

English Composition 1102: The Argumentative Asian

Last Updated: Mon, 01/05/2026

Course prefix: ENGL

Course number: 1102

Section: F5, HP1, K07

CRN (you may add up to five):

30404 31595 35039

Instructor First Name: Arpit

Instructor Last Name: Kumar

Semester: Spring

Academic year: 2026

Course description:

A composition course that develops writing skills beyond the levels of proficiency required by ENGL1101, that emphasizes interpretation and evaluation, and that incorporates a variety of more advanced research methods. Develops communication skills in networked electronic environments, emphasizes interpretation and evaluation of cultural texts, and incorporates research methods in print and on the Internet.

Our class focus will be on understanding the comprehensive process of communication in the modern world. We will learn about the affordances of various technological mediums (e.g. digital media and print) and of the demands of differing genres and domains of communication (literary studies, cultural studies, academic writing, and humanistic analysis). We will sharpen our critical thinking by participating in ethical argumentation, text-based discussion, and training in the skills of communication and persuasion. Students will also be introduced to the fundamentals of the research process as well to the mature maneuvers of academic writing. As we dissect the processes that detail modern communication, we will consider synergy of written, oral, visual, electronic, and non-verbal communication (WOVEN). Ours will be a student led and collaborative course where members will be invited to work in teams and co-construct the course content.

Course learning outcomes:

Critical Thinking

Critical thinking involves understanding social and cultural texts and contexts in ways that support productive communication and interaction.

- Analyze arguments.
- Accommodate opposing points of view.
- Interpret inferences and develop subtleties of symbolic and indirect discourse.
- Use writing and reading for inquiry, learning, thinking, and communicating.
- Integrate ideas with those of others.
- Understand relationships among language, knowledge, and power.
- Recognize the constructedness of language and social forms.

Rhetoric

Rhetoric focuses on available means of persuasion, considering the synergy of factors such as context, audience, purpose, role, argument, organization, design, visuals, and conventions of language.

- Adapt communication to circumstances and audience.
- Produce communication that is stylistically appropriate and mature.
- Communicate in standard English for academic and professional contexts.
- Sustain a consistent purpose and point of view.
- Use a variety of technologies to address a range of audiences.
- Learn common formats for different kinds of texts.
- Develop knowledge of genre conventions ranging from structure and paragraphing to tone and mechanics.
- Control such surface features as syntax, grammar, punctuation, and spelling.
- Create artifacts that demonstrate the synergy of rhetorical elements.
- Demonstrate adaptation of register, language, and conventions for specific contexts and audiences.
- Apply strategies for communication in and across both academic disciplines and cultural contexts in the community and the workplace.

Process

Processes for communication—for example, creating, planning, drafting, designing, rehearsing, revising, presenting, publishing—are recursive, not linear. Learning productive processes is as important as creating products.

- Find, evaluate, analyze, and synthesize appropriate primary and secondary sources.
- Develop flexible strategies for generating, revising, editing, and proofreading.
- Understand collaborative and social aspects of writing processes.
- Critique their own and others' works.

- Balance the advantages of relying on others with [personal] responsibility.
- Construct and select information based on interpretation and critique of the accuracy, bias, credibility, authority, and appropriateness of sources.
- Compose reflections that demonstrate understanding of the elements of iterative processes, both specific to and transferable across rhetorical situations.

Modes and Media

Activities and assignments should use a variety of modes and media—written, oral, visual, electronic, and nonverbal (WOVEN)—singly and in combination. The context and culture of multimodality and multimedia are critical.

- Interpret content of written materials on related topics from various disciplines.
- Compose effective written materials for various academic and professional contexts.
- Assimilate, analyze, and present a body of information in oral and written forms.
- Communicate in various modes and media, using appropriate technology.
- Use digital environments for drafting, reviewing, revising, editing, and sharing texts.
- Locate, evaluate, organize, and use research material collected from electronic sources, including scholarly library databases; other official (e.g., federal) databases; and informal electronic networks and internet sources.
- Exploit differences in rhetorical strategies and affordances available for both print and electronic composing processes and texts.
- Create WOVEN (written, oral, visual, electronic, and nonverbal) artifacts that demonstrate interpretation, analysis, synthesis, evaluation, and judgment.
- Demonstrate strategies for effective translation, transformation, and transference of communication across modes and media.

Required course materials:

Books

Aravind Adiga, *The White Tiger* (2008)

Ha-Jin, *Waiting* (1999)

Ball et al. *Writer/Designer: A guide to making multimodal projects.*

TV and Film: Netflix Access Required.

Digital Educational Resources

Audacity, Free Audio Editing Software

Davinci-Resolve (free version; or equivalent video-editing software)

Georgia Tech's Woven Text

<https://woventext.lmc.gatech.edu/>

Grading policy:

The following grading scale will be used for the duration of the class in accordance with Georgia Tech's policies. **However, your final grade for the class (in accordance with Georgia Tech Requirements) will only be a letter grade (A, B, C, D, or F).**

A 100-94

A- 93-90

B+. 89-88

B. 87-84

B- 83-80

C+ 79-78

C- 77-74

F. <73

Attendance policy:

In accordance with Georgia Tech policy, attendance is mandatory. You should notify me in advance through an email of a planned or unplanned absence. You are requested to be responsible for missed sessions. Excused absences are available and may be availed in the event of personal illness, grief, religious or cultural holidays, and University responsibilities.

Up to 4 unexcused absences in the semester can be availed without affecting your overall grade. More than 2 unexcused absences will, however, affect your participation grade.

Every absence after 4 unexcused absences will lower your final grade by half a letter grade. More than 6 unexcused absences can result in a fail grade. Recurring issues with tardiness can also affect your attendance.

Academic honesty/integrity statement:

Students are expected to maintain the highest standards of academic integrity. All work submitted must be original and properly cited. Plagiarism, cheating, or any form of academic dishonesty will result in immediate consequences as outlined in the university's academic integrity policy.

Core IMPACTS statement(s) (if applicable):

This is a Core IMPACTS course that is part of the Writing area.

Core IMPACTS refers to the core curriculum, which provides students with essential knowledge in foundational academic areas. This course will help master course content, and support students' broad academic and career goals.

This course should direct students toward a broad Orienting Question:

- How do I write effectively in different contexts?

Completion of this course should enable students to meet the following Learning Outcomes:

- Students will communicate effectively in writing, demonstrating clear organization and structure, using appropriate grammar and writing conventions.
- Students will appropriately acknowledge the use of materials from original sources.
- Students will adapt their written communications to purpose and audience.
- Students will analyze and draw informed inferences from written texts.

Course content, activities and exercises in this course should help students develop the following Career-Ready Competencies:

- Critical Thinking
- Information Literacy
- Persuasion