

New York City College of Technology
ENG 1101-D323: English Composition I
Ways of Seeing: Adventures with Image &
Text
Fall 2013
M/W 10:00-11:15AM
Namm 1108

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Office Hours: M/W 2:00-3:00, and by
appointment

COURSE DESCRIPTION AND OBJECTIVES

Ways of Seeing: Adventures with Image and Text is a First-Year Learning Community that brings together this ENG 1101 English Composition I course with Prof. Jenna Spevack's ADV 1100-D???: Graphic Design Principles, M/W 11:30-2:00. It will include field trips, hands-on projects, and cross-sensory experiences to help you discover and express your creative vision. The Learning Community will have a peer mentor, Loubna Aly, who will help you navigate your first semester at City Tech.

English Composition I is a course in effective essay writing and basic research techniques, including the use of the library. College-level readings are assigned as the basis for in-class and online discussion and for essay writing. CUNY certification in reading and writing is the prerequisite for this course. **Students should expect to spend at least six hours per week on work for this class in addition to class time.** Through discussion, reading, writing in drafts, collaborating, revising, and presenting work, students will learn to:

Write clear and logical sentences of varied structure, using correct spelling, conventional punctuation, and correct grammar and syntax;

Organize sentences into paragraphs and paragraphs into well-developed essays that present persuasive arguments based on specific evidence;

Draft, revise, and proofread essays of various modes of writing, including narration, description, comparison, argumentation, analysis and reflection;

Use writing as a process of discovery, building habits of critical thinking;

Develop a personal writing style.

Understand the relationship between context and audience

Read actively, carefully, and thoroughly, looking at details and at the piece as a whole;

Formulate questions as part of the reading process in anticipation of class or online discussions;

Demonstrate the ability to summarize, paraphrase, quote, and argue with assigned readings

Gain familiarity with online tools such as blogs, collaborative documents, online writing centers, and library research tools;

Communicate professionally via e-mail and other online media;

Demonstrate information fluency—the ability to find, evaluate, use, and create online resources.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS:

Textbooks and Supplies:

- Access to a computer, the Internet, and a printer: instead of a textbook, all of our readings will be available online, and much of our writing will be completed and submitted online, with printed drafts due in class. To access our course materials, you will need:
 - An OpenLab account: sign up at <http://openlab.citytech.cuny.edu>
 - Membership in our OpenLab course, Ways of Seeing: Image and Text
 - A functioning City Tech email account: your address should be `firstname.lastname@mail.citytech.cuny.edu`; access it at <https://login.microsoftonline.com>.

- Access to the Circulating Collection, the Reserves, and the Databases at the Ursula C. Schwerin Library for supplemental and research materials. **You must go to the Ursula Schwerin Library on the 4th floor of the Atrium building to have your ID card activated.**
- Access to an online writing guide, such as the Online Writing Lab: <http://owl.english.purdue.edu>
- A college-level dictionary, such as the *American Heritage Dictionary*. An online dictionary such as <http://m-w.com> can suffice.
- A notebook for class notes and reading notes
- Various in-class handouts, including all of your course readings
- A sturdy folder to hold your work and course handouts.

Attendance: Attendance is mandatory in this discussion-based, fieldwork-oriented course. Arriving late, leaving during class, or leaving early will count as **half of an absence**. City Tech's policy states that **four or more absences will result in a WU grade**. I will not grant excused absences; instead, use your three permitted absences wisely. Absence is not an excuse for missing or late work; you must get class notes and assignments from classmates and keep up with your coursework.

Participation: To meet course goals, you must participate in each class. Come prepared, bring any required materials, and contribute to the day's activity. Your physical presence is not enough! If you do not contribute to the discussion, workshop, or small group activity, I will assume you are unprepared. Similarly, participation on the OpenLab course site is essential for our virtual community. Please be respectful of other viewpoints or opinions in class and online. **Distractions such as food, non-ENG 1101-materials, or cell phones are not welcome, since they will negatively affect your participation, and in turn, your success in this course.**

Writing: This is a writing course, so you will write in class, on the course site, and outside of class. There will be due dates for drafts and finished versions of projects, but you will be responsible for pacing your work and completing drafts. Formal assignments should be submitted using MLA formatting—further details will be posted on our OpenLab site. Projects are due digitally by the beginning of class unless otherwise noted. If you have a legitimate reason for requesting an extension for a project, ask me at least 24 hours before the due date. Projects submitted late but without an extension will be severely penalized. In-class writing will contribute to your essay assignments, and will affect your essay grade, your in-class writing grade, and your participation grade. These pieces of informal writing must be accessible in your writing folder, since we will return to texts, themes, and ideas throughout the semester.

Revisions: Revision is an essential part of writing. Projects will include both draft and revised versions. Please be aware that revision is not the same as correcting errors—it requires re-envisioning your work, refashioning and rewriting it. Guidelines for required revisions will be available with the project description. If you would like to revise a project after I have graded it, you must first make an appointment with me and adhere to our revision contract.

Homework: Homework is listed on the schedule of classes. It will include reading, blogging, drafting projects, and other writing assigned on a rotating basis, due at the start of each class.

Course site: In addition to our class meetings, this Learning Community will share a virtual community on the OpenLab (<http://openlab.citytech.cuny.edu>). **You will need your City Tech email account to create an account on the OpenLab.** Readings will be available on our OpenLab site, project assignments, handouts, class notes, and informal assignments will be posted there in various formats, and we will hold discussions there as well. **You will be responsible for posting according to the homework schedule.** Additional posting assignments will be announced as appropriate. Each student will maintain an ePortfolio to collect work from throughout the semester, reflect on it, record the process of creation, and to offer feedback to classmates. Guidelines and further details about our site and ePortfolios are available on our site.

Grading: Your course grade will be calculated based on the following percentages, which reflect the value of the entire project; missing any component will result in a lower grade. Passing ENG 1101 is contingent upon attendance and the successful completion of all assignments and the final exam.

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| Project #1 (Profile biography and avatar reflection): 10% | Project #6 Final Exam (Essay about an Article): 10% |
| Project #2 (Walking and Writing in Overlapping New Yorks): 15% | Oral Presentations (Critiques, Projects): 5% |
| Project #3 Midterm Exam (Essay about an Article): 10% | Course Site writing and participation (including homework, summary, glossary, posts and comments): 15% |
| Project #4 (Aesthetic Mapping): 15% | In-class participation, quizzes, and in-class assignments: 15% |
| Project #5 (Reflections and Revisions): 5% | |

Class policies: Please be respectful of anyone in our classroom or online community, punctual, prepared, alert, and free of distractions such as cell phones, food, or other courses' materials. Email must be sent from your City Tech email address or OpenLab account for me to respond.

Support: I strongly encourage you to speak with me during my office hours or by appointment—this is one of the most direct and effective ways to improve your work or to seek advice! Other support at City Tech includes your Learning Community peer mentor, the College Learning Center, the Academic Advisement Center, and the Counseling Service Center. Students with disabilities should consult with the Student Support Services Program for documentation and support, and should speak with me privately to coordinate appropriate accommodations.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY:

Policy on Academic Integrity: "Students and all others who work with information, ideas, texts, images, music, inventions, and other intellectual property owe their audience and sources accuracy and honesty in using, crediting, and citing sources. As a community of intellectual and professional workers, the College recognizes its responsibility for providing instruction in information literacy and academic integrity, offering models of good practice, and responding vigilantly and appropriately to infractions of academic integrity. Accordingly, academic dishonesty is prohibited in The City University of New York and at New York City College of Technology and is punishable by penalties, including failing grades, suspension, and expulsion."

Plagiarism, the act of presenting another person's ideas, research, or writing as your own, intentionally or unintentionally, is not tolerated at City Tech. Using proper documentation (MLA style for citations) and thorough textual analysis will help you avoid plagiarism. **Any cases of academic dishonesty will result in a grade of zero and appropriate measures taken.** If you are confused or have any questions about what plagiarism is and how you might avoid it, please contact me before your assignment is due. Read more about City Tech's academic honesty policies: http://www.citytech.cuny.edu/aboutus/docs/policies/CUNY_ACADEMIC_INTEGRITY_6-2011.pdf.

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Schedule: Class topics, readings, homework assignments, and project due dates are subject to change. Please refer to the online schedule for the most up-to-date version.

| Date | Schedule of Classes: | Homework |
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| 1- W 9/2: | Introduction to Ways of Seeing: Adventures with Image and Text Course Site Introduction | Register for the OpenLab and join our course. Introduce yourself on our site by adding a |

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| | | <p>comment according to the guidelines posted there.</p> <p>Read excerpt from "The Tool" by Antoine de Saint-Exupery and add a comment in response to the post on our site.</p> |
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| 2- M 9/8: | <p>Introduction to Blogging and the Glossary</p> <p>Project #1 assigned</p> | <p>Set up your ePortfolio</p> <p>Write a post about an object's aesthetics (instructions on our course site). Read everyone's posts, and comment on at least 2 classmates' posts.</p> <p>Read selection from Ways of Seeing by John Berger</p> |
| 3- W 9/10: | <p>Project #1 outline and brainstorm due</p> <p>Writing workshop for Project #1</p> | <p>Write a post reflecting on the process of receiving—and offering—critiques on Project #1.</p> <p>Draft of Project #1 due online by Friday</p> <p>Read selection from Ways of Seeing by John Berger.</p> |
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| 4- M 9/15: | <p>Field Trip to Center for Book Arts</p> | <p>Complete peer review for classmates' drafts.</p> <p>Write a post about the Center for Book Arts experience.</p> <p>Read selection from Ways of Seeing by John Berger.</p> |
| 5- W 9/17: | <p>What is a summary?</p> <p>Handout: Writing a Summary</p> | <p>Read "City Limits" by Colson Whitehead .</p> <p>Write a post summarizing "City Limits"; offer feedback on your classmates' summaries via comments.</p> <p>Revise Project #1.</p> |
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| 6- M 9/22: | <p>Discuss "City Limits"</p> <p>Project #1 due</p> <p>Project #2 assigned</p> | <p>Read "The Way We Live Now: 11-11-01; Lost and Found" by Colson Whitehead</p> <p>Write a post considering Whitehead's revision and your experience revising as you worked on Project #1.</p> <p>Examine "View of the World from 9th Avenue" (and cover version) by Saul Steinberg</p> <p>Begin work on Project #2</p> |

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| W 9/24: | No classes scheduled | |
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| 7- M 9/29: | Project #2 brainstorming session Discuss Steinberg's map | Write a post and comment on your classmates' posts describing your chosen location for Project #2 and how to get there. Add your chosen location to our map. |
| 8- W 10/1: | Field trip to BRIC Draft of Project #2 due electronically by the start of class | Write a post about the BRIC field trip, and comment on your classmates' posts. Work on Project #2 Read selection from On Photography by Susan Sontag and <i>Camera Lucida</i> by Roland Barthes. |
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| 9- M 10/6: | Discussion on photography | Read " The Boston Photographs " by Nora Ephron, and examine the three linked photographs. Write a post considering the ethics of photographs in the media, bringing in any related examples. |
| 10- W 10/8: | Discussion on photography | Write a post considering one aspect of photography raised by the readings. Continue working on Project #2. |
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| M 10/13: | School Closed—no classes | |
| W 10/15: | Ursula Schwerin Library visit, A540: meet outside the library in the Atrium building Project #2 due | Write a post sharing what you learned in the library session, and include at least one question. Reply to at least two questions from your classmates. |
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| M 10/20: | Review: how to write a timed essay Field trip to Brooklyn Navy Yard | Prepare for the Midterm Exam: Read and review article and write a one-paragraph summary. Use the blog to ask questions as you study |
| W 10/22: | Project #3: Midterm Exam (and summary due) | Read Jennifer Egan, " Reading Lucy " and selected Lucy Kolkin letters |
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| M 10/27: | Discuss "Reading Lucy" Incorporating source materials | Write a post summarizing "Reading Lucy," using 2 quotations from the text. |

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| | Discuss archival materials | Read " What If You Could Choose Between the Fastest Route and the Most Beautiful? " by Lex Berko. Mark up the text with your reactions and ideas to bring to class. |
| W 10/29: | Project #4 assignment Project #4 brainstorm Discuss previous two readings | Read " The Happiest and Saddest Places in New York City, According to Twitter " by Ben Merchant Write a post brainstorming about your happiest and saddest places in New York and pin your happiest place on the Being in Brooklyn map—details to follow in a blog post |
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| M 11/3: | Discuss geolocation, happiness, and Twitter. | Write a post condensing your thoughts about Project #4, getting as specific as possible; comment on your classmates' posts. |
| W 11/5: | Discuss Midterm Exam and reading. | Work on Project #4 Read maps handout from BHS Write post continuing Project #4 brainstorm, and offer feedback to classmates via comments. |
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| M 11/10: | Field trip to Brooklyn Historical Society: Maps and Images Meet at the Adams Street entrance | In a post, write an update about Assignment #4, and comment on your classmates' posts |
| W 11/12: | Draft of Project #4 due in class and electronically. Writing workshop for Project #4. | Continue working on Project #4, and write a post about your process of writing and revising. |
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| M 11/17: | Continue discussion of incorporating sources. | Work on Project #4 |
| W 11/19: | Discussion of MLA conventions | Work on Project #4 |
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| M 11/24: | Project #4 due Project #5 assigned | Write a summary of your Project #4 as a post |
| W 11/26: | Project #5 writing workshop | Read " A Picture Of Language: The Fading Art Of Diagramming Sentences " by Juanna Summers. Look through other examples: " A Diagrammatical Dissertation on Opening |

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| | | Lines of Notable Novels " on Pop Chart Lab Peer feedback/critique on Project #5 |
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| M 12/1: | Image and text: diagramming sentences | Read selections on Tom Phillips's <i>A Humument</i> and other book art |
| W 12/3: | Image and text: Book Art | Write a post about your image and text experiment, including images of your experiment. |
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| M 12/8: | Project #5 due Field trip TBD | Write a post in response to the field trip. |
| W 12/10: | Presentation of Image and text experiments | Write a post reflecting on the oral component of the image and text project. |
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| M 12/15: | Review for Project #6, Final Exam, without discussing the reading | Study for the final exam. Ask questions and share advice for the final exam via the OpenLab. |
| W 12/17: | Project #6: Final Exam | Prepare for final review and critique. |
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| M 12/22: | Conclusions: Final Reviews and Critiques | Spring classes begin January 28, 2015. Enjoy the break! |