

ENGL 1551 - Writing 2

Fall 2026 Syllabus, Section 55, CRN 41088,

Credit hours: 3

Instructor

James Johnson

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Public Instructor Information

Instructor Title: Instructor of English
Instructor Professional Qualifications:

M.A. English/Creative Writing
Southern New Hampshire University

B.A. Journalism
University of Dayton

Instructor Office Location: Virtual
Instructor Office Phone: Virtual

Department of English and World Languages:
DeBartolo Hall, Room 206
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	The Norton Field Guide to Writing with readings + handbook, 7E	Bullock, Bertsch, D., Goggin, M. D.	
Optional	Write What Matters		

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

- ***The Norton Field Guide to Writing with readings + handbook, 7E***

Bullock, R., Bertsch, D., Goggin, M. D. (2025). *The Norton Field Guide to Writing with Readings and Handbook (Seventh Edition)*. W. W. Norton.

- Chapters as assigned in Blackboard and listed in the attached Schedule
- Note: Your Ebook access is included and is already paid for in your course fees. You need to opt out of the ebook by the date shown in Blackboard in order to avoid the fee.

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Schedule of Topics and Assignments

Week of	Reading(s)	Proposed Topic	Due/To Prepare for Class
8/24	How to Read Like a Writer — Idaho Pressbooks	Course Introduction and How to Read Like a Writer	Complete the course orientation and read How to Read Like a Writer. Post the Introduce Yourself discussion and complete the Reading Response as assigned.
8/31	How to Read Like a Writer; Writing as a Process; What About AI?	Writing as a Process; Prewriting, Drafting, Revision, and Proofreading; Responsible Use of AI in Writing	Read How to Read Like a Writer; complete the Writing Process activities; read What About AI?; post the What About AI? discussion.
9/7	Developing a Research Question; Finding and Evaluating Sources	Developing Effective Research Questions; Finding, Evaluating, and Selecting Credible Sources	Develop a focused research question; identify and evaluate credible sources; complete the assigned reading response and research activities.
9/14	Synthesizing Sources; Integrating Sources into Your Writing	Synthesizing Ideas Across Sources; Integrating Sources Effectively into Academic Writing	Complete the assigned source synthesis and integration activities; complete the assigned reading response; continue developing and documenting research sources.
9/21	Writing a Research-Based Argument; Developing and Supporting a Thesis	Developing a Research-Based Argument; Creating a Focused Thesis; Supporting Claims with Evidence	Develop a working thesis; organize supporting claims and evidence; continue drafting the research-based argument; complete the assigned reading response.
9/28	Drafting and Revising a Research-Based Argument; Using Evidence Effectively	Drafting and Revising the Research-Based Argument; Integrating Evidence; Strengthening Analysis and Support	Complete the research-based argument draft; participate in peer review; revise the argument using feedback; complete the assigned reading response.
10/5	Revision Strategies; Editing and Proofreading; MLA Documentation	Revision Strategies; Editing and Proofreading; MLA Documentation and Citation	Submit the final research-based argument; complete the assigned reading response; review MLA documentation and citation practices.
10/12	Analyzing Arguments; Rhetorical Analysis; Understanding Audience, Purpose, and Context	Analyzing Arguments; Rhetorical Situation, Audience, Purpose, and Context	Complete the rhetorical analysis activities; identify audience, purpose, context, and rhetorical strategies; complete the assigned reading response.
10/19	Evaluating Arguments; Recognizing Claims, Evidence, Assumptions, and Logical Fallacies	Evaluating Arguments; Analyzing Claims and Evidence; Recognizing Assumptions and Logical Fallacies	Complete the argument evaluation activities; analyze claims, evidence, assumptions, and logical reasoning; complete the assigned reading response.
10/26	Developing Counterarguments; Responding to Opposing Views; Strengthening an Argument	Developing Counterarguments; Responding to Opposing Views; Strengthening Claims through Reasoned Response	Complete the counterargument activities; identify and respond to opposing viewpoints; strengthen the argument through evidence and reasoning; complete the assigned reading response.
11/2	Drafting an Argument; Organizing Claims, Evidence, Counterarguments, and Responses	Drafting and Organizing an Effective Argument; Integrating Claims, Evidence, Counterarguments, and Responses	Complete the argument draft; integrate claims, evidence, counterarguments, and responses; participate in peer review; revise using feedback.
11/9	Revising Arguments; Strengthening Organization, Evidence, and Style	Revising Arguments; Strengthening Organization, Evidence, Analysis, and Style	Submit the final argument; complete the assigned reading response; review and reflect on argument-writing strategies and the revision process.

11/16	Writing Conclusions; Revising for Coherence, Style, and Effectiveness	Writing Effective Conclusions; Revising for Coherence, Style, and Effectiveness	Complete revision activities; strengthen coherence, style, and effectiveness; review conclusions and overall organization; complete the assigned reading response.
11/23	Thanksgiving Week — No New Reading Assigned	Thanksgiving Break; Reflection and Independent Writing	No new assignments due; use the Thanksgiving break to catch up on coursework and continue independent writing and revision.
11/30	Reflective Writing; Revising and Editing; Preparing a Final Portfolio	Reflective Writing; Revising and Editing; Preparing the Final Portfolio	Complete the final portfolio; revise and edit selected writing; complete the final reflection on growth as a writer and researcher.
12/7	Final Course Reflection; Reviewing and Applying the Writing and Research Process	Final Course Reflection; Evaluating Growth as a Writer, Researcher, and Critical Thinker	Submit the final course reflection and final portfolio; complete all remaining course requirements.

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.