

ENGL 21001 SPRING 2024



The City College
of New York

21001-SEK: M/W 9:30-10:45 am
Classroom: NAC 1/301Y

21001-E2: M/W 2-3:15-pm
Classroom: [Zoom Link](#)

Instructor: Yolande Brener
ybrener@ccny.cuny.edu
Slack Chat: [ENG21001](#)
Office Location: 6/222
Office Phone: 212-650-6345
Office Hours: M/W 11am-12 and by appointment

Course Description:

This is an English composition course designed for students who are interested in pursuing careers in the humanities, such as literature, linguistics, foreign languages, history, classics, philosophy, art history, gender studies, music, and dramatic arts. In this course, you will be exposed to academic writing, as well as writing that you may encounter in other professional settings. We will study and practice several genres associated with these areas to understand the standard conventions of humanities composition, vocabulary, and style, and acquire the necessary research and communication skills that will help you in future projects outside of this class.

This is a zero-textbook class. All readings will be available in the Readings Section of Blackboard, which will be updated as the course progresses.

Keys to Success:

- The most successful students in a general education English/Humanities course accept that they have much to gain from the course, stay on top of the reading, think critically about the reading and actively participate in class discussions.
- Successful students, furthermore, see writing as more than the means of completing required assignments. They think of writing as not only a means of communication, but also an opportunity for reflection and a mode of personal expression. Finally, successful students see writing as a means of discovering their ideas on the subject at hand through revision.

Required Course Materials:

Active CCNY email account and Blackboard page, internet access. City College Blackboard: Other reading and writing materials, PowerPoint slideshows and videos will be posted online on BB during the semester. Please Note: You must use your CCNY email address in Bb (log in to the CCNY Portal, click Blackboard, then Update Email in the Tools menu). If you add a non-CCNY domain email address in this window, you will not receive important course announcements.

Course Learning Outcomes

During the semester, you will:

- acknowledge your and others' range of linguistic differences as resources, and draw on those resources to develop rhetorical sensibility
- enhance strategies for reading, drafting, revising, editing, and self-assessment
- negotiate your own writing goals and audience expectations regarding conventions of genre, medium, and rhetorical situation
- develop and engage in the collaborative and social aspects of writing processes
- engage in genre analysis and multimodal composing to explore effective writing across disciplinary contexts and beyond
- formulate and articulate a stance through and in your writing
- practice using various library resources, online databases, and the Internet to locate sources appropriate to your writing projects
- strengthen your source use practices (including evaluating, integrating, quoting, paraphrasing, summarizing, synthesizing, analyzing, and citing sources)

Assignment Grade Weights

All papers must be submitted via Blackboard as a Word document or a PDF. Please submit your work either as an attachment or by copying and pasting in the "Write Submission" space. Don't write or paste essays in the "Comments" section. The Final Portfolio should be submitted by copying and pasting the URL of your CUNY Commons site in the appropriate space. Your Final Portfolio should include all your main writing for this class INCLUDING your Final Self-Reflection.

Assignments and Grading

(All assignments are due by 11:59 p.m. on the due date, unless otherwise stated)

Your final grade will consist of the following:

● Introduction Slide	3	01/31
● Portfolio Link	2	02/08
● Interview With a Peer:	10	02/14
● Arts review	10	03/18
● Conference Paper	20	05/13
● Semester Journals	10	various
● In-Class Writing	10	various
● Instructor Meetings with Reflections	10	twice
● Final Portfolio and Self-Reflection:	25	05/15

Grading Contract

In this class, you will sign a contract at the beginning of the semester saying what grade you intend to earn. We will discuss this in the first week of classes. Here is a link to the [Grading Contract](#).

Course Policies

CCNY's Statement on Community Standards

<https://www.ccnycuny.edu/studentaffairs/community-standards>

Attendance

Life happens and so do absences. But it is your responsibility to let me know if there are any extenuating circumstances that are preventing you from attending class regularly.

- You are allowed four absences (for any reason) without penalty or documentation.
- If you miss a fifth class, your final grade will drop by 5% (e.g. from 90% to 85%).
- If you miss a sixth class, your final grade will drop by an additional 5%.
- If you miss seven classes, you may not be eligible to pass the course. Contact me to determine how to proceed.

Timeliness of Submissions

Students are expected to submit all work on time. If you know in advance that you need more time for an assignment, please let me know before the due date. I will grant extensions for extra time requested ahead of time. If you submit an assignment late without prior notice, you will lose one-half of one full letter for each day late you submit the work.

Student Support Services

The Writing Center

<https://www.ccnycuny.edu/writing>

The City College Writing Center offers one-on-one assistance for students working on writing assignments and projects from any discipline.

Gateway Advising Center, NAC 1/220

<http://www.ccnycuny.edu/gateway/>

Students without a declared major can receive academic advising, especially if you have questions about your course of study, core requirements, etc.

Additional Policies

- Please reach out to me as soon as possible with any course-related questions.
- Please limit use of electronic devices to course-related content.
- Please respect your classmates and the class environment. Listen to group discussions and limit potentially distracting activities such as side conversations.
- Please speak up. If you don't understand or don't agree with anything said in class, or anything assignment-related, please say something, or contact me after class. It will help the group.

Weekly Schedule (subject to change)

Week	Date and Location	Reading	Writing
Week 1	M 01/29/2024	Introductions. Read and critique the Syllabus. Talk about Interview Assignment.	Write a short entry in the Syllabus and Grading padlet by 01/29.
	W 01/31/2024	Read " What Writing Is " by Stephen King. Mark your favorite sentence. Read peer's Padlet post	Respond to a Peer's Padlet post by 02/01 continue with interview draft Post Introduction Slide
Week 2	M 02/05/2024	Peer review of Interview Assignment.	Begin rough draft of Interview with a Peer. First Semester Journal entry due by 02/07 @ 9 a.m.
	W 02/07/2024	Read " This is Water " by David Foster Wallace. Portfolio Workshop We will look at portfolio examples together and discuss what the contents of your portfolios will be.	Submit Portfolio Shell by 02/08 Peer Review. Share your draft with your interviewee and critique each other's work.
Week 3	M 02/12/2024	NO CLASSES	

	W 02/14/2024	Read " The Language of Being Human " by Poet Ali, and materials about good interview practices and examples of good interviews and examine interviewing tactics.	Final Draft of Interviews due by 02/14 Letter to a Peer (in class)
Week 4	M 02/19/2024	COLLEGE CLOSED NO CLASSES	
	W 02/21/2024	Portfolio Class	Submit Portfolio Link by 02/21 end of day
	T (classes follow a Monday schedule) 02/22/2024	Read " The Cave " by Plato. Begin Arts Review Course Learning Outcomes and Genre Discussion	Arts Review proposal and genre description Second Semester Journal Entry due by 02/27
Week 5	M 02/26/2024	INDEPENDENT STUDY/ one on one meetings	Read " Essay on Craft " by Ocean Vuong
	W 02/28/2024 (classes follow a Monday schedule)	INDEPENDENT STUDY/ one on one meetings	Share draft of arts review.
Week 6	M 03/04/2024	Continue Arts Review Read " If Black English Isn't a Language then what is " by James Baldwin Arts Review	Find three sources that you might use as research. Print out and bring it to class. .We will discuss art review examples, and practice creating a mini art review about our class. Bring to class your draft

			of your art review, and your supporting sources of information. In class we will talk about how to use sources for your art review.
	W 03/06/2024	Read " Breaking Down an Image "	Revise your art review and make editing decisions based on all your comments so far.
Week 7	M 03/11/2024	Read review of "Milk and Honey" by Rupi Kaur. Discuss presentations and do in class peer review of drafts. Continue working on art reviews, discuss correct citation practices.	Post quotation sandwich in discussion board.
	W 03/13/2024	Second Portfolio Workshop Continue working on art reviews, discuss correct citation practices.	Revise your art review and make editing decisions based on all comments so far Post quotation sandwich in Discussion Board.
Week 8	M 03/18/2024	Mini presentations of art reviews Discuss presentations and do in-class peer review.	Final Draft of Arts Review due
	W 03/20/2024	Introduce Conference Papers, form groups. "How Tik Toks Hold Our Attention" by Jia Tolentino. Locate and print	

		three sources for your conference paper, bring to class	
Week 9	M 03/25/2024	Continue with conference papers	Journal Entry by 03/25 Create Group Agreement. Brainstorm Ideas
	W 03/27/2024	Watch " Do Schools Kill Creativity " by Sir Ken Robinson. Introduce Conference Paper Assignment and practice student elevator pitch sentences	Conference Papers: Incorporating Sources DUE by 03/27: Find 3 unique sources per group, post in discussion board
Week 10	M 04/01/2024	Read Conference Papers	DUE: IMPORTANT: Please have your thesis statement ready to share in padlet
	W 04/03/2024	INDEPENDENT STUDY/ SMALL GROUP MEETINGS	
Week 11	M 04/08/2024	Slide show and discussion Conference Paper: Read supporting Materials Read: What the Blind Lost by Brendan Costello	discussion: Conference Papers, Abstract and Outline due by 04/08

	W 04/10/2024	Conference Papers: Peer Review: We will look at and critique each other's problem statements	HW: First draft of Final Self Reflection
Week 12	M 04/15/2024	Group Practice with Conference Paper Slideshows Conference Papers: Presenting	Experiment with video or slide format
	W 04/17/2024	Read " Joy " by Zadie Smith Conference Papers: Continue working in groups	Conference Papers: Presentation Workshop
Week 13	M 04/22/2024	SPRING BREAK COLLEGE CLOSED	
	W 04/24/2024	SPRING BREAK COLLEGE CLOSED	
Week 14	M 04/29/2024	SPRING BREAK COLLEGE CLOSED	
	W 05/01/2024	Final Portfolio Workshop	Self-Reflections Writing Reflections/ Add Self-Assessments to Portfolio
Week 15	M 05/06/2024	Conference Paper Presentations Conference Papers: Presentation Workshop View and discuss sample presentations	Continue working on Conference Paper
	W 05/08/2024	Conference Paper Presentations Student Example of Conference Paper Research review	View and discuss sample presentations and project narratives

Week 16	M 05/13/2024	Conference Paper Presentations	
	W 05/15/2024 FINAL DAY OF CLASSES	Conference Paper Presentations	In-Class Celebration and PotLuck