

ENGLISH COMPOSITION II

COMP 1012

English Dept.

SPR 2020

Time: 11:00 – 12:15pm, T & TH

Location: 3109 Boylan Hall

Instructor: Zachary Lloyd

Office: 2311 Boylan Hall

Hours: 1-2pm, or by appointment

Phone: 402-984-8185

E-mail: zlloyd@gradcenter.cuny.edu

Course Description:

The Brooklyn College Bulletin describes English 1012 as: “Writing-intensive seminar focusing on a topic chosen by the instructor. Provides students with an opportunity to explore a particular subject in depth and further develop the skills of critical thinking, research techniques, and clear expression necessary for academic writing.”

This semester is focused on the theme of “the technological society.” More specifically, we’ll be thinking about the *practice of writing in relation to technology, images, and media*. Throughout the course we will discuss the ubiquitous place that technology holds in our daily lives and how it shapes our thought, our identity, and our worldview. We will read fictional works that portray worlds dominated by technological influence, as well as nonfictional works that critically reflect on the history of technology and its place in contemporary life. Our time in class will be split between writing, discussion of the readings and of our own writing, and work in groups.

In this class, you will learn to:

1. read texts with discernment and comprehension and form an understanding of their content, style, and manner of presentation
2. cite your sources in appropriate MLA format
3. edit and revise writing using peer workshops and instructor critiques
4. structure a research paper with a strong argument and supporting evidence

Required Texts:

1. George Orwell, *1984*
2. Dave Eggers, *The Circle*
3. All other readings will be provided on our class blog

Assignments and Grading:

Attendance and Participation: 10%

Reading Responses/Short Essays 40%

Essays

Research Paper (including bibliographies/first draft): 50%

A+ 98-100 **A** 93-97% **A-** 90-92% **B+** 88-89% **B** 83-87% **B-** 80-82%

C+ 78-79% **C** 73-77% **C-** 70-72% **D+** 68-69% **D** 63-67% **D-** 60-62% **F** <60

PLEASE NOTE: A C- is the lowest possible passing grade for the course. English Department policy dictates that a student with a final grade below a C- will receive an N/C (no credit). An F grade will be given in the case of too

many absences or failure to complete assignments. Students receiving an F or an NC grade must retake English 1012.

Attendance and Participation: Punctual, regular attendance is a requirement for this class. You are allowed three absences; each subsequent (unexcused) absence lowers your final grade by 1 step (A+ to A, A to A-, A- to B+, etc.). You must be prepared to discuss the reading assignment on the day it is due and to participate in a respectful and lively discussion. Be prepared to read assigned texts closely, share your ideas, and ask questions. Please keep cellphone usage to a respectful minimum during class.

Academic Integrity/Plagiarism: A statement from the department: “The faculty and administration of Brooklyn College support an environment free from cheating and plagiarism. Each student is responsible for being aware of what constitutes cheating and plagiarism and for avoiding both. The complete text of the CUNY Academic Integrity Policy and the Brooklyn College procedure for policy implementation can be found at www.brooklyn.cuny.edu/bc/policies. If a faculty member suspects a violation of academic integrity and, upon investigation, confirms that violation, or if the student admits the violation, the faculty member must report the violation.”

Although you are allowed, even encouraged, to consult secondary sources to help you understand the assigned works and to generate ideas for papers, you must give credit to these sources and cite them correctly if you use anything from them in your papers or responses. We will devote class time to learning and understanding how to use sources in your writing, how to research and take notes effectively, how to use and cite electronic resources, and how to get help from various writing aids and resources. The following descriptions are designed to help explain plagiarism and its consequences to help you avoid it in your writing for this course:

Insufficient Citation and Undocumented Paraphrasing: Students are expected to cite all written (print and electronic), oral, and visual sources consulted in writing papers. All borrowed ideas—both direct quotations and paraphrasing from another’s work—require accurate citation, and direct quotations require quotation marks. Paraphrase and summarize borrowed ideas to avoid stylistic plagiarism (using the same words and sentence structure as the source).

Patchwriting, or Cutting and Pasting: Cutting and pasting passages from your source into your own paper and turning in the paper as your own is plagiarism. Students are expected to accurately and amply paraphrase borrowed material using their own stylistic features rather than the source’s style and language and cite this material accurately. In addition, students are expected to develop their own framework for their papers rather than borrowing their source’s argument wholesale (even if acknowledged).

False Submissions, Ghostwriting, or Fraud: Students are expected to write their own original papers for each assignment, from development of ideas and research to revision. If students turn in final papers written by someone else (i.e. acquired or bought through the internet, an organization, friends, family members, another student, etc.), the paper will receive an F for the course and face disciplinary action. *If you have any doubt about whether or not you’re plagiarizing, talk with me.*

Accessibility and Accommodations: In order to receive disability-related academic accommodations you must first register with the Center for Student Disability Services. Students who have a documented disability or suspect that they may have a disability are invited to set up an appointment with the Director of the Center for Student Disability Services, Ms. Valerie Stewart-Lovell at 718-951-5538. If you have already registered with the Center for Student Disability Services, please provide me with the course accommodation form and discuss your specific accommodation with me.

Learning Center: The Learning Center (1300 Boylan) provides free peer tutoring in writing by trained students. Students may attend weekly or on a drop-in basis. If you are interested in weekly tutoring sessions, please see me for a referral. You may make appointments for drop-in sessions by calling the Learning Center at 718-951-5821, by emailing LC@brooklyn.cuny.edu, or by requesting an appointment at the Learning Center’s front desk.

Assignments:

Reading Assignments: All readings should be completed by the beginning of the class time indicated.

Essay Assignments: All written work will be graded for form (including grammar and spelling!) as well as for content. You will have a smattering of short essays, reading responses, and a comparative essay in addition to your final research paper. More information on each will be given over the duration of the course.

Please keep in mind you are not expected to be an amazing writer right off the bat. You are, however, expected to demonstrate *improvement* in your writing as the class develops.

➔ There is no final exam or exit exam for this course.

Important Dates:

Sunday, February 2	Last day to add a course
Friday, February 7	Last day to file for elective course Pass/Fail
Wednesday, April 1	Last day to drop a course with a W (non-penalty) grade
Monday, April 6	Last day for Undergraduate students to complete and submit any incomplete work to resolve Fall 2019/Winter 2020 INC grades.

Course Schedule:

*Note: This schedule is (very) likely subject to change. For now, each day that a reading is listed means that the reading must be completed by class-time **on that day**.*

WEEK 1

- 1/28** Introduction and Syllabus
In-class writing diagnostic
- 1/30** Reading: Chapter 1 of Peter Elbow, *Writing Without Teachers*
In-class freewriting workshop

WEEK 2

- 2/4** Reading: Frederick Douglass, "Learning to Read"
- 2/6** Reading: Walter Ong, "Writing Restructures Consciousness," in *Technologizing of the Word*

WEEK 3

- 2/11** **READING RESPONSE 1 DUE**
Wolfgang Schivelbusch, *The Railway Journey: The Industrialization of Time and Space*
- 2/13** *The Railway Journey* cont'd

WEEK 4

- 2/18** Karl Marx, "Machinery and Modern Industry," §3a & 4
- 2/20** Reading: James Carey, "Technology and Ideology: The Case of the Telegraph"
In-class discussion: Techniques for Analyzing Literary Texts

WEEK 5

- 2/25** **READING RESPONSE 2 DUE**
Reading: E.M. Forster, *The Machine Stops*, first half
- 2/27** *The Machine Stops*, finished

WEEK 6

- 3/3** Reading: Walter Benjamin, "The Work of Art in the Age of Mechanical Reproduction"
Watch in class: "Ways of Seeing" by John Berger
- 3/5** Reading: Christine Rosen, "The Image Culture"

WEEK 7

- 3/10** **READING RESPONSE 3 DUE**
Reading: George Orwell, *1984*, 1st part
- 3/12** *1984*, 1st part cont'd

WEEK 8

- 3/17** Reading: *1984*, 2nd part
- 3/19** *1984*, 2nd part cont'd

WEEK 9

- 3/24** Reading: *1984*, finished
Secondary Source: Heinz Luegenbiehl, "1984 and the Power of Technology"
- 3/26** Introduction to *The Circle*

WEEK 10

- 3/31** Reading: *The Circle*, book I
- 4/2** Reading: *The Circle* cont'd, book I

WEEK 11

4/7 Reading: *The Circle*, book II
In-class discussion: Topics for Comparative Essay

4/9 **NO CLASS**

WEEK 12

4/14 **NO CLASS**

4/16 **NO CLASS**

WEEK 13

4/21 *The Circle* book III, final thoughts

4/23 **COMPARATIVE ESSAY DUE**
In-class discussion: Final Research Paper & Proposal

WEEK 14

4/28 Library Visit (tentative date)

4/30 **ANNOTATED BIBLIOGRAPHY & PAPER PROPOSAL DUE**
Thesis and argumentation, writing and structure

WEEK 15

5/5 Writing Day; individual conferences

5/7 **FINAL PAPER 1st DRAFT (of first pages) DUE**
In-class peer review

WEEK 16

5/12 1st Draft feedback; editing and revising

5/14 Additional paper feedback and discussion, closing remarks

5/22 **FINAL RESEARCH PAPER DUE (5-7 pages, via email)**