



Sophia Learning

ENG1002: English Composition II (ACE recommends 3 credits)

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course is designed to build upon the concepts taught in English Composition I by focusing on a research perspective. Students will be introduced to proper research techniques for academic writing and will practice navigating the research process, beginning with a research question and culminating in a final 6-8 page argumentative research essay.

COURSE EFFECTIVE DATES: November 2022 - Present

PREREQUISITES: No prerequisites; prior completion of English Composition I is recommended.

LENGTH OF COURSE: This is a self-paced course. Students may use as much or as little time as needed to complete the course.

ACE LEARNING EVALUATIONS RECOMMENDATION: In the lower-division baccalaureate category, 3 semester hours in English composition II (ACE ID: SOPH-0030).

GRADING: This is a pass/fail course. Students must complete 9 Challenges (formative assessments) and 7 Touchstones (project-based or written assessments) with an overall score of 70% or better.

Challenges	Points Possible
Challenge 1.1: The Basics of Research Writing	4
Challenge 1.2: Research Questions and Topics	4
Challenge 2.1: Types and Quality of Sources	4
Challenge 2.2: Analysis and Organization	4
Challenge 3.1: Argumentative Writing	4
Challenge 3.2: Essay Components	4

Challenge 3.3: Research Integration	4
Challenge 4.1: Essay Improvement	4
Challenge 4.2: Finishing Touches	4
Total	36

Touchstones	Points Possible
Touchstone 1.1: Engage with a Work of Research	50
Touchstone 1.2: Write a Research Question, Thesis, and Outline	50
Touchstone 2.1: Evaluate a Source	50
Touchstone 2.2: Create an Annotated Bibliography	50
Touchstone 3.1: Construct a Rogerian Argument	50
Touchstone 3.2: Draft an Argumentative Research Essay	100
Touchstone 4: Revise an Argumentative Research Essay	150
Total	500

Grand Total 536

Touchstones are projects that illustrate comprehension of the course material, help refine skills, and demonstrate application of knowledge. Read further for information on the touchstones in this course:

- **Touchstone 1.1: Engage with a Work of Research (50 points):** Students will select an article and engage in a 2-3 page summary and response dialogue with the source. This will involve providing a detailed summary of the source's argument and responding to that argument with their position based on the information provided in the source.
- **Touchstone 1.2: Write a Research Question, Thesis, and Outline (50 points):** Students will choose an argumentative topic to research that will be used throughout the entire course, so the activities required for this assignment will provide the foundation for the future Touchstones. The topic for an argumentative research paper must be a debatable topic, meaning that it involves conflicting viewpoints. Additionally, it cannot be a topic that is already decided or agreed upon by most of society. Students will need to take a firm position on the topic and use evidence and logic to support the position. Touchstone 1.2 includes a research question, a working thesis, a detailed outline, and a reflection on this pre-writing process.
- **Touchstone 2.1: Evaluate a Source (50 points):** Students will select one of the sources they found through their preliminary research about their research topic and write an essay. The introduction of this paper will involve introducing the source and then evaluating the source on two levels: credibility and usefulness. Finally, they will include a conclusion which shows their final assessments on both counts.
- **Touchstone 2.2: Create an Annotated Bibliography (50 points):** Using their research question, working thesis, and outline from Touchstone 1.2, students will create an annotated bibliography that provides a

synopsis of their sources and an explanation of how they will use them.

- **Touchstone 3.1: Construct a Rogerian Argument (50 points):** Students will construct their own 2-3 page Rogerian argument essay in which they attempt to arrive at a workable solution or "middle ground."
- **Touchstone 3.2: Draft an Argumentative Research Essay (100 points):** Using their outline and annotated bibliography from Touchstones 1.2 and 2.2, students will draft a 6-8 page argumentative research essay on their chosen topic.
- **Touchstone 4: Revise an Argumentative Research Essay (150 points):** Students will review the in-text comments and summary feedback they received on their Touchstone 3.2 draft to enhance their writing. Students will then submit a revision of their Touchstone 3.2 draft that reflects the evaluator's feedback.

For more general information on assessments, please visit the Student Guide located on your course dashboard.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

Upon completion of the course, the student will be able to:

1. Utilize best practices in research writing to develop a research question and thesis statement.
2. Analyze source material to determine its academic quality and reliability.
3. Construct a first draft of an argumentative research paper using appropriate essay structure and sources.
4. Create a final draft of an argumentative research paper using revising, editing, and proofreading skills.

COURSE COMPETENCIES AND TOPICS

Unit	Competencies	Major Topics
1. Introduction to Research	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Apply the basics of research writing.• Develop effective research questions and thesis statements.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Introduction to Research and the Writing Process• Defining Academic Research Writing• The Purpose of Research Writing• Managing Your Research Project• The Qualities of a Good Research Question• Choosing a Manageable Research Topic• Formulating a Thesis• Outlining and Classical Essay Structure

<p>2. The Research Process</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Evaluate the types and quality of sources. • Engage in meaningful analysis of research. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Seven Steps of the Research Process • Finding and Evaluating Research Sources • Distinguishing Scholarly Journals from Other Sources • Understanding Bias • Strategies for Gathering Reliable Information • Research and Critical Reading • Connecting Source Materials • Annotated Bibliographies
<p>3. The Rough Draft</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Apply the principles and techniques of argumentative writing. • Structure research essays effectively. • Integrate research according to citation conventions. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Research Writing and Argument • Persuasion • Models of Argument • Purpose, Audience, Tone, and Content • Creating a Rough Draft • Introductions • Body Paragraphs • Conclusions • Avoiding Plagiarism • Citing and Referencing Techniques • Blending Source Material with Your Own Work • Anatomy of a Well-Cited Paragraph
<p>4. The Final Draft</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improve rough drafts using revising and editing skills. • Polish final drafts using proofreading skills. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Revising and Editing • General Areas of Revision • Cohesion • Developing a Final Draft • Using Sources Creatively • Detecting Assumptions and Generalizations • Fact-Checking and Proofreading • Reflection and Reflective Learning