



## English 102 Topics—Summer 2018

This list is current as of 2/20/2018. If the description of a 102 section in the Timetable of Classes is not listed below, please contact the English Department at 865/974-5401 to get it.

Each instructor's section of English 102 is organized around a distinctive topic; please choose one that appeals to you and your interests. All English 102 sections teach archival, qualitative, and secondary source research and writing.

All English 102 sections require 2 textbooks, *Rhetoric of Inquiry*, 4th edition, and *The Writer's Harbrace Handbook*, 5th edition. Each section may have additional required texts; please check with the Bookstore to see whether additional texts are required for *your* section.

The day/time for each instructor's section is listed in the online Timetable of Classes.

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### Hanson, C: Inquiry into Satire

Inquiry into Satire examines issues of humor as a means to expose truth, which has received increasing attention because of social and political unrest in the United States. To accomplish this goal, we will conduct three kinds of research: secondary source, archival, and qualitative. The secondary source project will examine a debate about the effect of satire on members of specific discourse communities; for example, students will select a discourse community they identify with, such as people in their same major, and will examine how satire functions within the shared set of values of that group. In the archival project, students will work with primary sources to explore the historical significance of satirical works, looking at newspaper and magazine articles, political cartoons, and American television programs. Finally, we will conduct qualitative research by observing and interviewing participants in order to investigate experiences with and/or beliefs about satire as impetus for personal and/or social change.

### Lane, V: Inquiry into

Inquiry into Gender and Sexuality examines the issues of gender and sexuality which has received increasing attention because of conversations in and around college networks. We will use this topic to develop research and writing skills. To accomplish this goal, we will conduct three kinds of research: archival, secondary source, and qualitative. The archival project will examine historical significance of gender representations in advertising and print media from 1950 forward. The secondary source project will build from the archival research project to examine the ways gender representations are and have been linked to the ways in which sexuality is or has been expressed through our culture. Finally, we will

conduct qualitative research in order to investigate the current beliefs and conversations about gender and sexuality happening on our own campus.

Slayton, K: Inquiry into the Gendered Hero(ine)

“Hero culture” has thrived for centuries, manifesting in a range of genres. Mythic heroes such as Beowulf come to mind, as do modern heroes like Batman—and yet what about female heroes? In this course, we will explore to what extent depictions of hero(ines) rely on representations of masculinity/femininity in mythic, historic, and modern contexts. In pop-culture, how do hero(ines) make or break gender stereotypes? How do modern audiences perceive them? Do modern depictions of past heroes deviate or follow their primary-source descriptions? We will explore these questions through qualitative and archival research and will bring both skills together in a secondary source research project in which we will enter our own inquiries into ongoing conversations about hero(ines) and gender.

Stickel, M: Inquiry into the Role of TV in American Popular Culture

This section of ENGL 102 will explore TV in American popular culture. How does TV shape American popular culture? Are people's ideologies, beliefs, and values cultivated or reflected in TV? Does TV influence our relationships with people, and if so, how does TV become a mode of interaction and communication, rather than solely a platform intended for viewership? Lastly, how does TV critique or evaluate varying social and cultural issues? Throughout ENGL 102, students will develop research and written communication skills while investigating TV's role in American popular culture. We will conduct archival, qualitative, and secondary research to investigate ongoing debates within various academic discourse communities about TV's influence and will report the findings in a series of written research projects. This course will help you develop your academic research, writing, and communication skills. You will learn how to conduct archival, qualitative, and secondary source research and will present what you've learned to academic audiences in traditional discipline-appropriate papers and a poster presentation.

Turner, K: Inquiry into True Crime

Inquiry into True Crime examines the issues of true crime and true crime writing, which has received increasing attention because of the growing popularity of the genre. We will use this topic to develop research and writing skills. To accomplish this goal, we will conduct three kinds of research: archival, qualitative and secondary source. In the archival project, we will explore the historical significance of true crime writing over the course of one century. Then, we will conduct qualitative research by interviewing participants in order to investigate their experiences with and/or beliefs about perceptions of crime, crime solving, and/or policy issues. Finally, the secondary source project will examine the impact of the true crime genre on how criminality is interpreted in modern culture.