

You Are What You Eat: Writing about Food and Culture

Instructor:

Ryan House

Email:

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Office Location

VMMC211A

Class Room:

VLIB 260

Office Hours:

Wednesday 1-2pm

Thursday 2-2:45pm



Required Course Materials:

Food: A Reader for Writers Holdstein, Deborah and Danielle Aquiline. Oxford Press.

The Everyday Writer, 5th Ed. Lunsford, Andrea. Bedford / St. Martins.

You will also be required to use:

- **Google Drive**
- **Blackboard Learn**
- **Website building service like WordPress, Wix, or Weebly**

Catalogue Description

English 101 is designed to develop students' academic writing, critical reading and thinking, rhetorical strategies, and library skills. Prerequisite(s): writing placement exam or English 100.

Course Overview

English 101 is an introductory course in academic analysis and writing, designed to introduce you to academic discourse and to prepare you for writing in the university. This course is focused on the subject of food, and our readings and discussions will focus on exploring various depictions and conceptions of the food we eat, cook, buy, and share. Our readings and viewings will include a number of texts, theoretical pieces, and academic articles that are designed to help us explore and understand the various ways in which food shapes and is shaped by contemporary society.

General Education Requirement

A General Education Inquiry course, English 101 fulfills three [W] communications credits for WSU UCORE requirements.

Course Goals and Learning Outcomes

The goals for students in this course are:

- Develop of critical thinking, reading, and writing skills
- Awareness of rhetorical knowledge
- Understanding of writing processes
- Knowledge of conventions



	At the end of this course, students should be able to perform the following:	Course topics that address this learning outcome:	Primary evaluation of this outcome:
Critical and Creative Thinking	Integrate and synthesize knowledge from multiple sources. Access the accuracy and validity of findings and conclusions. Understand how one thinks, reasons, and makes value judgments, including ethical and aesthetic judgments. Understand diverse viewpoints, including different philosophical and cultural perspectives.	Critical reading; reading rhetorically; academic writing; rhetorical analysis; using sources; analysis; class discussion.	Informal writing activities, formal writing activities, and final portfolio.
Information Literacy	Determine the extent and type of information needed. Access information effectively and efficiently from multiple sources. Assess credibility and applicability of information sources. Use information to accomplish a specific purpose. Access and use information ethically and legally.	Summary; using sources; source analysis; logical fallacies; citation.	Informal writing activities, summaries, annotated bibliography, and final portfolio.
Communication	Recognize how circumstances, background, values, interests, and needs shape communication sent and received. Tailor messages to the audience. Express concepts and beliefs in coherent, concise, and technically correct form.	Rhetorical analysis, audience awareness, genre conventions, writing processes, academic writing conventions, style.	Peer response; formal writing activities; informal writing activities, website, and final portfolio.
Diversity	Critically assess their own core values, cultural assumptions, and biases in relation to those held by other individuals, cultures, and societies. Critically assess the cultural and social underpinnings of knowledge claims about individuals and groups, and their relations to one another.	Active reading, reading rhetorically, class discussion, rhetorical analysis, claims and evidence, critical reading, and critical analysis.	Formal writing activities, website, and final portfolio.

Coursework

This is a writing course, so you should expect to be writing nearly every day. There will be both informal, homework writing assignments as well as formal, portfolio assignments. The final project will involve the development of a website that will comprise your final portfolio along with other required and selected writings. All written assignments must follow MLA style as outlined in the *MLA Handbook* as well as your handbook. The Purdue Online Writing Lab is another great source for the guidelines and can be accessed via this link: <https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/747/01/>.

Portfolio

This course is portfolio based, which means that your final project will collect a selection of your writings from the course and present them as representative of your experience and growth over the course of the semester. To show this growth, you will submit versions of your writing from throughout the writing process. Thus, it is vitally important that you retain these drafts during the semester. The portfolio will consist of a cover letter, select informal writings, the research paper, and two of the three remaining formal writing assignments: personal essay, rhetorical analysis essay, or source synthesis essay.

For the formal assignments, you will be required to submit drafts which will receive feedback but not be graded. You will then revise based on the feedback you receive and choose two of the assignments to submit for a grade in the portfolio.

Formal Writing Assignments:

- Personal Essay, in which you will examine or reflect on your relationship with food.
- Rhetorical Analysis, in which you will analyze rhetorical choices in food advertisements.
- Source Synthesis Essay, in which you will integrate and present information from multiple sources.
- Research Essay, in which you will research an aspect of food culture you find interesting, troubling, or otherwise worthy of research.

In-Class Activities:

In response to readings and/or class discussion, I will ask you to complete a combination of writing activities: quizzes, group work, timed writing, rhetorical exercises, etc. In each case, I will provide you with a specific question or prompt to get you started. These writing activities will allow you to try out and reflect on course content and rhetorical strategies and are imperative to meeting the course goals. **Failure to participate can negatively impact your grade.**

Google Drive:

You will use Google Drive to share drafts of your formal essays with your classmates and me. Files uploaded to Google Drive may be edited / changed / even deleted. **So, it is vitally important that you retain on your device local copies of the files that you upload.** It is also important that you adhere to the file naming conventions below.

File Naming:

Because we will be handling various versions of your essays, it's important to keep them straight. File names should reference **3 things: your name, the assignment, and the version.**

Examples: "house_personal_rough.docx" / "house_research_revised.docx" / "house_rhetorical_final.docx"

Files that do not follow these conventions will not be accepted / graded / reviewed / acknowledged.

Peer Review:

For each of the formal writing assignments, you will be required to participate in online peer review via Google Drive. Drafts will be submitted to the corresponding peer review folder. After the deadline, I will

divide drafts into small group folders which will only be shared with those group members. Each member of the group will be required to comment on the drafts and provide useful feedback for revision. These peer review exercises will be graded and included in your participation grade for the course. In addition, you will be required to participate in the end of the semester in-class peer reviews for the portfolio. **See course schedule for due dates.**

Mini-portfolio

For each of the formal writing assignments, you will submit a mini-portfolio. Each mini-portfolio will consist of a cover letter, formal outline, initial draft with peer comments, and a revised draft. **All components should be collected in one file.** You must submit a mini-portfolio for the assignment in order for it to be eligible for submission in the final portfolio. See course schedule for due dates.

Evaluation:

Your final grade will be calculated according to the following percentages (and adjusted for absences and/or late and missing work):

- **Portfolio Website (60%)** – The major project for this course will be the creation of a Google Site that will include an introduction (cover letter), several informal writings, an annotated bibliography, a pattern of error log, a revised research paper, and two of the three revised major writing assignments.
- **Homework (20%)** – There will be informal writings and occasional homework assignments asking you to reflect on or analyze readings and prepare for class discussions and assignments. Homework assignments should be submitted through Blackboard before the beginning of class.
- **Annotated Bibliography (10%)** – You will be required to perform research as part of this course, and over the course of the semester, you will complete six individual annotated bibliography entries that complement the various projects. At the end of the semester, you will revise these individual entries into one annotated bibliography and include them in the website you create.
- **Participation and discussion (10%)** – We will be reading and discussing texts nearly every day. The readings listed on the calendar for each date must be completed prior to the beginning of class. Please come to class prepared to participate in both small group activities and class discussions based on the readings assigned for that day. This portion of your grade will be based on the quantity and quality of your participation in these discussions and activities. Merely showing up for class is not enough to earn an A for this portion of your grade. You must be engaged in the process of learning.

Mid-Term:

Because English 101 is a portfolio-based course, product-based grades are always in process.

As such, midterm grades are determined by attendance, participation, and completed assignments (writing activities and drafts submitted, for example). If students have completed this work satisfactorily to date, they will receive a “B” midterm grade for English 101. Students with multiple absences and/or missing work will receive a lower midterm grade.

Per university policy, midterm assessments should not be interpreted as a formal grade, but rather as an indication of the student’s progress to date. Midterm grades are advisory and do not appear on the student’s permanent record, the WSU transcript.

Any student desiring a mock final grade for one of their essay drafts, can submit a revised draft to me for review. Please note that the draft must be revised from the original draft submitted for feedback and it should take into consideration feedback from the instructor and class peers.

Attendance:

Due to the collaborative nature of this class, regular attendance is required. Students are afforded two (2) absences. Absences beyond the second will negatively impact the student’s final grade for the course. Absences exceeding four (4) will result in a failing grade for the class. Keep this in mind: there are no

“excused” absences (with the exception of school sponsored activities). If you miss, you miss and are responsible for any and all assignments.

Because this class relies on discussion and in-class activities, active participation is expected from each student during each class. Merely sitting in the classroom does not constitute attendance. If I see that you are sleeping or engaged in non-class related activities, you will be marked absent and potentially asked to leave the classroom. Students must be active in the classroom as well as follow the policies below in order to be counted present:

- Keep your cell phone out of sight during class unless otherwise instructed.
- Do not use computers for non-class related activities (Facebook, Twitter, Reddit, etc.).
- Arriving more than 10 minutes after class begins and/or packing up or leaving before class is dismissed will result in an absence.

Lastly, make-up work is solely at the discretion of the instructor, and opportunities for make-up work may only be granted with prior authorization.

Late Work:

Due to the collaborative nature of this course, it is important to turn in assignments by their respective due dates so that you may participate in class activities. Work that is turned in late often misses opportunities for feedback, workshops, or revision – the backbone of this course. **Therefore, work submitted after the deadline will automatically incur a 10% deduction in grade, plus 10% for every day after the first that it is outstanding.**

Communications:

Students should maintain professionalism in any and all communications made to the instructor and/or fellow students. I reserve the right to request revision of any email that lacks a proper salutation, correct grammar and punctuation, professional tone, or proper signature before addressing any questions or concerns it may have posed. I will be asking you to utilize Google Drive and Sites as a requirement for the course assignments, but you will still need to send all emails through your WSU email account.

IMPORTANT:

Per new WSU policy effective August 24 2015, I will ONLY be able to respond to emails sent from your WSU email address. I will NOT be able to respond to emails sent from your personal email address as of the first day of fall semester. Effective the 24th, the IT Department will switch the “preferred” email address in your myWSU to your WSU email address.



Additional Information

Academic Integrity:

Academic integrity is the cornerstone of the university and will be strongly enforced in this course. If you are found to have violated the academic integrity policy on any assignment, you will receive a failing grade for that assignment. In addition, you must make an appointment to speak with me if you intend to continue on in the course. Otherwise, you will fail the course and your case will be referred to the Office of Student Standards and Accountability.

Plagiarism is the intentional and unintentional misuse of sources. Any time you borrow words or ideas from a source, you must provide proper MLA citations for the work. Whether intentional or unintentional, plagiarism is not acceptable in this or any other class at Washington State University. All instances of plagiarism and academic dishonesty/misconduct, whether they are intentional or not, will be treated with the full severity possible as outlined in the Washington State University policy on plagiarism, which can be viewed here:

<http://www.wsulibs.wsu.edu/plagiarism>. For additional information about WSU's Academic Integrity policy/procedures, please contact (360) 546-9573. If you have questions or concerns about plagiarism in your work, please speak to me before you turn in your first written assignment.

Accommodations:

Reasonable accommodations are available for students who have a documented disability. Please notify me during the first week of class of any accommodations needed for this course. Late notification may mean that requested accommodations might not be available. Accommodations may take some time to implement so it is critical that you also contact Disability Services as soon as possible. All accommodations must be approved through Disability Services, located in the Student Resource Center on the Lower Level of Student Services Center (360) 546-9138. <http://studentaffairs.vancouver.wsu.edu/student-resource-center/disability-services>

The Writing Center:

You are encouraged to visit the university Writing Center as you write your assignments for English 402. The Writing Center, located in VLIB 203, has open tutoring hours throughout the week.

Emergency Notification System

WSU has made an emergency notification system available for faculty, students and staff. Please register at myWSU with emergency contact information (cell, email, text, etc.). You may have been prompted to complete emergency contact information when registering for classes on RONet. In the event of a Building Evacuation, a map at each classroom entrance shows the evacuation point for each building. Please refer to it. Finally, in case of class cancellation campus-wide, please check local media, the WSU Vancouver web page and/or <http://www.flashalert.net/>. Individual class cancellations may be made at the discretion of the instructor. Each individual is expected to make the best decision for their personal circumstances, taking safety into account. The safety plan website is located here: <http://www.vancouver.wsu.edu/safety-plan>.

Important Dates and Deadlines

Students are encouraged to refer to the academic calendar often to be aware of critical deadlines.

<http://www.registrar.wsu.edu/Registrar/Apps/AcadCal.ASPX>.

Questions regarding the academic calendar can be directed to the Office of Student Affairs in VSSC 100 or call 360-546-9559.

WSU Safety Statement:

Classroom and campus safety are of paramount importance at Washington State University, and are the shared responsibility of the entire campus population. WSU urges students to follow the "Alert, Assess, Act," protocol for all types of emergencies and the "Run, Hide, Fight" response for an active shooter incident. Remain ALERT (through direct observation or emergency notification), ASSESS your specific situation, and ACT in the most appropriate way to assure your own safety (and the safety of others if you are able). Please sign up for emergency alerts on your account at MyWSU. For more information on this subject, campus safety, and related topics, please view the FBI's Run, Hide, Fight video and visit the WSU safety portal.