



MarymountManhattan

Writ 102 Spring 2023 Blurbs Academic Writing Program

Writ 102.1 (Tuesdays, 10:00-12:51) IN-PERSON

Writ 102.2 (Thursdays 10:00-12:51) IN-PERSON

***Migration Academy Linked**

Prof. Michael Colvin

Hispanic New York

Hispanic culture thrives in New York City, and Hispanic New Yorkers of different origins have created distinct cultural identities in this city. In this course students will examine the experiences of Hispanic residents in New York through literature, film, and popular culture; students will focus on one of the works of literature to create a research project about New York in that work of literature.

Writ 102.3 (T/TH 1:00-2:21) IN-PERSON

***Migration Academy Linked**

Prof. Martha Sledge

Immigration

In this section of WRIT 102, you will read, conduct research, and produce texts around issues of immigration, both voluntary and forced. We will read an immigration narrative and analytical essays, study images, and watch films in order to understand immigration issues in the US and how immigration to the US is presented in film and literature. You will do a lot of writing – in and out of class – to help you understand your writing strengths and areas of growth. This section of WRIT 102 will take you to the next level of skill and confidence as a writer of college papers and as a writer beyond the classroom.

Writ 102.OL4 (T/TH 8:30-9:51) ONLINE

Writ 102.OL5 (T/TH 5:50-7:11) ONLINE

Prof. Allen Strouse

Writing for Consensus & Deep Listening

This course will challenge you to investigate the ways that you relate to reading and writing. We will develop communication skills that can help us to “win arguments” and to “do research.” But we will also study how, historically, these skills have promoted separation and competition. Much of our reading and writing will focus on consensus-building and deep-listening, and our class-room policies and writing practices will cultivate collaboration and cooperation. Students will design an original, 8-10 page academic research project in this course.

Writ 102.6 (M/W 5:50-7:11) IN-PERSON

Prof. Elizabeth Bogner

Color

It is said, no two people look at the same thing and see the same color. Each color has a history, how it came to be made, how some cultures use it to symbolize one thing, idea, or belief or another. Color has meaning – white is both the color of weddings and death, depending on where you are. Colors are mood: we are blue when we are sad, yellow when fearful, when angry we are red. We will use as our guide *The Secret Lives of Color* by Kassia St Clair, each chapter an exploration of a color, its origin story and cultural uses (and abuses). Color will be the starting point for a research project that explores how it interacts with the world – a story that may be personal, but is just as easily one of a time, place, or people you’ve always wanted to know more about.

Writ 102.7 (T/TH 4:00-5:21) IN-PERSON

Prof. Patrick McCarthy

American Society Through Film

Hollywood prides itself on capturing and presenting an image of American society, turning it into a product that it sells to the world. The image can be an idealized dream or a dark reflection, depending on the film genre and the decade. This course is designed to acquaint students with academic research and documentation techniques and stimulate their spirit of inquiry. Our subject is American society in the 20th century, how it was represented in contemporary popular film, and the critical response it received. Students will design and complete a 10-page final research project in the subject. Readings include essays by renowned critics and writers such as Pauline Kael, James Agee and William Goldman; film reviews, both historical and contemporary; and analyses of the film industry. We will also look at movies that obsessed previous generations, but are forgotten today...and ask why critical opinion evolves. By researching films and texts, we will explore the complex cause-and-effect relationship between the visionaries who make movies, and the society that both enjoys and inspires their work.

Writ 102.8 (W 2:30-5:21) IN-PERSON

Prof. Jonathan Rachmani

Modern Monsters

In 1816, a massive volcanic eruption plunged the world into the cold, dark, and bleak “Year Without a Summer.” The frigid rainy weather drove an 18-year-old Mary Shelley along with her friends into passing the time with the most celebrated ghost story competition in history, which yielded her novel, *Frankenstein*. This most influential and enduring gothic novel both reflects the concerns of Shelley’s time and continues to shape our understanding of some of the core questions of modern society: What are the moral limits to science and technology? What does it mean to be marked as an outsider? How do we experience social alienation? And who are our monsters?

In this course we will explore these and related questions raised by the novel and expand our examination of the monstrous into the genres of film and television. We will view several films that update the theme of the monstrous and consider how this theme has continued to reflect and challenge our relationship to ourselves and our social environment. Each of you will have the

opportunity to develop a sustained research project addressing a relevant topic from *Frankenstein*. These projects will allow you to draw on our discussion of Shelley's novel and relate the ideas we've built up in class to your own interpretations of more recent depictions of the monstrous in the genre of your choice.

Writ 102.BL9 (M/W 10:00-11:21) HYBRID (Mon I/P, Wed ONL)

Writ 102.BL10 (M/W 11:30-12:51) HYBRID (Mon I/P, Wed ONL)

***Migration Academy Linked**

Prof. Leanna McLennan

The Places Where We Live

“History is not the past. It is the present. We carry our history with us. We are our history. If we pretend otherwise, we are literally criminals.” -James Baldwin

If we do not wish to ignore history, how, then, can we best address the historical events that have taken place where we live? In this course, you will research and write about a place where you have lived, or currently live. You will delve deeply into its history, seeking new information. You might write about indigenous knowledges; migration or diaspora; or the consequences of a historical event and how best to address it. For your projects, you will select research questions to pursue through a bottom-up, inquiry-based, ethical research process. Along the way, we will share active, engaged scholarship shaped by model research essays we read. As you extend and deepen your practice of close reading, writing, and critical thinking skills, you will gain comfort with the process of professional-level composition—invention, drafting, placing sources in conversation with each other, peer feedback, editing, revision and reflection—as you develop your voice as a writer.

Writ 102.11 (TH 8:30-11:21) IN-PERSON

Prof. Jeffrey Norquist

Work & Occupations

In this WRIT 102 course, students explore the world of work in all its different realities: history of work and its daily reality in people's lives; personal experiences, needs and goals; the connection between work and larger societal institutions (e.g., capitalism, education, family); and the impact of social issues on the workplace. Participation in this course bolsters workplace knowledge and preparedness, either directly through student investigations of their potential careers or indirectly through a knowledge-build related to the dynamics of working life and the greater society. For their final paper project, students write an 8-10 page research paper about their future career or industry. The paper requires data from an interview with a professional working in the field.