

Introduction to English 102

Welcome to English 102! We're excited to support your college writing journey by building on the skills you learned in Composition I (ENA 101, ENC 101 or ENG 101). In English 102, you will continue to acquire the tools needed to produce college level essays by reading and responding to poetry, drama, short stories, and more.

Writing about literature can be challenging, but this course will guide you every step of the way. Exercises in reading, writing, and research will help you explore and learn more about your essay topics, while detailed feedback from your professor will 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. Demonstrate understanding of writing as a process that involves pre-writing, drafting, revising, editing, proofreading, critiquing and reflection.
2. Write clearly and coherently in varied academic formats (such as response papers, blogs, formal essays, and research papers) with an emphasis on writing as a critical thinking process. Essays will vary in length between 600 and 2000 words, using standard written English (SWE).
3. Interpret and write critically about poetry, drama, and fiction while applying techniques of literary criticism including the close reading of literary texts.
4. Identify and evaluate forms of literary analysis, such as biographical context, historical context, and critical theory.
5. Read and write critically and analytically, including identifying an argument's major assumptions and assertions and evaluate its supporting evidence and conclusions. As part of this process of inquiry and problem solving, students will be able to understand audience, voice, context and purpose.
6. Support well-reasoned arguments with evidence and communicate persuasively over a variety of contexts, purposes, audiences, and mediums.
7. Demonstrate an understanding of research methods including the use of appropriate technology and the ability to synthesize primary and secondary sources, while employing the conventions of ethical attribution and citation and avoiding plagiarism.
8. Write in class to strengthen writing skills and strategies.

What Will You Write?

Formal and Informal Writing

You will write three formal essays of varying lengths (between 600 and 2000 words) in response to culturally diverse literary texts that will require close-reading and analysis. At least one essay will include two or more sources; at least one other essay will involve research and reference to literary commentary. You will also write informally to build toward major assignments (for example, in-class reflections and reading guide responses). 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 strengthen the skills learned in Composition I concerning strategies for integrating other people's thoughts through quotation, paraphrase, and summary, as well as documentation of sources in MLA format. As such, you will also strengthen your ability 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 on the first try!), you will have opportunities to revise after receiving feedback from your professor and/or your peers.

How Will You Be Successful?

Submitting Assignments

In order to do well in English 102, 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 the course 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.

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

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 Navigate.

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/>

Federal law and CUNY policy prohibit discrimination on the basis of a disability. Under the guidelines of the Americans with Disabilities Act, the College will provide reasonable accommodations to students with documented disabilities. Therefore, if you are in need of or have any questions regarding accommodations or services, please contact Jhony Nelson, Director of the Office of Accessibility, at 718-482-5260 or JhonyN@lagcc.cuny.edu (or visit M-102). Any information provided to the office is confidential and will not be released without your permission.

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/>

Many students find balancing their academic, personal and professional lives quite challenging, and in some instances, overwhelming. If you or a peer experience this, mental health and wellness services are here to help. Email WellnessCenter@lagcc.cuny.edu or use the [English \[forms.office.com\]](#) or [Spanish \[forms.office.com\]](#) in-take form, and you will be contacted by a Counselor (you can also call 718-482-5471 or visit C-249). Peer-to-peer support is also available via the [Women's Center](#) (MB-08, 718-482-5188 or womencenter@lagcc.cuny.edu), or our [Multicultural Exchange Programs](#).