\\_students/military\\_call\\_up.cfm](http://www4.uwm.edu/current_students/military_call_up.cfm) for information on UWM’s official policy on military call ups.

## Technology Policy and Expectations

During class time, please keep your cell phones and other technological devices on silent and refrain from texting. **If I see you using your phone without my permission, I will deduct points from your participation grade.** However, if you’re anticipating an emergency phone call, notify me at the beginning of class and I will let you excuse yourself into the hall to avoid disrupting class. Laptops, iPads, Kindles, and other such media devices are permitted to access assignment responses and conduct in-class writing sessions. However, if I notice that you’re using these devices for something other than class work, you will receive no participation points for that day.

Outside of class, you must have access to a computer, printer, and copier. While your assignments will be submitted onto D2L, you will be asked occasionally to print off copies of your research materials for in-class activities. If you do not have access to a home computer, the **Golda Meir Library** is open Mon-Thur (7:30am-11pm), Fri (7:30am-7pm), Sat (12pm-7pm), and Sun (12pm-11pm), and has available computers for check out. However, please remember to save any work you do on public computers onto a flash drive. Various computer labs are also available across campus (most notably in the UWM Union). You must be able to access your UWM e-mail and D2L, as this is how I will be able to communicate with you outside of class.

Since technological malfunctions do occur, please have a back-up plan in case your personal computer fails on you. I recommend backing up your assignments on Google Drive, Dropbox, PantherFILE, or an external hard drive or flash drive.

### **Campus Closures**

If bad weather or other circumstances result in a delay or closure of campus hours, effectively cancelling class, please check your UWM e-mail and D2L for a message from me. Assignments due that day will still be expected to be submitted through D2L. If such an event occurs during scheduled conferences, we will try to arrange the conference online through D2L or set aside another day and time to do so.

### **Contacting Me**

If you need to reach me, I am available either during my office hours (**Tuesdays from 1-3 PM, and by appointment**) in Curtin 483 or by e-mail (**johnst84@uwm.edu**). I am also holding virtual office hours during that time via Skype (**username: je\_johnston**) in case you'd rather send me an instant message. Otherwise, I'm annoyingly prompt at responding to emails, so you'll likely hear from me right away. If not, I'm either busy burying my nose in my grad schoolwork or sleeping. In case I don't respond in 24 hours, just send me another email. Also, please address me as Jessica, or Ms. Johnston if you must (not Dr. or Professor – I'm just a PhD student right now). Because English 102 is not the only class I teach, I just ask that you format your emails accordingly so I know which class you're in:

Subject: English 102 Question/Concern/Etc.

Hi Jessica,  
Your message here.

Thanks/Best/Cheers,  
Your Name

### **Credit Hours**

As the UW System assumes "that study leading to one semester credit represents an investment of time by the average student of not fewer than 48 hours" (UWS ACPS 4), a 3-credit course such as this one will require a minimum of 144 (3 x 48) hours of your time. You may find it necessary to spend additional time on a course; the numbers below only indicate that the course will not require any less of your time.

If this is a **traditional, or face-to-face** course, you will spend a minimum of

- 37.5 hours in the classroom
- 75 hours preparing for class, which may include reading, note taking, completing minor exercises and assignments, and discussing course topics with classmates and the instructor in structured settings
- 31.5 hours preparing for and writing major papers and/or exams.

If this is an **online** course, you will spend a minimum of

- 37.5 hours reviewing instructional materials prepared by your instructor and placed online
- 75 hours preparing for class, which may include reading, note taking, completing minor exercises and assignments, and discussing course topics with classmates and the instructor in structured settings

· 31.5 hours preparing for and writing major papers and/or exams.

If this is a **hybrid** course, you will spend a minimum of

· 18.75 hours in the classroom

· 18.75 hours reviewing instructional materials prepared by your instructor and placed online

· 75 hours preparing for class, which may include reading, note taking, completing minor exercises and assignments, and discussing course topics with classmates and the instructor in structured settings

· 31.5 hours preparing for and writing major papers and/or exams.

#### *Notes*

· The breakdown above is for a standard 15-week semester. In a 16-week semester, the numbers breakdown above changes as follows. Traditional: 40 hours in classroom, 80 for preparation, 24 for papers and exams; online: 40 hours of online instruction, 80 for preparation, 24 for papers and exams; hybrid: 20 hours in classroom, 20 for online instruction, 80 hours for preparation, 24 for papers and exams. Again, these are minimums.

· UWM Credit Hour Policy, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee Faculty Document No. 2838, can be found at [https://www4.uwm.edu/secu/docs/faculty/2838\\_Credit\\_Hour\\_Policy.pdf](https://www4.uwm.edu/secu/docs/faculty/2838_Credit_Hour_Policy.pdf) [https://www4.uwm.edu/secu/docs/faculty/2838\\_Credit\\_Hour\\_Policy.pdf](https://www4.uwm.edu/secu/docs/faculty/2838_Credit_Hour_Policy.pdf) .

· UWS ACPS 4, the University Of Wisconsin System Policy On Academic Year Definition And Assorted Derivatives, can be found at <http://www.uwsa.edu/acss/acps/acps4.pdf> .

## **Other Important Information**

### *Writing Center*

This is a great resource that provides one-on-one tutoring for students in English 102 and beyond. They are excited to help you with all stages of the writing process, from brainstorming to drafting to revising. Please use these tutors! They are trained, experienced, talented, and wonderful. To make an appointment, visit [www.writingcenter.uwm.edu](http://www.writingcenter.uwm.edu), call **414-229-4339** or stop by **Curtin 127** or the **East Wing of the Golda Meir Library** to schedule in person or do a walk-in appointment. *Special note:* As someone who works in the Writing Center, I can attest that this place gets VERY busy towards the end of the semester. I advise making appointments well in advance if you plan to use their services.

### *Add/Drop Policies*

The last day to add a class or change a section is **Friday, February 5<sup>th</sup>**. The last day to withdraw without a "W" on your transcript is **Friday, February 19<sup>th</sup>**. The last day to withdraw from classes is **Friday, March 25<sup>th</sup>**. (Please regard pages 16-17 of your *Student Guide* for more information about adding and dropping courses).

### *ESL Students*

If you grew up speaking a language other than English, you can fulfill your English writing requirements in English as a Second Language (ESL) courses. Please contact the ESL coordinator, Amy Shields ([grisk@uwm.edu](mailto:grisk@uwm.edu)).

### *Accessibility Resource Center (ARC)*

If you are working with the Accessibility Resource Center (formerly known as SAC) and have been issued a Verified Individualized Services and Accommodations (VISA), please contact me during the first week of class. If you are concerned that you might have a learning disability, visit the ARC office in **116 Mitchell Hall** or call **414-229-3800**. For further information, check out the webpage: <http://www4.uwm.edu/sac/>

### *Counseling/Psychology/Substance Abuse Services*

If you ever feel overwhelmed, overly stressed, or are experiencing extreme life difficulties, please let me know. I can help you find appropriate resources at UWM to help even the most complicated life situations. Additionally, Norris Health Center on campus is a great, budget-friendly resource for medical attention and counseling. You can check them out here: <http://www4.uwm.edu/norris/>

### *Academic Honesty*

Please refer to pages 18 of the *Student Guide*. In short, be aware that the consequences of plagiarism can range from failing the course to expulsion from the university. Plagiarism, both intentional and unintentional, is a serious offense in the academic setting. We will work together to ensure everyone understands proper MLA/APA/Chicago Style citation to prevent such occurrences. In the event that a student is retaking 102, re-using old assignments should be avoided. Re-using research papers or ideas from other classes is only permitted by receiving permission from me and the instructor for which the paper was written; regardless, substantial revisionary work should be taken in order to meet the 102 course goals.

### *University Policies*

For more specific university policies, visit: [www4.uwm.edu/secu/policies/](http://www4.uwm.edu/secu/policies/)

## English 102 Course Calendar for Spring 2016

Week Number	Tuesday	Thursday
<b>Week 1</b> – Introduction to Academic Research	1/26 – Course Introduction	1/28 – Introducing the Research Question  <b>Homework Due:</b> Assignment 1
<b>Week 2</b> – Critical Inquiry	2/2 – Using New Media for Research  <b>Homework Due:</b> Assignment 2	2/4 – Stakes and Exigency in Academic Writing  <b>Homework Due:</b> Assignment 3 [2/5 - Last day to add/drop/change section]
<b>Week 3</b> – Choosing a Research Topic	2/9 – Developing the Research Question  <b>Homework Due:</b> Assignment 4	2/11 – Library Research Orientation *Meet in the Library West Wing  <b>Homework Due:</b> Assignment 5 (Initial Proposal)
<b>Week 4</b> – Finding Sources	2/16 – Choosing and Evaluating Research Sources  <b>Homework Due:</b> Assignment 6 (Library Modules I & II)	2/18 – Using the Rhetorical Situation as a Guide *Sign up for Group Conference #1  <b>Homework Due:</b> Assignment 7 (Library Modules III & IV) [2/19 - Last day to drop w/o a W]
<b>Week 5</b> – Group Conference #1	2/23 – Group Conference #1 *NO CLASS  <b>Homework Due:</b> Conference Worksheet	2/25 – Group Conference #1 *NO CLASS  <b>Homework Due:</b> Conference Worksheet
<b>Week 6</b> – Organizing Sources	3/1 – Reflecting on Initial Research  <b>Homework Due:</b> Assignment 8 (Annotated Bibliography I)	3/3 – Preparing to Draft *Final Deadline to Change Research Topic  <b>Homework Due:</b> Assignment 9 (Formal Proposal)
<b>Week 7</b> – Engaging Sources	3/8 – Listening to Sources  <b>Homework Due:</b> Assignment 10 (Drafting the Introduction)	3/10– Deepening Engagement with Sources *Midterm Self-Evaluations  <b>Homework Due:</b> Assignment 11 (Annotated Bibliography II)

<b>Week 8 –</b> Spring Break	3/15 – SPRING BREAK, NO CLASS	3/17 – SPRING BREAK, NO CLASS
<b>Week 9 –</b> Evaluating Research Direction	3/22 – Revising the Central Research Question  <b>Homework Due:</b> Assignment 12 (Drafting the Body)	3/24 – Group Conference #2 *NO CLASS  <b>Homework Due:</b> Conference Worksheet [3/25 – Last day to withdraw]
<b>Week 10 –</b> Organization and Structure	3/29 – Group Conference #2 *NO CLASS  <b>Homework Due:</b> Conference Worksheet	3/31 – Perceiving Organization and Structure *Substitute Instructor  <b>No Homework Due (continue working on paper)</b>
<b>Week 11 –</b> Revision Strategies	4/5 – Preparing for Revision  <b>Homework Due:</b> Assignment 13 (Research Paper Draft)	4/7 – Revision Workshop
<b>Week 12 –</b> Revision Workshop	4/12 – Revision Workshop	4/14 – Revision Workshop
<b>Week 13 –</b> Revision Workshop	4/19 – Revision Workshop  <b>Homework Due:</b> Assignment 14 (Reflective Essay Draft)	4/21 – Revision Workshop
<b>Week 14 –</b> Revision Workshop	4/26 – Revision Workshop *Sign Up for Final Conference  <b>Homework Due:</b> Draft of Final Portfolio (Research AND Reflective Essays)	4/28 – Final Conference *NO CLASS
<b>Week 15 –</b> Final Portfolios Due	5/3 – Final Conference *NO CLASS	5/5 – <b>Final Portfolios Due</b>

\*\* Syllabus is subject to change with notice.