



ENGLISH 102
WRITING ACADEMIC DISCOURSE
WINTER 2008

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Meeting Place & Time

W02: 190 Dwyer | TTh | 2:15-3:55
W08: 188 Dwyer | TTh | 4:10-5:50

Course Description

English 102 focuses on the composition of research papers as well as critical textual analysis and synthesis in academic discourse. Students will receive instruction and practice in conceiving, drafting, revising and completing papers based upon sources that challenge them to seek new information and to reflect upon its relevance to their own observations and experience. It is the goal of this course to provide students with a variety of research and writing skills. Activities include writing assignments, discussions on writing techniques, peer reading and response exercises, individual conferences with the professor, and lessons on relevant grammar/usage issues and formatting sound arguments. English 101 is a prerequisite. Grades are determined not solely on finished products but also on the research process.

Textbook & Supplies

Lester, James D. *Writing Research Papers: A Complete Guide*. 11th ed. New York: HarperCollins, 1996.

Course Evaluation

Course grades are based on the following percentages:

Research Paper	50%
Assignments & Tests	40%
Attendance & Participation	10%

Research Papers

The research paper should be a minimum of TEN full pages of text and include a title page, abstract, table of contents, and bibliography. The paper must treat one of these topics: the growth in global population, the affects of scientific progress, the proliferation of nuclear weapons, the spread of Islamic fundamentalism, the increase in illegal immigration into the United States, the funding of social security, the funding of space exploration, the loss of American manufacturing jobs, the use of fossil fuels, the loss of wilderness, or the melting of the polar ice-caps.

Papers are required to exhibit the following criteria: (1) an explanation of where things stand today and an identification of the key events in the past that have brought us to the present situation; (2) an analysis of current and future trends, leading to a calculated prediction about when a crisis is most likely to occur; (3) a description of what is likely to happen in the near and long term if the crisis does occur; and (4) a reasoned analysis of how the crisis might be avoided and of the chances that we will actually do what is necessary to avoid it.

The minimum source materials to be cited include ONE book, TWO academic journal articles, FIVE magazine articles, TEN newspaper articles, and TEN substantive websites. Copies of these sources (including a key chapter of the book) must be included in a neatly organized and labeled manila folder.

Papers must be written in a formal, expository style and possess a clear, engaging thesis that is sustained (and kept in focus) from start to finish. Each should be substantive in thought and content, reflecting a considered view of the topic and the primary materials.

Grading Scale:

A	3.50-4.00
B	2.70-3.49
C	1.70-2.69
D	1.00-1.69
F	0.00-0.99

Assignments & Tests

Throughout the semester, you will be given a number of assignments and short tests to be completed both in and out of the classroom. Assignments are often not assigned ahead of time; they are issued during class and should be completed during that class session. Tests will always be administered in class. If you are absent, you will not be able to make up assignments and tests.

Unless specified otherwise, all out-of-class assignments must be typed or computer-printed on standard bond, standard-sized (8½ x 11 inch) white paper. The margins should be 1 inch all around, and the text of each assignment should be double-spaced in 12 Times New Roman font.

Assignments are due on the dates specified. Unless you have a legitimate and documented reason for missing the due date, late assignments will receive partial or no credit.

Attendance

Attendance is an essential part of any writing class. It is expected that you will come to each class period prepared for that day's activities; when you do not show up, or when you show up unprepared, the quality of the class's labor suffers. Late arrivals of more than TEN minutes are counted as absences. More than TWO unexcused absences will negatively affect your grade.

It is your responsibility to sign the attendance sheet. Attendance alone does not guarantee you a good grade in the "Attendance & Participation" section of your overall course average. You must also contribute on a regular basis to class discussions, workshops, and in-class research and writing projects. If you miss a class lecture or discussion, it is your responsibility to collect the information from a fellow student. Regular conferences with me are a necessary part of this course. Any student missing a conference will need to arrange to see me asap.

Plagiarism

Plagiarism occurs when a writer: (1) copies verbatim from an author without quotation or attempts to disguise the act by selective omissions or alterations; (2) paraphrases from an author without naming the source in the text of the paper or providing a list of references at the end; (3) turns in a paper written by somebody else. As a point of academic integrity, you are required to submit original material of your own creation. Plagiarism of any material is a serious offense and, if established with sufficient evidence, can result in failure of the course or dismissal from the university.

Writer's Hotline

This service is available for quick or one-time questions that can be answered over the phone and usually involve grammar or writing mechanics. The phone number is **937.775.2158**. The hotline is open daily until 4 p.m.

Class Calendar

Week	Schedule
1	Introduction to the Course Chp. 14 – Citing Sources Activities: 14A & 14B
2	Chp. 1 – Writing from Research Chp. 2 – Finding a Topic Activities: 2.2 & 2.4
3	Unit Test: Chp. 2 Activities: 2.5 & 2.9 Worksheets: 2A & 2B
4	Due: Research Paper (Proposal) Student Conferences Chp. 3 – Electronic Resources Activities: 3.2 & 3.3 Worksheet: 2C
5	Chp. 4 – Library Research Chp. 8 – Organizing Ideas Activities: 4.3, 8.1 & 8.2 Worksheets: 3A, 8A, 8C & 8D
6	Chp. 10 – Drafting Academic Papers Activities: 9.1, 9.2, 10.1 & 10.2 Worksheets: 9B, 9C, 10B & 10C
7	Due: Research Paper (Draft) Student Conferences Chp. 11 – Integrating Reference Material Activities: 11.1 & 11.3 Worksheet: 11B
8	Unit Tests: Chp. 11 & 13 Chp. 13 – Revision & Editing Activities: 13.1 & 13.2 Worksheets: 13A & 13C
9	Unit Test: Chp. 6 Chp. 6 – Plagiarism

Chp. 16 – Footnotes
Activities: 6.1 & 6.2
Worksheets: 6A & 6B

10 Student Conferences

E **Due:** Research Paper (Final)

(NOTE: This schedule is subject to changes.)