**English 101-102 Fall 2020**

**TR 9:30-10:45 Rowand-Johnson 101**

**Instructor:** Dr. Natalie Loper, Senior Instructor/Assistant Director of First-Year Writing

**Office Hours:** By Appointment

**Office Location:** Morgan 205 / Over Zoom

**Contact:** [nloper@ua.edu](mailto:nloper@ua.edu) or Blackboard email

\*Email is the best way to contact me. I try to reply within 24 hours during the week and 72 hours on weekends. If you email me and do not hear back within this time frame, please send me a reminder in case your message got buried in my inbox.

**Prerequisites**

None

# Course Description

The first in a two-course sequence, English 101 introduces students to college-level expository writing, critical reading, basic citation, and the rhetorical tools to participate successfully in the University of Alabama discourse community.

In this section, we will be examining the effect of pop music and pop music culture to see how it relates to your lives as college students and writers.

# Student Learning Outcomes

By the end of the semester,

* Develop a repertoire of diverse rhetorical strategies that will enable you to assess and appropriately respond to each assignment’s genre, audience, and purpose.
* Demonstrate in writing a strong command of critical thinking skills such as analysis, synthesis, interpretation, and evaluation.
* Compose essays by working through multiple drafts; by participating in opportunities for peer and instructor feedback; by applying that feedback in revisions; and, in general, you will treat the composition of any written text as a deliberate and recursive process.
* Employ grammar, punctuation, mechanics, usage, and basic citation and paper formatting in a manner appropriate to the genre and assignment being composed.
* Reflect, in writing, on your own development as a writer.

# Required Texts

*Norton Field Guide to Writing, UA Custom Edition 2020*, Bullock

# Other Required Course Materials

* Laptop for use in class (you can check out laptops from Gorgas library https://www.lib.ua.edu/using-the-library/equipment/)
* A Weebly account and website (free; instructions will be provided in class)
* Access to a printer and internet
* Pen or pencil
* Notebook with paper

# Classroom Environment

* This class will be operating as a “Hybrid Model” course; with the prevalence of COVID-19, it is in the best interest and safety of everyone to both minimize the amount of time on campus, as well as the amount of students that are in the classroom at one time. In order to comply with UA’s social distancing rules, I will be splitting our class into three groups: A, B, and C. On the day and time your group is assigned, you will physically come to class with other members of your group. See the course calendar for the days/times your group will be in the classroom.
* All work will be submitted online via Blackboard or on your Weebly page, which will serve as your ePortfolio this semester. (More on this in class and on Blackboard.) Work will include discussion board posts, blog posts, responses, reflections, group work, peer review, essay drafts, revisions, and website/multimodal projects.
* My goal is to make this as seamless as possible for everyone—obviously things can change quickly, so communication is key. It is imperative that you check your email daily and read all communications from me (my email address may say nloper or jones400; both are legit). I send weekly announcements and will communicate all changes, reminders, etc. via email and Blackboard announcements, which forward to your Crimson email.
* I expect everyone to treat each other with kindness and civility, whether in class, online, or in private communications with each other. When you email, please be professional: use a greeting, write in complete sentences worthy of your English professor, and sign the email with your name, course, and section number.
* If, for any reason, you feel as if something is not working for you or if you have a suggestion about the class, feel free to e-mail me and we will work something out.
* If you are facing challenges securing food or housing and believe this will affect your performance, please speak with me privately, and I’ll direct you to resources.
* See my Diversity and Disability statements below for my expectations that everyone will be treated fairly and equitably.

# Attendance Policy

The First-Year Writing program expects your full engagement in the work of face-to-face, online, and hybrid classes. Because writing classes are intensive and interactive, missing classes, failing to meet deadlines, and/or not participating in required activities will significantly compromise your learning.

Should you face extenuating circumstances, however, we will remain as flexible as possible in accommodating you. Our specific policies are shown below. Please consult your instructor and/or Dr. Luke Niiler, Director of First-Year Writing ([lpniiler@ua.edu](mailto:lpniiler@ua.edu)) with any questions.

* Face-to-face and hybrid classes: During Fall and Spring semesters, you should miss no more than four classes in sections that meet twice a week, and no more than six classes in sections that meet three times a week. During Summer semesters, you should miss no more than three classes. Your final grade will be reduced by 1/3rd of a letter (ie, B+ to B) for each additional class you miss.
* Online classes: You should read and follow all communications from your instructor, meet deadlines listed on the course schedule or syllabus, and participate in all class activities. These activities and assignments may include Blackboard or Turnitin assignments, online peer review, video conferences, ePortfolio work, etc. See the late/missing work policy for additional details and penalties.
* If you approach absence limits, begin missing deadlines, or fail to participate in required activities, it is your responsibility to promptly communicate your circumstances in a timely manner to your instructor, who can work with you to make alternative arrangements. Note that late or missing work can result in grade penalties, per your instructor’s policy.
* Attendance accommodation requests from the Office of Disability Services (ODS) should be shared promptly and privately with your instructor.

# Papers/Projects, Word Counts, & Grade Distribution

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | Approx. Word Count | % of Final Grade | Due |
| About Me Page | 500 words | 10% | 9/7 |
| Memoir | Approx. 1250 words | 20% | 10/4 |
| Profile | Approx. 1250 words | 20% | 11/1 |
| ePortfolio including Reflection Essay and Remix | Reflection essay approx. 1250 words; other word counts as given throughout semester | 30% | 12/9 |
| Daily Grades including blog and discussion board posts, peer review, essay drafts, and other homework | 2000 words throughout the semester | 20% | Throughout semester |

# Policy on Missed Exams and Coursework

**Major graded work:** If you require a deadline extension for any reason, please e-mail me by 11:59 p.m. of the night prior to the due date so that we can negotiate an acceptable arrangement. I will grant all advance deadline extension requests, and I will not penalize you for requesting them. We will agree on a new due date. If you miss a deadline without having informed me in advance (or miss our mutually agreed upon deadline in the case of an extension) I will deduct 10 points from your assignment for each day it is late until I reach zero. Please note that you are limited to 2 such requests this semester. An important reminder: you cannot request a deadline extension for your Final ePortfolio/Reflection.

**Daily/process work:** Do not come to class if you are sick or if you have been in contact with a sick person. All deadlines are posted on the syllabus; if any changes will be sent via Blackboard announcement and email. All work is submitted online, so you can still submit work even if you miss in-class meetings. (See attendance policy.) See the syllabus for when and where to submit work. I will grant up to 4 daily/progress work extensions if you discuss these with me in advance and we agree on a new deadline. Other late daily/process work will lose 2 points per day it is late. (Most daily work is worth 10 points.)

**Conferences and online meetings:** Missing a conference or online class counts as an absence. I generally do not schedule make-up conferences unless arrangements are made in advance.

**Submission:** Double check every time you turn in an assignment to make sure that it went through: Did you include the right file in a format that I can open (.docx, .pdf?)? Is the formatting correct? Is everything legible? If it’s on Turnitin, did you go through the full submission process? If it’s posted on Weebly, did you hit publish? Keep all of these things in mind when submitting your work, as you don’t want to lose points for a paper that you completed on time but did not submit properly.

# Grading Policy with A, B, C, No-Credit Policy

Papers are graded A through F with pluses and minuses as necessary. “A” work is generally regarded as excellent; “B” work is good; “C” work is competent; “D” work is marginally below college standards; and “F” work is clearly below minimum college standards. Work that does not follow the assignment (though otherwise acceptable) will also receive an “F.” Work that is not done or not turned in is recorded as a zero. Your teacher will provide more specific grading criteria on assignment sheets and/or rubrics. All major papers will be graded and returned before the next major assignment is due. Freshman-level proficiency in writing is required for a passing grade.

Final grades for the class below a C- are given a mark of No Credit (NC), which does not reflect on your GPA but will require you to take the course again.

Paper grades can be converted to percentages like this:

A+=98, A=95, A-=92, B+=88, B=85, B-=82, C+=78, C=75, C-=72, D+=68, D=65, D-=62, F=50.

Final numeric grades will be converted to letter grades like this:

100-98=A+; 97-93=A; 92-90=A-; 89-88=B+; 87-83=B; 82-80=B-; 79-78=C+; 77-73=C; 72-70=C-; 69 and below=NC

# Use of Laptops & Other Technology

All in-class and remote classes this semester will require your focus and attention. Plan to bring a laptop or tablet to each class meeting because all work will be submitted electronically. When we are in the classroom, please stay focused on class work and don’t have material on your screen that could distract you or your classmates. Phones should stay put away during class time, unless you inform me in advance that you need to access it that day. When we meet remotely via Zoom, please refrain from using other programs or doing things not class related. Use headphones with a microphone if possible because I sometimes have trouble hearing people.

If, for whatever reason, you do not have access to the Internet or to various technologies, books, etc., please let me know privately. We can come up with an alternative plan; I am happy to provide assistance so that all students have access to required materials. While I expect everyone to submit their own work, I strongly encourage groups to help each other with technology or other questions. I am happy to help, as well.

# Emergency Communications Policy

If I have to cancel our class meetings for any reason, please check your UA email and our Blackboard course. Communication is key, so I promise to do my best to keep you posted on these things as soon as I possibly can.

# Late Instructor

If I am late and there is no notice on the door, please wait ten minutes then send someone to the Main English Office (Morgan Hall 103) or call the office (205-348-5065) to tell them I was not in class.

# Writing Center

The Writing Center, located in 322 Lloyd Hall, is a wonderful resource for students. They do not proofread papers or write papers for you, but they can help with overall structure, organization, development, and mechanics. Take a copy of the writing assignment sheet and any work you’ve completed toward the assignment if you go. Go to http://writingcenter.ua.edu/ for more information or to set up an appointment. Furthermore, they also provide virtual appointments. I will give you 5 extra bonus points on your assignments if you go!

Diversity StatementOne of the University of Alabama’s greatest strengths is our diverse student body. Together we represent regional, international, racial, gender, physical, cognitive, socio-economic, cultural, and religious diversity; bringing these diverse perspectives together in the classroom is a valuable resource and opportunity for us to understand and learn from our campus community. To ensure that all perspectives/identities/worldviews are respected and valued in class, please note the following:

* Please let me know if something said or done in the classroom, by either myself or others, causes offense or discomfort. Likewise, please let me know if something outside of class is preventing you from fully engaging with the course.
* Please offer your viewpoints! If you have a question or concern, chances are another student in the class is having a similar experience. By speaking up (either in class, privately via email or office hours, or anonymously) you are potentially helping your classmates. If you do not feel comfortable discussing the issue with me, please notify your advisor, a trusted faculty member, or a peer. I encourage you to advocate for an inclusive experience at the University of Alabama.

# Disability Statement

If you are registered with the Office of Disability Services, please make an appointment with me as soon as possible to discuss any course accommodations that may be necessary. If you have a disability, but have not contacted the Office of Disability Services, please call 348-4285 or visit Houser Hall to register for services. Students who may need course adaptations because of a disability are welcome to make an appointment to see me during office hours. Students with disabilities must be registered with the Office of Disability Services before receiving academic adjustments.

# Statement on Academic Misconduct

Students are expected to be familiar with and adhere to the official Code of Academic Conduct provided in the Online Catalog.

Academic misconduct includes all acts of dishonesty in any academic or related matter and any knowing or intentional help, attempt to help, or conspiracy to help another student commit an act of academic dishonesty. Academic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to, the following acts, when performed in any type of academic or academically related matter, exercise or activity:

* **Cheating:** Using or attempting to use unauthorized materials, information, study aids or computer-related information.
* **Plagiarism:** Representing the words, data, works, ideas, computer programs or output, or anything not generated in an authorized fashion, as one's own.
* **Fabrication:** Presenting as genuine, any invented or falsified citation or material.
* **Misrepresentation:** Falsifying, altering or misstating the contents of documents or other materials related to academic matters, including schedules, prerequisites and transcripts.

# Severe Weather Protocol

Please see the latest Severe Weather Guidelines in the Online Catalog.

# UAct Statement

The University of Alabama is committed to providing an environment for employees, students and campus visitors that is free from harassment based on race, color, religion, ethnicity, national origin, sex (which includes sexual orientation, gender identity and gender expression), age, disability or veteran status. The University will not tolerate and will take action against individuals who retaliate against individuals who, in good faith, report violations of this policy or participate in investigations related to such policy violations.

Any student, faculty or staff member, applicant or campus visitor who has concerns about discrimination, harassment, sexual assault or sexual violence or retaliation is encouraged to seek the assistance of the appropriate University official designated below. For more information, refer to the University’s harassment policy at <http://eop.ua.edu/harassment.html> and its Title IX website at [www.titleix.ua.edu](http://www.titleix.ua.edu/), which, among other things, includes the University’s Sexual Misconduct Policy (<http://titleix.ua.edu/sexual-misconduct-policy.html>).

# Interest in English Major or Minor

Are you or is someone you know interested in becoming an English major or minor? If so, please ask me for information, or drop by the Undergraduate Studies office in Morgan 103. You can also check out our web site at english.ua.edu.

# Course Calendar (Subject to Change)

# Week 1

8/ 20 Whole class meeting via Zoom: Introduction to the course

# Week 2

8/ 25 Homework due on Blackboard by 9:00 am:

* + - Read the following:
      * Syllabus
      * ePortfolio semester-long assignment
      * Introduction and About Me webpage assignment
      * Dr. Loper’s Introduction Letter
    - Post to the Introduction discussion and reply to at least one classmate
    - Complete the Syllabus Quiz

In class: Group A meets from 9:30-10:00; Group B meets from 10:15-10:45

8/ 27 Homework due to Bb discussion board by 9:00 am:

* Post Knolling Assignment photo and analysis

In class: Group C meets from 9:30-10:00

Dr. Loper office hours in classroom from 10-10:45

# Week 3

9/ 1 Homework due to Bb by 9 am:

* Read sample About Me pages
* Complete Discussion Board post: About Me analysis
* Watch Weebly tutorial

In class: Group B meets from 9:30-10:00; Group C meets from 10:15-10:45

9/ 3 Homework due by 9 am:

* Set up free Weebly account. (Your domain name should end with .weebly.com to be free.) Your page should have an About Me page and a blog page (be sure to set it up as a blog page, not standard page). Publish your site and copy the link onto the googledoc on Blackboard.

In class: Group A meets from 9:30-10:00

Dr. Loper office hours in classroom from 10-10:45

# Week 4

Monday, 9/7 by 11:59 p.m.:

* About Me page due to Weebly ePortfolio; publish and post link in Blackboard googledoc (10% of course grade)

9/ 8 Begin Memoir Unit

9/ 10

# Week 5

9/ 15

9/ 17

# Week 6

9/ 22

9/ 24

# Week 7

9/29

10/1

Sunday, 10/4 Memoir due to Weebly by 11:59 p.m.

# Week 8

10/ 6 Begin Profile Unit

10/ 8

# Week 9

10/ 13

10/ 15

# Week 10

10/ 20

10/ 22

# Week 11

10/ 27

10/ 29 **Fall Break**

Sunday, 11/1: Profile due to Weebly by 11:59 p.m.

# Week 12

11/ 3 Begin Remix Unit

11/ 5

# Week 13

11/ 10

11/ 12

# Week 14

11/ 17

11/ 19

# Week 15

11/ 24

11/ 26 *Thanksgiving*

# Week 16

12/1

12/3

Final ePortfolio due by Wednesday, December 9 at 10:30 a.m.

* Be sure the googledoc link goes to your published final version