

ENGL 1551 - Writing 2

Fall 2026 Syllabus, Section 22, CRN 40437,

Credit hours: 3

Instructor

Katherine McGinley

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Public Instructor Information

Professional Qualifications:

M.F.A. Writing Popular Fiction, Seton Hill University

M.A. English, Youngstown State University

B.A. Professional Writing and Editing, Youngstown State University

Instructor Office Location: DeBartolo Hall English Department, 2nd floor

Instructor Office Phone: 330-941-3414

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	Norton Field Guide to Writing 7th Edition	Richard Bullock, Deborah Bertsch, Maureen Daly Goggin	

You already have access to our book. It was included in your tuition and there's a link to it in our Blackboard course.

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	Proposed Topic	Due/To Prepare for Class
8/31	Writing in drafts, the place of AI in academia and investigative journalism as research and the basis for an argument	Due 8/31 at 10:02pm: Fail Better Response Due 9/2 at 10:11pm: Chapter 6 Summary Due 9/4 at 10:54pm: Fremont High School Response
9/7	Arguing a position	Due 9/11 at 10pm: Essay 1 Peer Review Due 9/11 at 10:56pm: Chapter 15 Summary



9/14	Argument strategies in advertisement, Analyzing cause and effect, and Differences in healthcare as the basis for argument	Due 9/14 at 10:01pm: Essay 1 Polished Rough Draft Due 9/14 at 10:56pm: Starbucks Logo Response Due 9/16 at 10:57pm: Chapter 37 Summary Due 9/18 at 10:59pm: Black Mamas Lives Response
9/21	Finding argument topics in unlikely places	Due 9/21 at 10:59pm: Green Spaces Gray Places Response Due 9/23 at 10:02pm: The Ones Who Walk Away Response Due 9/25 at 10:03pm: Barbie Review Response
9/28	Looking at lived experience for argument topics, marketing tricks for argument, and finding a proposal topic in local needs	Due 9/28 at 10:04pm: Essay 1 Final Draft Due 9/28 at 10:05pm: Politics of Stairs Response Due 9/30 at 10:10pm: 2022 Genesis Response Due 10/2 at 10:11pm: Ogden Playground Response
10/5	Finding argument topics in areas of social responsibility	Due 10/5 at 10:11pm: Earth Day Every Day Response Due 10/7 at 10:12pm: Racism, Antiracism, and You Response Due 10/9 at 10:13pm: Poor Shaming Response
10/12	Quoting, Paraphrasing and Summarizing	Due 10/12 at 10:15pm: Chapter 51 Summary Due 10/14 at 10:16pm: Stamped From the Beginning Response Due 10/16 at 10:17pm: Essay 2 Peer Review
10/19	Essay 2 discussion	Due 10/23 at 10:18pm: Essay 2 Polished Rough Draft
10/26	Taking Essay Exams	Due 10/26 at 10:19pm: Chapter 46 Summary Due 10/28 at 10:20pm: Clearer Complexion Response Due 10/30 at 10:20pm: What Is Your Name Response
11/2	Evaluating Sources and considering others' lived experiences in argument	Due 11/2 at 10:21pm: Growing Up Obese Response Due 11/4 at 10:22pm: Chapter 49 Summary Due 11/6 at 10:23pm: Essay 2 Final Draft
11/9	Getting a Start on Research and Synthesizing Ideas	Due 11/9 at 10:24pm: Chapter 47 Summary Due 11/13 at 10:25pm: Chapter 50 Summary

11/16	Processes of Writing and Generating Ideas and Text	Due 11/16 at 10:25pm: Rewild the National Mall Response Due 11/16 at 10:26pm: Essay 3 Peer Review Due 11/18 at 10:28pm: Chapter 27 Summary Due 11/20 at 10:29pm: Chapter 29 Summary
11/23	Diving deeper into popular culture for argument ideas	Due 11/23 at 10:30pm: Essay 3 Polished Rough Draft Due 11/23 at 10:31pm: Disney Princesses in Media Response
11/30	Organizing Your Writing, Guiding Your Readers, and Essay 3 Wrap-up	Due 11/30 at 10:31pm: Chapter 30 Summary Due 12/2 at 10:32pm: Women and War Posters Response Due 12/4 at 10:33pm: Our Mothers Response Essay 3 Final Draft Due 12/4 at 10:34pm: Annotated Bibliography
12/7	Finals Week	No Final, No Class

The course schedule, policies, procedures, and assignments in this course are subject to change in the event of extenuating circumstances, by mutual agreement, and/or to ensure better learning.