

ENGL 1551 - Writing 2

Fall 2026 Syllabus, Section 02, CRN 40427,

Credit hours: 3

Instructor

Nathaniel Stokes

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Public Instructor Information

Instructor Title: Mr. Stokes

Instructor Professional Qualifications:

M. English, Youngstown State University, 2026

BA. English, Youngstown State University, 2019

Instructor Office Location: 290 Debartolo Hall

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Course Description

This course builds upon students' knowledge of the writing process and rhetorical concepts as they conduct scholarly inquiry on a specific topic using academic research. The course emphasizes the process of investigation including identifying problems to explore with research, collecting data from primary and/or secondary sources, synthesizing source material, and clearly presenting the results of these inquiries in a research-based argument. Students write a minimum of 5,000 words (approximately 20 double-spaced pages) cumulatively across the major assignments. Grading is ABCDF. English 1551 is three semester hours. Prereq.: ENGL 1549 with a grade of "C" or better or ENGL 1550 with a grade of "C" or better or ACT/SAT scores or Composition Placement Test results. 3 s.h.

Course Readings

Group	Title	Author	ISBN
Required	The Norton Field Guide to Writing E Text: 7th Edition	Norton	978-1324087458
Required	"A Summary of Growth and Fixed Mindsets"	Farnam Street	
Required	The Declaration of Independence		
Required	The Declaration of the Rights of Man		
Required	"Computing Machinery and Intelligence"	A. M. Turing	
Required	"The Chinese Room"	John Searle	
Required	Do Decisions Shape Preference? Evidence from Blind Choice	Sharot et al.	

The Norton Field Guide to Writing is an E text included with your class fee.

All other readings will be available through Blackboard--no additional purchase necessary.

The course readings are subject to change in the event of extenuating circumstances, research developments, current events, and/or to ensure better learning.



Schedule of Topics and Assignments

Week of	Reading(s)	Proposed Topic	Due/To Prepare for Class
8/24	Farnam Street "A Summary of Growth and Fixed Mindsets" NFG Ch. 3: Rhetorical Situations	Course Introduction and Syllabus Review Rhetorical Situations and Expectations Growth vs. Fixed Mindsets	In-Class Writing 1: Wednesday Journal Post 1: Due Friday by 11:50 P.M. All Readings Must be Completed Before Class
8/31	The Declaration of Independence The Declaration of the Rights of Man NFG Ch. 50, 51	Quoting, Paraphrasing, Summarizing Synthesizing texts Academic Research Introduction	In-Class Writing 2: Wednesday Journal Post 2: Due Friday by 11:59 P.M.
9/7	A. M. Turing, "Computing Machinery and Intelligence" J. Searle "The Chinese Room" NFG Ch. 49,6	Evaluating Sources AI and Rhetoric Comparative Argument Analysis	No Class Monday: Labor Day In-Class Writing 3: Wednesday Journal Post 3: Due Friday by 11:59 P.M.
9/14	NFG Ch. 38, 52, 55 Sample Student Papers	Writing as a Process Argument Development APA Formatting	
9/21	NFG Ch. 55	Peer Review APA Reference Pages Revising Arguments	Half-Draft: Argument Comparison Paper: Due Before Class Monday Peer Review Workshop: Monday During Class Argument Comparison Reference Page Due Friday by 11:59 P.M.
9/28	Library Research Videos	Library Session Exploring Topics and Generating Research Questions Getting a Start on Research	Argument Comparison Paper Due Friday by 11:59 P.M.
10/5	NFG Ch. 47 NFG Ch. 69 Russel Mobley (P. 905-908) NFG. Ch 70 Katelyn Root (P. 937-943)	Secondary Research Evaluating Sources Proposal Drafting	In-Class Writing 4: Wednesday Journal Post 4: Due Friday by 11:59 P.M.
10/12	Sharot et al. (2010), "Do Decisions Shape Preference? Evidence from Blind Choice"	Research Proposal Writing Avoiding Bias in Research Organizing Writing	In-Class Writing 5: Wednesday Journal Post 5: Due Friday by 11:59 P.M.
10/19	NFG Ch. 16, 51, 53	Annotated Bibliographies Synthesis Plagiarism	Research Proposal: Due Wednesday by 11:59 P.M.
10/26	NFG Ch. 55	APA Formatting More Work on Synthesis Peer Review Review	Half-Draft: Annotated Bibliography due Before Class Friday Peer Review Annotated Bibliography: In-Class Friday
11/2	NFG Ch. 11	Visual Design Revising, Drafting and Reorganizing Presentation Materials	
11/9		Presentaton Best Practices Presentation Review	No Class Wednesday: Veterans Day Annotated Bibliography: Due Friday by 11:59 P.M.
11/16		Verbal and Visual Design, Public Speaking, and Transforming Writing into Communication	Monday: Presentations Wednesday: Presentations Friday: Presentations
11/23		Verbal and Visual Design, Public Speaking, and Transforming Writing into Communication	Half-Draft: Research Based Argument Paper due Monday by 11:59 P.M. Monday: Presentations No Class Wednesday or Friday: Thanksgiving Break

11/30	Final Presentations Course Synthesis and Reflection	Monday: Presentations Wednesday: Presentations Friday: Presentations
12/7	No Class! Finals Week Make Up Day for Missed Presentations.	Research Based Argument Paper due Monday by 11:59 P.M.

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