



National Taiwan University of Science and Technology

2020 Winter Program

ENG 120 Advanced College Writing

Course Outline

Course Code: ENG 120

Instructor: R. Benedito Ferrão

Home Institution: The College of William and Mary

Office Hours: By Appointment

Email: rbferrao@wm.edu

Credits: 4

Class Hours: This course will be instructed through pre-recorded lectures, as well as e-mail and online consultations.

Course Description: This course aims to prepare students to write research papers in their area of study. Thus, the course itself is interdisciplinary as it will accommodate a range of research perspectives and fields of enquiry. As the purpose of this course is for students to produce a formal research paper, we will work through various stages of the writing process. These include writing a proposal, developing argument, identifying modes of research, learning documentation styles, and debating ideas, among others. Alongside these exercises, we will also consider examples of writing from various disciplines, analyzing these for style, argument, and conventions of the field. Ultimately, the course seeks to assist students in developing an argumentative writing practice based in research and shaped through the original expression of ideas which will culminate in a final 20-page paper.

Course Objectives: Through the course, students will learn to identify research conventions and the processes of documentation. Students will also work through the various stages of research writing in developing their individual projects. Even as they practice disciplinary research expectations in their writing, students will work on originality of expression.



Required Texts: Electronic texts as cited below.

Grading & Evaluation: Assignment 1 – Research Proposal (20)

Assignment 2 – Reading List (15)

Assignment 3 – First Draft (20)

Final 20-page Paper (35)

Attendance and Participation: (10)

Research Proposal: Due at the end of the first week, this four-page proposal will identify the topic you wish to undertake research on. Your proposal will also include an argumentative thesis, a broad survey of the area you are conducting research in, and a basic outline with a proposed outcome.

Reading List: In week two, you will compile a reading list of 15-20 sources that you will employ in your paper.

First Draft: At the end of week three, you will submit a ten-page draft of your research paper. This draft will include an argumentative thesis and at least ten cited references.

Final Paper: Around the middle of week four, you will submit a research paper that is twenty pages in length, exclusive of works cited. This paper will be graded on the originality and persuasiveness of your argument; the use, citation of, and engagement with external references; writing style and use of grammar; and the flow and organization of ideas. Your paper must include properly cited in-text references and a list of works cited.

Attendance and Participation: These are gauged based on your interactions with the professor.

Grading: A+: 95 and above; A: 87-94; A-: 82-86; B+: 78-85; B: 75-77; B-: 71-74; C+: 68-70; C: 65-67; C-: 61-64; D: 55-60; F: 49 and lower.

Late Work: As this is a very short course, please be timely. In the event that you have an emergency or are ill, please contact me as soon as possible. I am unable to accept late work without prior discussion.



Plagiarism: If you are suspected of passing off someone else's work as your own, this can lead to serious consequences. You may fail the course as a result.

Course Schedule:

Week 1: Introduction – Structure

Introduction to the course

Thesis development exercise 1

1a. "[Developing a Thesis Statement](#)" by The Writing Center in *WritingWisc* (2019)

Thesis development exercise 2

1b. "[Essay Structure](#)" by Harvard College Writing Center in *WritingFAS* (2019)

1c. "[How to Write your Research Proposal](#)" in *Westminster* (2019)

Assignment 1: Research Proposal due by 5PM

Week 2: Finding Research Resources

2a. [Mau Mau](#) by WNYC Studios in *Radiolab* (2015)

2b. "[Conducting Research](#)" by University Libraries in *Libguides/WUSTL* (2019)



2c. "[The Ethical Implications of Artificial Intelligence](#)" by Steve Omohundro in *How Researchers Changed the World* (nd)

Research exercise 1 on relevance

2d. "[Reading Sources for your Research Paper](#)" by The Writing Center in *CSU* (2020)

2e. "[Research Using the Internet](#)" by W. Brock MacDonald and June Seel in *UT* (nd)

2f. "[Organizing a Research Project](#)" by Writing Studio in *Duke* (2019)

Research exercise 2 on organization

Assignment 2: Reading List due by 5PM

Week 3: Draft Development

3a. [Stylish Academic Writing](#) by Helen Sword in *OFDD/Harvard* (YouTube 2013)

3b. "[Why Scientists should Study Art and Literature](#)" by Chad Orzel in *Forbes* (28 October 2015)

Writing and editing exercise on sentence and paragraph structure

3c. "[Organizing your Social Sciences Research Paper: Academic Writing Style](#)" in *Libguides/USC* (2019)

3d. "[On Fear](#)" by Mary Ruefle in *Poetry Foundation* (1 June 2012)

Writing exercise in deconstruction



3e. "[Creating a Rough Draft for a Research Paper](#)" in *UM* (nd)

3f. "[Introductions](#)" by The Writing Center in *UNC* (2020)

Assignment 3: First Draft due by 5PM

Week 4: Citational Practice and Final Submission

4a. "[Citation Styles](#)" in *University of Pittsburgh Library* (2020)

Personal consultations

Final Assignment Due

4b. "[Developing a Final Draft of a Research Paper](#)" in *UM* (nd)

Final Assignment: 20-page Research Paper due by noon

4c. "[Reasons why Writing Remains a Critical Skill for Success](#)" by Tomas Laurinavicius in *HuffPost* (6 December 2017)

4d. "[Booker Prize Nominee prefers Driving a Bus](#)" by Julian Flanagan in *The Telegraph* (11 August 2009)

Course concludes