

Jackson College
English 132: Writing Experience II

“Facts are stubborn things; and whatever may be our wishes, our inclinations, or the dictates of our passion, they cannot alter the state of facts and evidence.”

(John Adams)

Instructor	Thomas W. Howard
Email	HowardThomasW@jccmi.edu
Location	Room 15, Hillsdale Center
Day & Time	Wednesdays 6:00 - 9:38 PM
Course Texts	<i>Norton Field Guide to Writing with Readings</i> 4th edition by Bullock <i>They Say, I Say: The Moves That Matter in Academic Writing</i> 3rd edition by Graff and Birkenstein optional: <i>The Little Seagull Handbook</i> 2nd edition by Bullock and Weinberg
Textbook Zero	All of these texts are available in a digital format from several sources, including the Kindle (amazon.com) and the Nook (barnesandnoble.com). You can also check with the JC bookstore or your local library regarding possible digital formats.
Course Materials	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. pens/pencils2. notepad for notes and writing3. two-pocket folder4. USB flash drive OR online cloud storage (e.g., dropbox.com)

Official Course Description

This is an intensive writing course. Analytical and persuasive modes are stressed. Advanced research writing strategies are used. Database and primary research methods are emphasized. An end-of-the-semester portfolio is required. Prerequisite ENG 131.

Continued Description

As a continuation of the writing instruction and practice begun in ENG 131, ENG 132 emphasizes critical thinking, academic research, and forms of writing useful to academic, professional, and personal life. Required units of study include argumentation and analysis. Learners should expect to achieve proficiency with Modern Language Association (MLA) style and conventions. The course requires participation in discussions, course activities, and guided peer review. Standard English grammar and structures are requisite skills in this course.

General Education Outcome

GEO 1:

Write Clearly, Concisely, and Intelligibly

Outcome	The Student:
Process	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> uses parts of the recursive process in writing, which may include prewriting, drafting, revising, and editing evaluates sources when used
Rhetorical Situation: Purpose, Audience	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> demonstrates appropriate purpose and audience for context
Organization and Development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> demonstrates functional organizational structure appropriate to genre provides examples and details that support ideas and content; appropriate to genre
Meaning/Understanding	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> researches and writes for further understanding and additional knowledge employs write-to-learn methods through reflective writing and research for further understanding and additional knowledge
Use of Sources and Documentation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> demonstrates ability to find and evaluate credible sources demonstrates correct documentation of sources when appropriate
Conventional Grammar and Sentence Structures	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> correctly uses grammar and mechanics demonstrates clear meaning

Major Assignments

Essay Prewriting: You will receive a three-stage prewriting packet to complete with each major essay. There will be time in class for some of these activities; however, most of it will be homework. You must have the entire packet complete *in class* the week the final draft is due for credit.

Evaluation Essay: In 3-5 pages, you will evaluate an Op-Ed article in a newspaper of your choosing (e.g., *New York Times*, *Chicago Tribune*, *Detroit Free Press*). You will determine how well the author argues his or her point *regardless of your personal opinion*. Then, you will suggest ways that the author might do a better job with the argument.

Proposal Essay: In 3-5 pages, you will propose a solution to a problem in your community (e.g., school, city, state, nation, etc.). You must consider the problem components, the best solution, and the steps necessary for the solution to work.

- Research Paper:** In 5-7 pages, you will write an argumentative research paper on a topic of your choosing (topics must be approved by me beforehand). You must use 5-7 *credible* resources in this paper, and prewriting will include an annotated bibliography of these sources.
- Final Portfolio:** Your portfolio represents the best work that you do during the semester, and it counts as your final examination for the course. You will revise each essay that you include in your portfolio. You must include the Research Paper with the final portfolio; however, you may choose to include both or only one other essay (i.e., the Evaluation Essay or the Proposal Essay). Regardless, altogether your portfolio must be 12 *full* pages or more.
- Participation:** Every week, we will begin class with writing an argument on some civics-related prompt in order to hone the skills learned throughout the course. This will consist of a period of brainstorming, online research, writing, reading (each others' work), and discussion. The purpose of this is not to debate the topics themselves (although that will assuredly be part of it), but rather to discuss how arguments work and when they break down. You will receive a grade each week based on your commitment to this activity; you will not be graded on quality.

NOTE: You are not directly penalized for absences, but I also do not accept excuses for in-class work if you are absent. As a result, if you miss class, you will necessarily miss the activities and the corresponding points. This class is a workshop, so attendance is necessary. That said, please contact me *ahead of time* if there are any unusual extenuating circumstances.

Grading Procedure

Evaluation Essay		
prewriting	50 points	5%
final paper	100 points	10%
Proposal Essay		
prewriting	50 points	5%
final paper	100 points	10%
Argumentative Essay		
prewriting	50 points	5%
final paper	150 points	15%
Final Portfolio	300 points	30%
Participation & Miscellaneous	200 points	20%
Total:	1000 points	100%

Grading Scale

4.0 = 90-100%
3.5 = 85-89%
3.0 = 80-84%
2.5 = 75-79%
2.0 = 70-74%
1.5 = 65-69%
1.0 = 60-64%
0.5 = 55-59%
0.0 = 0-54%

NOTE: a final grade of 2.0 or higher is considered passing

Missed/Late Assignments

The only assignments that I will accept late are the prewriting and final drafts of the major essays in the course. You will be penalized 10% each day the assignment is late, including weekends and holidays (since essays are due Friday, you do not get a “free” weekend). This means if an assignment is due on Friday at 11:59 PM and you submit it Saturday at 12:00 AM, you lose 10% of your grade. **Note that late penalties carry over to any rewrites that you submit.**

Rewrite Policy

I allow rewrites on all of the major essays in the course. Rewrites should be *substantial* revisions (not merely copyediting) in order to receive a better grade. *You are not guaranteed to get a better grade on a rewrite, but you will not get a worse grade* (I would just take the higher of the two grades). In order to take advantage of this, upload the new paper on JetNet in the same folder as the original essay. You must wait until you receive a grade to submit a rewrite (or any subsequent rewrites).

The Incomplete Grade

In accordance with JC policy, an Incomplete or “I” grade is only issued to students who have demonstrated good standing in the class and hold a passing grade at the time of an extenuating circumstance that precludes completion of the class. Documentation validating the circumstance may be required.

Academic Honesty Policy

Academic Honesty is defined as ethical behavior that includes student production of their own work and not representing others’ work as their own, by cheating or by helping others to do so.

Plagiarism is defined as the failure to give credit for the use of material from outside sources. Plagiarism includes, but is not limited to:

- submitting others’ work as your own
- using data, illustrations, pictures, quotations, or paraphrases from other sources without adequate documentation
- reusing significant, identical or nearly identical portions of ones own prior work without acknowledging that one is doing so or without citing this original work (self-plagiarism)

Cheating is defined as obtaining answers/material from an outside source without authorization. Cheating includes, but is not limited to:

- plagiarizing in any form
- using notes/books/electronic material without authorization
- copying
- submitting others' work as your own or submitting your work for others
- altering graded work
- falsifying data
- exhibiting other behaviors generally considered unethical
- allowing your work to be submitted by others

Any violation of the above will likely earn you a zero on the assignment, but it may include an “F” in the course and referral to the Office of the Academic Dean for further disciplinary action.

The instructor reserves the right to make adjustments to this syllabus as needed.

Tentative Course Calendar:*NFG: Norton Field Guide to Writing with Readings**TS: They Say I Say*

Week 1 — 05.24	Introduction to Course DUE: skim <i>NFG</i> chapters 1-9
Week 2 — 05.31	Begin Essay #1 — Evaluation Essay DUE: <i>NFG</i> chapter 13: “Arguing a Position” DUE: <i>NFG</i> chapter 16: “Evaluations”
Week 3 — 06.07	Continue Essay #1 — Evaluation Essay DUE: <i>TS</i> preface & introduction DUE: <i>TS</i> chapters 12-13
Week 4 — 06.14	Continue Essay #1 — Evaluation Essay DUE: <i>TS</i> part 1 (chapters 1-3): “They Say”

ESSAY #1 — EVALUATION ESSAY DUE ON JETNET BY FRIDAY, 16 JUNE 2017 BY 11:59 PM

Week 5 — 06.21	Begin Essay #2 — Proposal Essay DUE: <i>NFG</i> chapter 20: “Proposals”
Week 6 — 06.28	Continue Essay #2 — Proposal Essay DUE: <i>TS</i> part 2 (chapters 4-7): “I Say”
Week 7 — 07.05	NO CLASS (online assignments TBD)

ESSAY #2 — PROPOSAL ESSAY DUE ON JETNET BY FRIDAY, 7 JULY 2017 BY 11:59 PM

Week 8 — 07.12	Begin Essay #3 — Research Paper DUE: <i>NFG</i> chapters 45-51
Week 9 — 07.19	Continue Essay #3 — Research Paper DUE: <i>TS</i> part 3 (chapters 8-11): “Tying It All Together”
Week 10 — 07.26	Continue Essay #3 — Research Paper
Week 11 — 08.02	Continue Essay #3 — Research Paper

ESSAY #3 — RESEARCH PAPER DUE ON JETNET BY FRIDAY, 5 AUGUST 2017 BY 11:59 PM

Week 12 — 08.09	Final Work Day DUE: <i>NFG</i> chapter 32: “Compiling a Portfolio”
-----------------	-----------------------------------------------------------------------

FINAL PORTFOLIO DUE *IN CLASS* ON WEDNESDAY, 9 AUGUST 2017 BY 9:38 PM