

ENGL 1007: Seminar and Studio in Writing and Multimodal Composition
Section 013 | Spring 2023

| Seminar Details | Studio Details |
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| Instructor: Kari Daly | Instructor: Sonya Thiel |
| Email: kari.daly@uconn.edu | Email: sonya.thiel@uconn.edu |
| Office: Austin 247A | Office: TBD; check with instructor |
| Office Hours: Fri. 11am-12pm (virtual) or by appointment | Office Hours: TBD; check with instructor |
| Class Meeting Time: Weds., 10:10am-12:40pm | Class Meeting Times: 2/3, 2/7, 3/3, 3/24, 4/7, 4/21; 10:10am-12pm |
| Room: KNS201 | Room: Austin 245 |

Course Description

The University of Connecticut's First-Year Writing (FYW) seminars are characterized by a collaborative, student-driven *inquiry*. The FYW instructor and students work collaboratively to compose through engagement with a semester-long inquiry, developing and asking questions around a shared course investigation. Through cycles of creation, feedback, and reflection, students work on projects in which they select and define places where they might advance the class conversation. Your work this semester will introduce you to the kinds of processes, choices, and moves you will make throughout your life as a writer and creator of content. The work of this class will include reading and responding to texts in substantive, thoughtful, thought-provoking, and productive ways through multiple modes of communication and representation. As a general education course, FYW prepares students for future compositions both within and outside of the University by asking them to use writing to contribute to active conversations across various media.

Course Objectives

Writing is a practice that we develop over time. Through this course you will practice composing in ways that help you work through the layers of mental and physical labor involved in writing and composing. Rather than thinking about writing only as a product to be produced, we will instead work through different moves that form *habits of practice*: collecting & curating, engaging, contextualizing, theorizing, and circulating. The writing moves and their objectives are described on the [UConn FYW website](#).

Course Inquiry

How can we balance power and navigate gender oppression in the 21st century? How does sexism manifest in our world now and why do we (men, women, gender non-conforming individuals, gender-fluid individuals) find it so difficult to avoid falling into this trap? In this class, we will grapple with some of these questions through personal narratives, theoretical works by writers such as Kimberlé Crenshaw and Michel Foucault, as well pop culture sources such as the podcast *RadioLab* and TED Talks. With the help of these and other works, we will attempt to theorize ways in which we might navigate the evolving understanding of sex and gender to create a more equitable society. In this course, you will

identify an inquiry about gender and power dynamics which you will develop through your writing work as the semester progresses, culminating in a final Remix project in which you identify a problem in gender and power dynamics and suggest a solution or a different perspective to help tackle it.

Required Texts

There are no required texts for this course. You may, however, need access to Netflix and Hulu (please talk to me if you anticipate any problems with this). All other readings will be available on HuskyCT.

Course Schedule

- Seminar Schedule – See HuskyCT under “Course Info”
- Studio Schedule -- See above

Grading

For the seminar portion of this course, we are using what’s called a **Grading Contract/Letter Grading Schema**. Please see the Grading Contract in our shared Google Drive for a fuller description of the Grading Contract/Letter Grading Schema.

The Studio portion of this course has its own grading system. See the Studio HuskyCT page for the specific breakdown of how studio work will be evaluated.

*When calculating your final grade, keep in mind that the seminar part of class counts towards 75% of your final grade and your work for the Studio is 25% for your final grade. Also note that—per Department and University policy—you must submit all major projects in this course (including major projects for the Studio) and revisions in order to **pass**.*

Course Components

Engagement: This is a seminar rather than a lecture course. Therefore, the class is driven by and centered on your work. Thoughtful discourse is an essential part of this class, and you will frequently work in groups of various sizes, which means you will need to be considerate of and attentive to others. It is your responsibility to keep up with the reading, to contribute to class conversation in the form of analytical comments or questions, to participate thoughtfully in peer review activities, and to attend class regularly and on time. Please check in with me, your instructor, if you are concerned about your ability to participate fully in class.

Reading: Although English 1007 is a writing course, the writing you do here has a very close relationship to reading. In fact, the process of writing begins with careful reading of a situation, a written text, or other media. You will be reading to find ways into the conversation in which an author or text is participating. Many of these texts are multi-layered and complex. *You should expect to read most texts more than once.* You will need to read carefully, reread often, and take careful notes. Come to class prepared to share your thoughts and questions.

Writing: You will complete four major written projects in this course. In order to accomplish this, you will be doing ample writing along the way, including in-class writing, homework assignments, and drafts of these major projects. *Please note that you are not allowed to seek help with your writing outside the classroom, unless it is through the UConn Writing Center. Asking your roommates, friends, etc. for help with your work is not allowed.*

Revision: Each major writing project will go through a drafting process in which you shape your ideas and experiment with ways to best communicate this work. You should expect to put significant time and effort into the revision process and for projects to shift, change, and develop as you revise. An essay must go through a drafting and revision process in order to be considered for a grade.

Conferences and Peer Review: Conferences and peer review are integral to the goals of this course. Through the drafting process of each major writing project, we will use small group or individual conferences during, in addition to, or in place of regular class meetings. The quality of your involvement in these processes is a crucial factor in your participation, and thus final grade, in this course.

Information Literacy: English 1007 provides the first stage of the University's Information Literacy Competency, including attention to university research and digital literacy. You should expect to use outside sources and scholarly research to inform your work throughout the semester. While all assignments will provide opportunities for developing Information Literacy skills, we will have at least one assignment built with this specific purpose in mind.

Reflective Component: The reflective portion of the course includes any time spent on characterizing, reconsidering, or qualifying one's work. Reflection happens throughout the semester, usually in ways that complement writing projects by providing opportunities for a writer to imagine alternatives or trace lines of thought or activity. We will practice reflective writing (and reflective work more generally) throughout the semester.

Course Policies

Electronic Devices

Because I want to encourage class engagement as much as possible, I don't like to restrict the use of electronic devices. In fact, you will frequently need to use devices in this class. I expect you to be respectful of our class time, however, and refrain from texting, social media, watching videos, etc. If you need to take a call or have a texting conversation, you should leave the room quietly and return as soon as possible. Anyone who is found to be utilizing devices for reasons other than those directly related to what we're doing in class will not receive credit for the day's activities.

Email and Communications

Please be aware that I frequently use the announcement feature in HuskyCT. You are responsible, therefore, for regularly checking your UConn email, especially if classes are canceled. Note, too, that I can only respond to emails from your official UConn email

address. Finally, replies from me will probably not be immediate, but I will get back to you within 48 hours.

Mutual Respect & Classroom Environment

Throughout the semester, we will read texts and engage with media that introduce complex, diverse, and even controversial subjects. I want this class to be a space in which we all feel safe and comfortable to share our thoughts, ideas, and opinions. I want each of you to remember at all times that your thoughts and ideas are important and valuable. We must all consider that each one of us comes into the classroom with our own histories, experiences, identities, values, etc. and each one of us deserves respect, care, and thoughtfulness in listening and communicating our ideas in a shared space. I will never ask you to change your mind, but I will expect it to remain open in this course. That being said, I will not tolerate disrespectful or inappropriate comments in this classroom, and those students found to be making such remarks will be asked to leave immediately and will forego participation for that day. If you would like me to issue trigger warnings, please let me know. More information about the University's Policy Against Discrimination, Harassment and Related Interpersonal Violence can be found under "Policies" in this course's HuskyCT site.

Multilingual Scholarship

This classroom is a multilingual and translanguaging space, and we speak and write across languages. I encourage you to speak to me about any concerns you have with language use (reading, speaking, and/or writing) in this course, and I encourage you to be respectful of your colleagues and their ways of communicating in this multilingual space. We can learn much across and through languages.

Academic Integrity

While studying and making use of the ideas and texts of others is central to the writing we will be doing in this course, this must be done in an ethical and appropriate way. Please review and abide by the University's code on academic misconduct (plagiarism and misuse of sources), which can be found on [the UConn Community Standards website](#); you will be held responsible for understanding these materials. Plagiarizing the work of others—passing off someone else's work as your own—is a very serious offense, and anyone found plagiarizing will fail the essay or the course. Please let me know if you have questions about what constitutes appropriate use and citation of other people's work.

The Writing Center

The Writing Center employs tutors who work with students on their papers at any stage of the writing process—from brainstorming to reviewing final drafts to helping with specific difficulties you may have. This service is free and highly recommended for all students. You can sign up for an appointment on the [Writing Center website](#).

Accessibility and Equity for All

The First-Year Writing program is committed to "universal design for learning," through which we all are able to create, learn, and share. If you have difficulty accessing the course

or its materials, please contact the Center for Students with Disabilities (Wilbur Cross 204, 860-486-2020). Advisors in that office will provide me with a letter describing accommodations. All information and documentation is confidential. Please contact me as soon as possible in the semester so that I can also make the necessary arrangements for your comfort in our classroom.

Making our work accessible to all will also be a key feature of this course; I am dedicated to meeting any accommodation requests, whether or not you are registered with UConn’s Center for Students with Disabilities. I am also always learning, so I encourage you to approach me at any time with suggestions or requests for ways to make this class more accessible.

Course Concerns

If you have any questions about the course or your final course grade, please see me as soon as possible. If that conversation is not productive, please see or contact an Assistant Director of First-Year Writing to further discuss the issues at firstyearwriting@uconn.edu.

Other University course policies are included in this course’s HuskyCT site under “Policies.” To access our HuskyCT site, use <https://lms.uconn.edu/> to login. Once you’ve logged into HuskyCT, you land on your personal dashboard, where you can access all courses you’re enrolled in.

Resources Available to All Students

As an instructor at the University of Connecticut, I am a mandated reporter, which means that if I believe a student is a danger to themselves or others, or is in danger, I must make a report to the university.

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| <p>The Writing Center Writing Center website.</p> | <p>Counseling and Mental Health Services https://counseling.uconn.edu/</p> |
| <p>Title IX Office If you are experiencing gender-based violence or discrimination, you may contact the Title IX office website: https://equity.uconn.edu/title-ix/</p> | <p>ADA Coordinator and the Office of Institutional Equity https://equity.uconn.edu/accessibility-at-uconn/</p> |
| <p>Center for Students with Disabilities https://csd.uconn.edu/ The University of Connecticut is committed to protecting the rights of individuals with disabilities and assuring that the learning environment is accessible. If you anticipate or</p> | <p>Community Standards https://community.uconn.edu/</p> |
| | <p>Student Health Services If you are sick or injured and seek medical care, you do not need to provide a doctor’s note. https://shs.uconn.edu/</p> |

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| <p>experience physical or academic barriers based on disability or pregnancy, please let me know immediately so that we can discuss options. Students who require accommodations should contact the Center for Students with Disabilities, Wilbur Cross Building Room 204, (860) 486-2020 or http://csd.uconn.edu/.</p> | <p>The Women's Center https://womenscenter.uconn.edu/</p> |
| | <p>Asian American Cultural Center http://asacc.uconn.edu/</p> |
| <p>Student Care Team https://studentcareteam.uconn.edu/</p> | <p>Rainbow Center http://rainbowcenter.uconn.edu/</p> |
| <p>Dean of Students If you are experiencing difficulties that are affecting your participation in this or any of your courses, you can contact the Dean of Students: https://dos.uconn.edu/</p> | <p>Puerto Rican/Latin American Cultural Center http://www.latino.uconn.edu/</p> |
| | <p>African American Cultural Center http://aacc.uconn.edu/</p> |