

Introduction to English 101

Welcome to English 101! We're excited to guide you through your college writing journey. This course is designed to help you improve your writing skills, which are critical for your success in college, the workplace, and everyday life.

Writing is not always easy, and, at times, it can be downright challenging; but this course strives to boost your writing confidence by equipping you with the tools you need to produce college-level essays. Reading and research activities along with class discussions will help you explore and become more knowledgeable about your essay topics. Feedback from your professor will also help you write and revise your drafts into more polished work. We also welcome the language diversity you bring to the classroom and encourage incorporating those abilities into your writing process.

Your instructor's individual syllabus is an important document - that's where you will find performance objectives for the course and information about how your grade will be determined. Make sure to read it carefully and contact your instructor with any questions. We hope you enjoy the course!

At the end of this course, you will be able to...

1. Write with attention to process, including prewriting, drafting, revising, editing, proofreading, critiquing, and reflecting.
2. Write, read, and listen critically and analytically, identifying a text's major assumptions and assertions and evaluating its supporting evidence. As part of this process of inquiry and problem solving, students will be able to understand audience, voice, context and purpose.
3. Write clearly and coherently in varied academic genres, rhetorical modes, and forms of argumentation using standard written English (SWE).
4. Complete early assignments that utilize quotation, summation, paraphrase, and citation to create well-reasoned arguments.
5. Complete later assignments that require research skills, especially the evaluation and synthesis of primary and secondary sources.
6. Explain their own ideas and relate them to the ideas of others by employing the conventions of ethical attribution and citation and avoiding plagiarism.
7. Write essays that will increase in complexity, ranging in length from 600 to 1500 words.

What Will You Write?

Formal and Informal Writing

You will write four formal essays of varying lengths (between 600 and 1500 words) in response to various texts (written, visual, and/or aural). At least one of your formal essays will be completed in class. In addition to these formal assignments, you will also do informal writing (for example, journal entries or in-class reflections). To find out the specifics of how your course grade will be determined, please consult the syllabus shared by your professor.

References to Sources

Throughout the semester, you will engage with others' ideas and respond in writing. You will learn how to use various strategies for integrating other people's thoughts by using quotation,

paraphrase, and summary to document your sources in MLA format. You will also learn how to avoid plagiarism (for more information, see the handout, “[How Writers Build on the Ideas of Others](#)”). In accordance with LaGuardia’s Academic Dishonesty Policy (See [College Catalog](#)), students who plagiarize are subject to penalties including a failing grade on an assignment or in the course.

Revisions

Since writing is a process (nobody writes a perfect paper in the first try!), you will frequently revise your papers after receiving feedback from your professor and/or your peers.

How Will You Be Successful?

Submitting Assignments

In order to do well in English 101, you will need to be **actively engaged** in the course. Complete your reading and turn in all work and major assignments—on time! To be sure you are able to meet expectations, communicate with your professor along the way. Reach out through email and attend office hours if you need any help or are overwhelmed by assignments. There are no incompletes in this course.

Attending Regularly

Class attendance is an essential piece of everyone’s growth as writers. This course uses a writing studio model and is designed to enhance your skills as a writer in a writing community. In this course, we will do many in-class writing exercises designed to help us practice the writing skills that are crucial for the major and minor assignments. You will have the opportunity to grow as a writer by giving and receiving feedback about writing assignments. Our core essays build upon group discussions of the readings. Although participation is a key portion of all these exercises, class attendance is the vital first step. Therefore, missing too many classes will influence your overall class performance and your final grade. This happens, in part, because there will be graded in-class assignments which are not reproducible and which cannot be made up. The English Department attendance policy is as follows:

In all English department courses, students can be absent without penalty for no more than **two weeks’ worth** of class time during **session I**, and **one week’s worth** of class time during **session II**. **Absences begin to be counted on the first day of class, regardless of when you registered.**

This means you can miss:

- 6 hours in a 3-hour per week course
- 8 hours in a 4-hour per week course
- For ENA 101, which meets for 7 hours a week, students are limited to:
 - 8 hours of absence in the ENG 101 course and 6 hours of absence in the ENA 101 course.

Students missing fewer than two weeks’ worth of class time will not be penalized for those absences. However, student engagement, part of the overall course grade, relies on in-class activities such as low-stakes writing assignments, peer review, and in-class high stakes essays. Some of these cannot be made up outside of class and may affect the engagement grade.

Students who exceed the two-week limit may receive a lower course grade. After four weeks of absence, students can no longer pass the course.

This policy applies equally across in-person, online-synchronous, hybrid and online-asynchronous courses. For hybrid courses, which meet once a week in-person and have a weekly asynchronous activity, missing the weekly asynchronous activity counts as an absence.

If an issue arises which is preventing you from coming to class on time, or if you know in advance that you will miss a class, please reach out right away.

Where Can You Get Additional Support?

The Writing Center (B-200), 718-482-5688, <https://www.laguardia.edu/writingcenter/>

The Writing Center is a free service available to all LaGuardia students. Professional tutors are available to help you write or revise papers, to brainstorm ideas, or to work on writing issues that give you problems. Tutoring appointments can be made through My LaGuardia.

Library (E-101), 718-482-5426, <https://library.laguardia.edu/>

The Library is an excellent resource to all students! There you will find assistance finding and accessing textbooks, articles, journals, newspapers, media, and much more. Librarians offer numerous workshops including workshops on research and citation. Additionally, the library provides a space for study with the following three areas: The Silent Zone, The Quiet Zone, and The Group Zone.

Office of Accessibility (M-102), 718-482-5279,

<https://www.laguardia.edu/students/office-of-accessibility/>

Students with disabilities needing extra time for in-class writing or other forms of classroom accommodation should register with the Office of Accessibility. The Office of Accessibility helps students with a range of challenges by providing access to various programs and services in a supportive and confidential setting.

LaGuardia CARES (C-107), 718-482-5135, <https://www.laguardia.edu/cares/>

LaGuardia CARES (College Access for Retention and Economic Success) connects students with resources, referrals and local community services to overcome financial barriers, stay in school and graduate. Services (including food, healthcare, transportation and other benefits) are free and confidential.

Wellness Center (C-249), 718-482-5471, <https://www.laguardia.edu/students/the-wellness-center/>

The Wellness Center is a safe and confidential place to go if you need help coping with the stresses of college life. The center provides free services including short-term individual counseling, crisis intervention, workshops, outreach and referrals to college community resources that assist students with intellectual, emotional, psychological, and social concerns. The Wellness Center welcomes anyone in need; individual and cultural differences are valued and respected.