



ENGLISH 102, Summer 2011 Session II

Instructor Mr. Carl Lindner
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Office Hours MWF 1:30PM - 2:30PM

Section 1014
Day/Time 2:40 - 4:10
Location CBC-C122

Course Texts

- *Guide to Academic Research and Writing: Custom Edition for UNLV*
- *Writing For Social Change*, Brown

Both texts are required and will be used in class. Bring your textbooks every day except for exams or if instructed otherwise. I **will** distribute additional readings on web campus.

Course Description

English 102 builds upon the critical thinking, reading, and writing capabilities that students developed in English 101. Students learn the processes necessary for conducting research and for incorporating research material into writing. They learn how to evaluate, cite, and document primary and secondary research sources; and how to develop arguments and support them with sound evidence.

Course Objectives

Specific abilities you should learn in this course are these:

- To understand argumentation as a process that seeks to understand a range of views and that treats opposing views respectfully
- To use research, reading, and writing as tools for questioning, critical thinking, and informed communication
- To critically read and write with attention to the use of evidence
- To develop an understanding of the strategies of argument
- To analyze and evaluate reasons and evidence in arguments
- To design and implement appropriate research strategies
- To evaluate primary and secondary research sources
- To summarize, paraphrase, and synthesize research material
- To plan and to organize a research essay
- To integrate and document research sources
- To address purpose and audience effectively in a research essay
- To evaluate the strengths and weaknesses of their own writings and those of others
- To revise through several drafts
- To use conventions of format, structure, and language

Course Requirements

Assignments include both out-of-class and in-class work and will include research, informal writings, drafts of essays, peer responding and editing, and assigned readings from the texts. To successfully complete ENG 102, you need to:

- Write a diagnostic essay during the first week of class
- Complete the online library research tutorials and test, and submit the “passed” certificates
- Complete daily reading assignments of approximately 20 to 30 pages
- Design research strategies and conduct library and internet research
- Actively participate in in-class writing workshops and discussions
- Write at least one graded in-class essay
- Complete three formal, out-of-class writing projects of no less than three to five pages each
- Write a research-based argument of no less than seven to ten pages
- Take a final exam



Attendance

Class attendance is required, and absences will be recorded. Keep in mind that the allowed absences are intended for unavoidable absences due to illness or emergencies. If you have a medical or otherwise legitimate reason to have a missed class excused, discuss it with me *before*. Students who will miss class because of religious holidays or official activities should refer to <http://catalog.unlv.acalog.com/content.php?catoid=1&navoid=44&bc=1>.

- Absences exceeding the equivalent of **four** classes result in a final grade reduction of one letter grade.
- Absences exceeding the equivalent of **five** classes result in a grade of **F**.

Students who are late, unprepared for class, or waste the whole class during workdays will be penalized 1/2 absence. It is possible to have a grade deduction or to fail the class simply from being late consistently. This is composition department policy and I have no authority to bend the rules for lazy students. **YOU'VE BEEN WARNED.**

Calculated according to UNLV's cost schedule, each missed class is at minimum \$18.04 thrown away.

Class Conduct

I expect you to behave courteously and professionally in your interactions with your peers as well as with me. Remember that the classroom is not the place for taking naps, eating meals, yakking with your friend about *Dancing With The Stars*, answering cell phones, checking voice mail, or working on assignments for other classes. Interrupting people, vulgar language, and general rudeness toward others or myself won't be tolerated. **That being said, please do get involved!** You will learn far more if you ask questions and participate in the discussion.

Grading

Grades will be determined on a percentage basis. Major assignments will be graded on the standard letter-grade scale with plusses and minuses. Your overall grade and project grades are based on the following percentages:

A = 100 – 92 %	A- = 91 – 90 %	B+ = 89 – 88 %	B = 87 – 82 %	B- = 81 – 80 %
C+ = 79 – 78 %	C = 77 – 72 %	C- = 71 – 70 %	D+ = 69 – 68 %	D = 67 – 62 %
D- = 61 – 60 %	F = 0 %			

Assignments

Assignments will be evaluated on the standard plus/minus letter-grade scale and total 100 points. Use the table below to track your performance in the class.

Components	Overall %	Points
Writing Project 1	10%	10.00
Writing Project 2	15%	15.00
Writing Project 3	20%	20.00
Writing Project 4	20%	20.00
Final Exam	15%	15.00
Homework	10%	10.00
Daily Assignments*	10%	10.00
	100%	100.00

In-Class Daily Activities

You are required to actively participate in all in-class activities. Your Daily Assignments grade is based on in-class participation and completion of day-to-day assignments not listed as major projects. Examples of assignments include: discussion of assigned reading, collaborative exercises, and workshops related to current assignments document drafts. Generally, these miscellaneous assignments are graded pass/fail. Your grade could be lower if you fail to submit or perform well on assignments.

Assignment Submission Requirements

All outside writing assignments must be typed or word-processed unless otherwise noted. Hand-written class work is fine if I can read it. Final documents must be formatted according to MLA guidelines, must meet the minimum length requirement for the assignment, and must be accompanied by rough drafts, copies of all research material cited, and any other exercises as noted on the essay assignment sheet or checklist. These materials must be organized and submitted in a two-pocket portfolio folder.

Late Work

Unless there's a good reason, this class operates much like the real work world does, where employees who habitually turn in their work late tend to be ex-employees. If you miss class for any reason, you are still responsible for content of the day and for any assignment given for the next class. If illness or emergency will prevent you from completing an assignment by its due date, contact me *beforehand*. Writing projects will be downgraded one-half letter grade per day late. The fourth writing project will not be accepted late at all.

Grade Disputes

If you disagree with my evaluation of an assignment and the grade I have assigned, I am always willing to discuss it with you and to reevaluate my assessment. I will ask that you do two things before we talk:

1. Take the time to carefully read and consider my comments on your paper and to reread your paper;
2. Define the specific reasons that you feel that your essay deserves a different grade.

Then, we will be able to discuss and evaluate the essay together.

Academic Dishonesty

“Academic integrity is a legitimate concern for every member of the campus community; all share in upholding the fundamental values of honesty, trust, respect, fairness, responsibility and professionalism.”

Plagiarism, “using the words or ideas of another from the Internet or any source, without proper citation of the sources” is one example of academic misconduct that can result in academic sanctions. See the Student Academic Misconduct Policy <http://studentlife.unlv.edu/judicial/misconductPolicy.html> for a complete list of definitions, procedures and sanctions. To familiarize yourself with copyright and fair use policies, go to <http://www.unlv.edu/committees/copyright/>.

Writing Center

One-on-one or small group assistance with writing is available free of charge to UNLV students at the Writing Center, located in CDC-3-301. Although walk-in consultations are sometimes available, students with appointments will receive priority assistance. Appointments may be made in person or by calling 895-3908. The student's Rebel ID Card, a copy of the assignment (if possible), and two copies of any writing to be reviewed are requested for the consultation. More information can be found at: <http://writingcenter.unlv.edu/>

Last Date to Drop:

The final date to drop or withdraw from the course without a grade being recorded is June 24. No withdrawals will be permitted after this date.

Special Accommodations:

If you have a documented disability that may require accommodations, you will need to contact the Disability Resource Center (DRC) for the coordination of services. The DRC is located in the Student Services Complex (SSC), Room 137. Their numbers are: (702) 895-0866/Voice; or (702) 895-0652/TDD; and (702) 895-0651/Fax. For additional information please visit: <http://drc.unlv.edu/>.



Overview of Major Assignments

Project I: Summary & Paraphrase/Response Essay

Your first major writing assignment will be to write a summary of approximately one page and a response essay of no less than two full pages. The purpose of this assignment is for you to learn and to practice the skills of

- reading critically
- identifying claims and reasons
- quoting, paraphrasing, and summarizing
- citing source

Each of these skills is essential to all research-based writing. You will use them in all of the other writing projects and the final exam. I will expect you to improve your skills in these areas with each project.

Project II: Analysis/Evaluation of an Argument

For this project, you will write a three-to-five-page essay in which you analyze the elements of an assigned written argument and interpret how the writer's techniques convey meaning. The purpose of this assignment is to learn and to practice the skills of

- recognizing strategies of written argument
- analyzing audience and purpose
- evaluating use of evidence
- evaluating response to opposing views
- evaluating anticipation of possible reader objections

Project III: Critical Annotated Bibliography & Proposal Essay

Your third assignment will be to write a critical annotated bibliography consisting of eight academic-level sources. The purpose of this assignment is to learn and to practice the skills of

- choosing and narrowing a research topic
- designing search strategies
- conducting academic research
- evaluating sources
- writing citations
- planning a research-based argument essay

You will also write a two-page introduction in which you explain your search strategy and your proposed plan for using your sources in your researched essay. The research you conduct for your annotated bibliography will be the foundation for the research needed for Project IV.

Project IV: Researched Argument

For this project, you will write a research-based argument essay of 8 to 10 pages. The purpose of this assignment is to learn and practice the skills of

- synthesizing research materials
- establishing a claim
- organizing a research-based argument
- developing your own argument using evidence consisting of expert opinion, facts and statistics, your own experience and observations (if appropriate to the topic), and your analysis and evaluation of the ideas found in your research
- integrating and documenting research sources
- integrating your own ideas with those of others
- using visual tools such as tables, charts, graphs, and illustrations

Final Exam

For your final exam, you will write an argument essay (in class) in which you will demonstrate the critical reading and argument skills that you have learned in this course. The purpose of this assignment is to learn and to practice the strategies for writing with a time limitation as required for essay exams.