

AMERICAN UNIVERSITY OF BEIRUT
FACULTY OF ARTS AND SCIENCES

Department of English

ENGL 238: Academic Writing for English Majors (3 cr.)

Fall 2022-23

Dr. Amy Zenger

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Office Hours: Thursday 10 am -12 pm and by appointment

My WebEx Personal Room: <https://aub.webex.com/meet/az07>

Course Syllabus and Policies

Course Description:

This course is designed as an intensive workshop in which we explore genres and practices of writing and reading in literature and language studies. Time in class will be devoted to writing, discussion, analysis, and peer critique. Even though the title of this course stresses *writing*, the work of writing in our fields depends fundamentally on ways of *reading and interpretation*. We will discuss keywords related to reading and writing in our disciplines. Close readings and analysis will lead towards formal academic arguments that draw on textual evidence and secondary sources. Less formal forms of writing will support reflection, invention, and our engagement with texts. We will also learn about and practice editing strategies. English 238 is a required course for students majoring in English Literature and English Language. The course satisfies the General Education requirement for Writing in the Disciplines (WRIN) for English majors. Students from other majors are also welcome.

Catalogue Description:

A course for English majors that covers methods and practices of reading, writing, and research specific to the study of language and literature. Attention is placed on analytical thinking, critical reading, and persuasive writing at an advanced level appropriate to the discipline. Prerequisite: English major status and ENGL 204, or consent of instructor. Every semester.

Course Learning Goals:

This course aims to facilitate

- Developing and carrying out a long term individual project
- Adopting academic literacies practices common in your academic major
- Analyzing writing genres in literature, language, and criticism
- Constructing a research argument that is persuasive in your own field
- Reflecting on your work and your identity as an English major

Student Learning Outcomes:

By the end of this course, you are expected to be able to:

- Manage a creative or academic project from inception to completion
- Reflect on your own practices as a writer and reader in your field
- Discuss the work of others as writers and readers in your field
- Conduct close readings of texts
- Ask critical questions relevant to the work of your field
- Use library resources to locate and explore research sources
- Integrate evidence in your writing to persuasively support an argument
- Use the documentation and formatting practices expected in your discipline
- Practice meaningful revising and editing

Texts and Materials:

Required readings will be found in a course packet available at Antoine Bookstore.

Additional materials will be provided in Moodle.

Desirable for you to acquire (but not required): A guide to documentation and writing in your field.

- For language majors: *Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association*. Sixth edition.
- For literature majors: *MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers*. Eighth edition. 2009.

Course Assessment

Evaluation:

Course evaluation is based on the submission of documents in the following three categories:

45%	Independent Project
40%	Portfolio: Genre
15%	Editing, citing, and style exercises

Course Expectations and Policies

Participating

- Developing a project idea and sustaining engagement on the project throughout the semester
- Attending individual conferences with instructor.
- Engaging in informal writing assigned (including in-class writing, genre analyses, reflections, and others);
- Participating in draft review workshops; giving and receiving thoughtful;
- Sustaining effort and investment in each draft;
- Making substantive revisions, when the assignment is to revise—extending or changing the thinking or organization—not just editing or touching up;
- Copyediting all final revisions of main assignments until they are in alignment with expectations for edited, revised academic English.

Managing documents

Naming electronic files

When you save and name files for this course, please follow this pattern:

[your family name] [assignment name-one word] [draft number]

For example: “Malik-Essay-1” or “Smith-Synthesis-2”

Identifying your written assignments

On the typed version of your written assignments, please include all of the following information at the top of the document:

- Your full name
- The course name
- Date
- Assignment name
- A title for your project

University Policies

Academic Integrity:

In this course, *academic integrity* means:

- *Documenting* all proprietary information that is drawn from outside sources, including books, articles, websites, lectures, interviews, television, radio, and etc.
- Putting quotation marks around the words that were written or spoken by someone other than yourself.
- Being careful about representing the ideas of others accurately.

All writing you do for this course is expected to be your own and to be created for this course. The conventions and practices of documenting work in academic writing will be discussed and reviewed.

For official policies, please refer to AUB Student Code of Conduct:

<https://aub.policytech.eu/dotNet/documents/?docid=147&public=true> in particular section 1.1, which concerns academic misconduct including cheating, plagiarism, in-class disruption, and dishonesty. Please be aware that misconduct is vigorously prosecuted and that AUB has a zero tolerance policy. Course policy is that credible evidence of cheating will result in course failure.

Unique Learning Needs of Students with Disabilities:

AUB strives to make learning experiences as accessible as possible. If you anticipate or experience academic barriers due to a disability (including mental health, chronic or temporary medical conditions), please inform me immediately so that we can privately discuss options. In order to help establish reasonable accommodations and facilitate a smooth accommodations process, you are encouraged to contact the Accessible Education Office: accessibility@aub.edu.lb; West Hall, 318. For more information, please go to <http://www.aub.edu.lb/SAO/Pages/Accessible-Education.aspx>

Non-Discrimination:

AUB is committed to facilitating a campus free of all forms of discrimination including sex/gender-based harassment prohibited by Title IX. The University's non-discrimination policy applies to, and protects, all students, faculty, and staff. If you think you have experienced discrimination or harassment, including sexual misconduct, we encourage you to tell someone promptly. If you speak to a faculty or staff member about an issue such as harassment, sexual violence, or discrimination, the information will be kept as private as possible, however, faculty and designated staff are required to bring it to the attention of the University's Title IX Coordinator. Faculty can refer you to fully confidential resources, and you can find information and contacts at www.aub.edu.lb/titleix. To report an incident, contact the University's Title IX Coordinator Trudi Hodges at 01-350000 ext. 2514, or titleix@aub.edu.lb. An anonymous report may be submitted online via EthicsPoint at www.aub.ethicspoint.com

Useful Resources for You and all AUB Students

The Writing Center:

The Writing Center can be a tremendous resource for you at AUB (as a writer or a tutor). It offers free consultations for members of the AUB community. You can talk through your ideas or share what you have written with a thoughtful reader. It is best to go early in the process of writing your paper, to give you time to revise. Online and in Ada Dodge Hall, 2nd floor balcony. Learn more and make an appointment by registering through the Writing Center homepage http://www.aub.edu.lb/fas/writing_center/Pages/default.aspx

Library Information Services:

Reference librarians and information specialists in the AUB libraries can support you individually with finding academic sources for your research. Jafet information librarians can be

contacted in person in their office in the Jafet Library lobby, by email at libinfo@aub.edu.lb, or by phone, extension 2629.

Counseling Center, Student Affairs:

The Counseling Center, located in West Hall 210, offers confidential support to students with a range of academic and non-academic concerns. For more information or to make an appointment, see the center's webpage: <http://www.aub.edu.lb/SAO/Pages/Counseling-Center.aspx>