

# ENG 102 IW: ENGLISH COMPOSITION II—SPRING 2020

**DR. HAROLD WILLIAM HALBERT**

Tuesdays and Thursdays 8 AM to 9:25 AM online, synchronous



Montgomery County  
Community College

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Office Hours: WF 10:15 AM to 11:00 AM Online by appointment. See handouts section for instructions	Writing Center Hours: ONLINE: M: 10:30 AM to 12:30 AM

## COURSE DESCRIPTION:

ENG 102 focuses on writing the college-level research paper and develops each student's mastery of communication, information literacy, and analytic skills with emphasis placed on research and documentation methods. Students use writing, reading, listening, and observations skills to understand, organize, receive, and convey information. Using research gleaned from diverse sources, students employ logic, reasoning, and analysis to craft effective essays.

## PREREQUISITE:

Students must have successfully completed or tested out of REA 017 or REA 018, ESL 011 or ENG 011.

## LEARNING OUTCOMES:

Upon successful completion of this course, the student will be able to:

1. Address a question using an appropriate research strategy
2. Compose a coherent thesis that addresses an audience and purpose appropriate to the writing task
3. Locate and critically evaluate information from written, oral, graphic, mass media, and scholarly sources
4. Access and use information ethically and legally, employing the appropriate format and documentation
5. Integrate research into an argument
6. Draw reasonable conclusions based on research
7. Write well-edited essays that show substantial attention to organization and grammar

To address these skills goals, I have designed the course around a specific theme: horror and the monstrous in art.

## COURSE CONTENT

My courses are designed to deal with adult issues often centering on controversial cultural and historical conflicts. At times, the class readings, lectures, and discussions may question ideas or beliefs that individual students hold dear. In addition, the language used in the course may range from highly technical jargon to the vernacular, including profanity. Students who wish to avoid such a classroom environment should seek another section of the course.

## TEXTBOOK AND REQUIRED MATERIALS:

- *A Pocket Style Manual* (8<sup>th</sup> Edition)—Hacker and Sommers
- *I Am Legend*--Richard Matheson (ISBN-10: 031286504X)
- *Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde*--Robert Louis Stevenson (Signet Classics ISBN-13: 978-0451528957)
- Downloaded Course Readings (provided by instructor via Blackboard)
- Book-Tab Post-Its.
- Pen and paper for each class

English 102 will be one of the most challenging courses of your academic career because it moves quickly, requires a wide range of academic skills, and demands more time than the average course. We will complete four major essay cycles consisting of content readings, skills readings, prewriting, drafting, peer revisions, and final drafts. A breakdown of the assignments and relative point values is as follows:

Major Research Paper	300 Points
Final drafts of major papers	200 points
MS Word Formatting Assignment	21
Annotated bibliographies	50 points
Individual drafts of papers (points given for in-class participation in peer review, not simply completing drafts)	5 points if completed -5 if not
In-class essay	50 points/essay, 5 points/card

Required emails and posts	1 point if completed -5 if not
Reading checks	5 points
Formal responses and formal peer reviews	20 points
Formal grammar revisions	50 points
Late to class	-2 points for each occurrence
Attendance	1 point for each class attended -5 points for each absence or as otherwise noted on daily assignments; 5th absence means F in course
Missed conference	-10 points
Two-minute presentation	10 points

Your grade is calculated by adding the total points earned and then dividing them by the total points possible. That average will then be plugged into the college's grading scale.

Transcript/Entry Numerical Grade	Corresponding letter grade	Percent Equivalent
4.0	A	93.6-100%
3.7	A-	89.5-93.5%
3.3	B+	87.5-89.4%
3.0	B	83.5-87.5%
2.7	B-	79.5-83.5%
2.3	C+	77.5-79.5%
2.0	C	69.5-77.4%
1.3	D	63.5-69.5%
0.0	F	0-63.5%

Be advised that *you must complete all major papers and in-class essays in order to pass the course*. Even if your paper is too late to be accepted under the late work policies, it must be completed by the end of the semester. If it is not, then you will automatically fail for the course, regardless of what your point total is.

#### **MAJOR PAPER REWRITE OPTION**

In order to allow students to benefit from the three-step writing process and to turn in the best possible work for evaluation, students will be permitted to revise the first graded major paper in the course for an entirely new grade provided the assignment/essay was handed in on time and without plagiarism. Late or plagiarized papers are ineligible for revision.

Note: Just turning in a revision does not guarantee you will receive a higher grade. In the event that the revised draft grade is actually lower than the original assignment, you will receive the higher of the two grades; however, a higher revision grade always replaces the original grade, so if you are prepared to work hard, your grade will most likely benefit. See the class web page for more information on the major paper rewrite. Please see the class web page's assignments section for more explicit details.

#### **EMAIL and COMMUNICATION WITH DR. HALBERT**

While I have an office phone, the best way to communicate with me is via email. I am generally quick to respond, but please be advised that I may take up to 48-hours to respond during the semester (and longer during breaks). I generally do not answer emails after 5PM because of family obligations, so 1 AM messages the night before a paper is due will normally not get a response before class. My expectation is that you will check your email each day, particularly between the final class meeting and the posting of grades. I will not spam the class with non-class related materials, so if you get a message from me, please consider it important and respond if needed.

Each student is responsible for checking his or her email accounts at least every other day during the semester. During the last week of class, reading day, and the entire final exam period (until Dr. Halbert announces that final grades have been posted), students should check their email every day in order to make sure there are no issues or concerns about your grade that need to

addressed. Failure to check your email may negatively affect your grade because messages about the class generally are generally important information about assignments.

## **COLLEGE POLICIES**

All [College Policies](#) must be followed and are a binding part of this syllabus. Of particular note are the [Student Code of Conduct](#) (which deals largely with behavior) and the [Student Academic Code of Ethics](#) (which deals academic honesty issues). You are also responsible for the [Acceptable Use of Technology policy](#).

## **PLAGIARISM AND ACADEMIC DISHONESTY:**

Plagiarism constitutes a serious breach of academic honesty and will not be tolerated. Unless I deem an act of plagiarism or cheating an honest mistake, I routinely assign students an "F" in the course for any act of academic dishonesty without the option of withdrawing from the course. Especially egregious acts will receive an "FX" with an additional notation of academic misconduct on the student's transcript. Please note that submitting work from another class as original work for this course constitutes academic dishonesty. For a full discussion of the Academic Honesty policies, please see the [Student Academic Code of Ethics policy](#).

## **GRADE APPEAL**

In the interest of due process, the College provides an appeal process for a student who believes that a recorded final grade does not accurately reflect his/her academic performance in a course due to issuance of an arbitrary grade, inconsistent grading practice, or mechanical error. The policy and procedure is found at <http://www.mc3.edu/about-us/policies/8581>

## **STUDENT CODE OF CONDUCT**

The purpose of the Student Code of Conduct is to guide students to understand their responsibilities in regard to appropriate behavior and respect for others in the college community. The policy addresses classroom disruptions and removal from the classroom for behavioral issues. It also provides the standards for ensuring the College provides due process to students through the judicial process. Please see the [Student Code of Conduct policies and procedures for more information](#).

## **SERVICES FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES:**

Montgomery County Community College (MCCC) welcomes qualified students with disabilities and endorses the principles of nondiscrimination and reasonable accommodation as described in Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (504) and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA). To see if you are eligible for services and reasonable accommodations in this course please review the policy on the Disabilities web site at <https://www.mc3.edu/about-mccc/policies-and-procedures/students-with-disabilities>.

## **ATTENDANCE POLICY:**

Regular attendance and punctuality are expected. Students may miss four class meetings and remain in the course. The fifth absence will result in either a required withdrawal from the course (before the **March 30, 2021**, deadline) or an automatic F in the course (after the **March 30, 2021**, deadline for withdrawal without a signature). At the start of the semester, each student will receive 12 points of extra credit for attendance. Points lost for tardiness or absences will initially be taken from this pool of points, giving students the flexibility to miss two classes without injury to their grades. Each absence will subtract five points from a student's total points scored for the semester. Each late arrival will subtract two points from the total points scored. A point will be awarded for each class attended. If a student knows he or she will miss a class, that student should alert Dr. Halbert beforehand. Under special circumstances (usually involving a documented medical emergency or a death in the family), you may request permission to remain enrolled in the course if your absences have exceeded four, but such circumstances are rare. Attendance will be taken by sign-in sheet at the start of class: students arriving after the sign-in sheet will be marked tardy. If you arrive late, please wait until the end of class to sign the sheet. Failure to sign the sheet at all constitutes an absence. Students who leave class early must ask for permission prior to the start of class; if you leave without permission before I dismisses the class, you will be marked absent for the whole period. Good manners suggest that if you know you will miss a class meeting, you will contact me and let me know.

## **CLASS CANCELLATION:**

In the event of inclement weather or other emergency, MCCC will send a text to students who have registered for [Montco's text messaging alert](#). In the event that I have to cancel a class, I will email the class and post a message on Blackboard (assuming I have power at home to access the Internet). I strongly urge each of you to set up [Montco's text messaging alert](#) on your mobile phones as well: the College will send an alert of campus-wide closings.

## WITHDRAWAL POLICY, INCOMPLETES, AND AUDITS:

Students are encouraged to consult with their instructor and/or an academic advisor when initiating a Course Withdrawal. The instructor's permission must be requested and received if requesting a withdrawal after 60% and before 75% of the course is completed. After 75% of the course is completed, students may apply for an Excused Withdrawal due to medical, catastrophic, or other circumstances beyond the student's control. Specific dates of deadlines for this semester can be found at <http://www.mc3.edu/adm-fin-aid/deadlines>

Should you wish to withdraw from the course, the deadline to withdraw without my signature is March 30, 2021. If you do not formally withdraw, you will receive an F for the course even if you stop attending. **After March 30, 2021, I will not sign any withdrawal requests unless you have a documented emergency. If I have not returned the first paper by this date, I will extend the deadline until one week after that paper is returned.**

**The absolute last day to get my signature is April 15, 2021. After that, all requests to withdrawal must be made directly to the Dean of Arts and Humanities.**

Applications for an "Incomplete" will only be entertained in cases of documented medical emergencies, incarceration, or military call-ups. Audits will not be permitted unless you start the course as an audit student and can convince me that you are willing to do all that work for no grade.

## TURNING IN DRAFTS

For each major paper, we will write at least two drafts. Each draft needs to be uploaded to the Discussion Board in Blackboard with the paper both copied and pasted AND attached as a file. One purpose of this upload is to create a backup file of your paper should your computer/storage device crash. The other is so that you can read the works of others to see other approaches to the same writing task you are facing. While stealing the words or ideas of others in the class will result in a plagiarism charge, stealing someone's style or rhetorical moves isn't: most strong writers at some point have looked at the works of others as guides on how to write.

## TURNING IN MAJOR PAPERS

When the final draft of a major paper is due, you will need to do the following:

- Submit the paper to the appropriate dropbox on Blackboard as either an MS Word, Pages, or Rich Text Format file. When required, a works cited page should be included in the same file. **This file is what will actually be graded.**
- Post a copy to the discussion board in the "Final Draft" forum.

## LATE WORK

All work is due at the beginning of class on the day listed for the syllabus unless otherwise noted. I hate late work from students: it complicates my ability to grade or simply keep track of your work. More importantly, it devalues the efforts of your classmates who work very hard to meet their deadlines. To discourage late work, I have the following policy:

- Final drafts of papers lose 25 points (out of the possible 200 points) for each 24-hour period they are late. This penalty includes Saturdays and Sundays.
- Other late assignments have a 24-hour period to be submitted. They will be graded, and that grade will be divided by 2 and entered into the grade spreadsheet.

Late work will kill your grade, so don't do it. If you know ahead of time that you will not be able to complete a task, contact me for an extension. I reserve the right to make an exception to the late policy in the case of an extreme (and documentable) emergency, but that almost never happens.

## TUTORIAL SERVICES:

Tutorial Services: Free subject-area tutoring, academic workshops, and study skills specialists are available at Blue Bell Campus's Tutorial Services in College Hall 180, across from the Cafeteria. Tutorial Services helps students develop learning strategies based on their unique learning styles with the goal of creating successful students and independent learners. Contact them at 215-641-6452 or log into the portal and find us online: [Tutorial Services hours and services](#). Please note that Tutorial Services houses the Writing Center where faculty-tutors are more than happy to assist with revising papers.

## UPDATES TO SYLLABUS:

As the semester unfolds, Dr. Halbert may have to adjust the syllabus due to unforeseen circumstances. Such changes will be announced in class and via Blackboard: once they are announced on Blackboard, students must update their personal copies of the syllabus/daily assignments and are to be held to the new syllabus due dates. Dr. Halbert will make every effort to not change major assignments (papers, tests, in-class essays, etc.) even when changes are needed out of respect for those folks who plan ahead, but he reserves the right to do so if no other options are available.

#### **BASIC NEEDS SUPPORT:**

Any student who has difficulty accessing resources to meet their basic needs i.e. safety, food and/or stable housing and believes this may affect their performance in the course, is urged to contact [Wellness@mc3.edu](mailto:Wellness@mc3.edu)

#### **CLASSROOM POLICIES:**

As adults, students and the instructor should know to do the following in class:

- Be prepared for class with work completed and required materials available.
- Refrain from non-class related conversations once class has started.
- Keep cell phones and pagers in "silent" mode and refrain from answering them or using them to send text messages. Should a student expect an important call (because of family emergencies or issues of similar magnitude), please make the instructor aware of that possibility before class.
- Inform the professor if you will be recording the class.
- Treat each other with mutual respect: while we can challenge each other's ideas in class, personalized attacks or use of inappropriate language directed at another member of the class community is unacceptable.
- Ask for help if you need it.
- Make the most of this course. It will help in the future.

#### **COVID 19 PANDEMIC ISSUES:**

The current pandemic makes demands of all of us in the class. For some, it's a minor irritant, but for others, particularly those with compromised immune systems or relatives in high-risk groups, it offers a number of special challenges that range from access to technology to childcare to unpredictable emergencies. The nature of this class is fundamentally affected by the pandemic in the following ways:

- The course cannot meet face-to-face.
- The course is synchronous, though, which means we meet online at the same time on assigned days. Attendance is required.
- You will need reliable internet and computer access to complete the course.
- Printed materials cannot be provided in class, unfortunately.
- Library and tutoring support are online-only for the semester.
- Office hours must be held virtually.
- You will need to keep your cameras on during class time. If there is an issue with this expectation, you need to email me immediately so we can find a solution.
- Attendance will be taken by me using a screen shot of the class participants.

If you run into a Covid-specific issue that affects your ability to continue in the class, please reach out to me to help find a solution.

#### **FINAL WORD:**

I enjoy teaching Composition courses: I believe they can be the most empowering classes a person can take in college because the skills you learn can help you in virtually every part of your life. I took this job to help people discover their potential: as long as you are willing to do the work, I will do everything in my power to help you not only pass the course, but to be the best writer you can be.

#### **DAILY ASSIGNMENTS**

*Note: the bulleted items immediately below a date are due on that date.*

Thursday, January 21, 2021

- First day of class.

Tuesday, January 26, 2021

- Read the instructions and complete the Contact Information handout (See Handouts page).
- Read the instructions and complete the Student Contract handout (See Handouts page).
- Read the instructions and complete the "Introduce Yourself" assignment (See Assignments page).

- Read and mark *The Strange Case of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde* from actual start of novel up to "The Incident at the Window." You do not need to read the introductory materials. (5 points)
- Last day to add a course without faculty signature.

Thursday, January 28, 2021

- Finish reading and marking *The Strange Case of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde*. Please note that the final chapter is the "Full Statement of the Case" and is essential to the novella's meaning. (5 points).

Tuesday, February 2, 2021

- Scholarly Article Analysis Project Due. See Assignments for details. A copy of the required article, "Twins, Twinship, and Robert Louis Stevenson's *Strange Case of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde*," can be found in the "Course Documents" section of the class Blackboard Site.
- Read, and mark the online handout "Integrating Quotes into a Paper (MLA Style)" on the class web page (either print a copy or save a copy from the web and mark in MS Word). This may help with the Scholarly Article Analysis Project.

Thursday, February 4, 2021

- Read and mark pages 112-130 in *A Pocket Style Manual* ("Using Sources to inform...", all of "Avoiding Plagiarism," all of "Integrating sources," and all of "Integrating literary quotations." Place a tab on the following items: "unacceptable borrowing," "ellipsis mark," "brackets," "long quotations," and "signal phrases." 5 points.
- Skim the entire MLA documentation style section (130-177). Put a bracket by the basic entry for a book, an online source, a source from an anthology, a source from a database, and MLA paper format.
- Sign up for a conference with me via Starfish. See Handouts section for instructions on how to do this.
- Bring *The Strange Case of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde* to class.

Tuesday, February 9, 2021

- Draft 1 of Paper #1 is due (5 points if complete; -5 if not done). Make sure it is posted to the discussion board in the "Jekyll and Hyde Paper: Draft 1" forum: others will need to read your paper in class today.
- Last day to drop the course before withdrawal period starts.

Wednesday, February 10, 2021

- NO CLASS: We do not meet on Wednesdays.
- Withdrawal without faculty signature period starts.

Thursday, February 11, 2021

- No Class. Required conferences. Post a copy of the revised draft in the "Paper 1: Conference Draft" discussion board forum prior to your conference so I can read it. (1 point if you come, -10 if you miss conference)
- The paper should be complete and revised based on your peer review and your own editing efforts.

Tuesday, February 16, 2021

- No Class. Required conferences. Post a copy of the revised draft in the "Paper 1: Conference Draft" discussion board forum prior to your conference so I can read it. (1 point if you come, -10 if you miss conference)
- The paper should be complete and revised based on your peer review and your own editing efforts.

Thursday, February 18, 2021

- No Class. Required conferences. Post a copy of the revised draft in the "Paper 1: Conference Draft" discussion board forum prior to your conference so I can read it. (1 point if you come, -10 if you miss conference)
- The paper should be complete and revised based on your peer review and your own editing efforts.

Tuesday, February 23, 2021

- Paper #1 Due. Post to the discussion board AND to the dropbox. See checklist in Assignments for more details.
- Complete the "Note to Dr. Halbert on Paper #1" and submit to the Dropbox. See the Assignments page for details.
- NO CLASS: Dr. Halbert will be in an all-day meeting.

Thursday, February 25, 2021

- Read and mark Chapters 1-17 of *I Am Legend* (pages 1-147). 10 points.

Tuesday, March 2, 2021

- Read and mark Chapters 18-21 of *I Am Legend* (pages 147-170). You will complete the novel. Do not accidentally start reading the short stories that follow. The last words of the novel are "I am legend." 5 points.

Thursday, March 4, 2021

- Watch and take notes on *28 Days Later* ([Click here for streaming options](#)).

Tuesday, March 9, 2021

- Read and mark a copy of "Monster Theory (Seven Theses)." **WARNING:** This essay is very difficult. I strongly urge you to break it up over Monday and Tuesday night. 10 points. You may wish to mark the PDF instead of printing if your technology allows it.
- Bring *I Am Legend* to class.

Thursday, March 11, 2021

- Read and mark a copy of *The Horror Film* (Chapter 9: "Slashers and Postslashers") from the course documents section of the class web page. 5 points. You may wish to mark the PDF instead of printing if your technology allows it.

Tuesday, March 16, 2021

- No Class: Spring Break

Thursday, March 18, 2021

- No Class: Spring Break

Tuesday, March 23, 2021

- Read and mark a copy of "It's Alive, I'm Afraid" from *The Monster Show* in the reading packet. 5 points. You may wish to mark the PDF instead of printing if your technology allows it.
- Bring *A Pocket Style Manual* and all the photocopied essays with you to class.
- Sign up for your conference via Starfish.

Thursday, March 25, 2021

- First Draft of Paper #2 Due. Post a copy in the "Paper #2 Draft 1" forum before class starts so that others can read your paper. (5 points if 3+ pages, -5 if no paper)

Tuesday, March 30, 2021

- No Class. Required conferences. Post a copy of the revised draft in the "Paper 2: Conference Draft" discussion board forum prior to your conference so I can read it. (1 point if you come, -10 if you miss conference)
- The paper should be complete and revised based on your peer review and your own editing efforts.
- Withdrawal without faculty signature period ends.

Wednesday, March 31, 2021

- NO CLASS. We do not meet on Wednesdays.
- Withdrawal with faculty signature period starts.

Thursday, April 1, 2021

- No Class. Required conferences. Post a copy of the revised draft in the "Paper 2: Conference Draft" discussion board forum prior to your conference so I can read it. (1 point if you come, -10 if you miss conference)
- The paper should be complete and revised based on your peer review and your own editing efforts.

Tuesday, April 6, 2021

- No Class. Required conferences. Post a copy of the revised draft in the "Paper 2: Conference Draft" discussion board forum prior to your conference so I can read it. (1 point if you come, -10 if you miss conference)
- The paper should be complete and revised based on your peer review and your own editing efforts.

Thursday, April 8, 2021

- Paper #2 Due. Post to the discussion board AND to the dropbox. See checklist in Assignments for more details.

Tuesday, April 13, 2021

- Library Orientation. 5 points instead of 1 for attendance.
- Complete prewriting assignment and post to "Research Paper: Prewriting" discussion board forum. Make sure your subject line clearly identifies the topic.

Thursday, April 15, 2021

- Annotated Bibliography assignment due. See description in Assignments section and the sample bibliography. Post a copy to the Research Bank discussion board forum and to the dropbox. WARNING: every semester two or three students flunk the course because they forget to submit this assignment. Don't be that student. (50 points)
- Two-minute presentations.
- Withdrawal with faculty signature period ends. All requests to withdraw after today will require approval from the Office of Academic Affairs.

Tuesday, April 20, 2021

- First Draft of Research paper due. Post at least 3 pages in the "Research Paper: Draft #1" Discussion Board forum prior to class so that. (5 points if 3+ pages, -5 if not posted by class time).

Thursday, April 22, 2021

- No Class. Required conferences. Post a revised copy in the "Research Paper: Conference Draft" Discussion Board forum. (1 point if you come, -10 if you miss conference)
- The complete draft of your paper should including an MLA works cited page and use and previous class activities as a guide to revision.

Tuesday, April 27, 2021

- No Class. Required conferences. Post a revised copy in the "Research Paper: Conference Draft" Discussion Board forum. (1 point if you come, -10 if you miss conference)
- The complete draft of your paper should including an MLA works cited page and use and previous class activities as a guide to revision.

Thursday, April 29, 2021

- No Class. Required conferences. Post a revised copy in the "Research Paper: Conference Draft" Discussion Board forum. (1 point if you come, -10 if you miss conference)
- The complete draft of your paper should including an MLA works cited page and use and previous class activities as a guide to revision.

Tuesday, May 4, 2021

- Last class day for this section of the course.
- Research Paper Due (300 points). There are special instructions in checklist that are different than previous submission checklists.
  - Post a copy of the paper in the "Paper #3 Final Draft" forum. (1 point if posted, -5 if not)
  - Post a copy of the paper to the Dropbox for Paper #3 (this copy will be graded).
  - Post a copy with all personal identification removed in the "Assessment Copy of Final Research Paper" Dropbox.
- We will do several activities designed to add points to your course total.
- Last day to resolve missing readings and assignments.

Monday, May 10, 2021

- NO CLASS.
- Major Paper Rewrite Option due by noon if you choose to do so. Review Major Paper Rewrite expectations in the Assignments section and submit to the Major Paper Rewrite Option dropbox. Email Dr. Halbert when you do so.

Thursday, May 13, 2021

- NO CLASS.
- Faculty must submit final grades by 11:59PM tonight. If I get it done earlier, I will email the class stating that they have been posted.

END OF SEMESTER INFORMATION:

- There is no final exam in this course. Log into the portal and visit the [Spring 2021 Final Exam schedule](#) for your other courses.
- Final Grades are due May 13, 2021 by 11:59PM. If I complete them before the deadline, I will email the class. Please do not email me directly without checking to see if I have announced that Final Grades have been posted.
- Please check your Montco email every day after our last class until I announce that the Final Grades are posted: if there is an issue with your grades, I will email you to try and resolve it, and your prompt response would be helpful to both you and me.
- I strongly urge all students to attend the final class meeting of not just this course but all your courses.