FIRST-YEAR WRITING

417 Barnard Hall
212-854-2116

Mission
First-Year Writing: Critical Conversations courses invite students into the vibrant scholarly life of the college by honing their critical reading and academic writing skills. Working in small, discussion-based seminar classes over the course of one semester, we read challenging literary texts and critical scholarship, helping students to develop fundamental skills in analysis and academic writing that allow them to take their place in vitally important scholarly conversations. Students choose one of three rubrics – Legacy of the Mediterranean, Women and Culture, or The Americas – each of which explores and questions a particular literary tradition.

Student Learning Outcomes
Students who successfully complete this one-semester course should be able to:

• closely analyze evidence to develop persuasive claims
• develop claims into sophisticated, consequential ideas
• communicate ideas clearly through well-organized, lucid writing
• develop skills in critical reading and academic writing that transfer to courses across the curriculum
• conduct interdisciplinary research to ground literary works in different contexts (historical, theoretical, etc.)
• document sources and incorporate scholarship into original analytical arguments
• avoid plagiarism and other academic violations of Barnard’s Honor Code
• gain confidence in speaking as well as writing skills in a small seminar setting

Director: Wendy Schor-Haim (Senior Lecturer in English)
Associate Director: Cecelia Lie-Spahn (Term Associate, English; Director, First-Year Writing (Workshop))
Lecturers: Meredith Benjamin, Benjamin Breyer, Vrinda Condillac, Andrew Lynn, Alexandra Watson
Post-Doctoral Fellow: Duygu Ula
Adjunct Lecturers: Mary Helen Kolinsky, Linn Cary Mehta, Barbara Morris, Jennifer Rosenthal
Adjunct Associates: Elizabeth Auran, Penelope Meyers Usher

Every Barnard first-year student is required to take First-Year Writing (formerly known as First-Year English) during her first or second semester at Barnard. Students choose to study one of three rubrics: I. Legacy of the Mediterranean investigates and interrogates formative texts and critical scholarship, helping students to develop fundamental skills in analysis and academic writing that allow them to take their place in vitally important scholarly conversations. Students choose one of three rubrics – Legacy of the Mediterranean, Women and Culture, or The Americas – each of which explores and questions a particular literary tradition.

Transfer students who did not pass a satisfactory course at their previous institution are not required to take First-Year Writing, but must take ENGL BC3103 The Art of the Essay or ENGL BC3104 The Art of the Essay or a 3-point literature course (not a creative writing course) from the Barnard English department offerings.

Cross-Listed Courses

English (Barnard)
ENGL BC1204 First-Year Writing (Workshop): Critical Conversations. 4 points.
For the most updated course description, see the First-Year Writing Program website: https://firstyear.barnard.edu/fyw/fyw-curriculum-and-courses.

ENGL BC1210 First-Year Writing: Critical Conversations: Women and Culture. 3 points.
For the most updated course description, see the First-Year Writing Program website: https://firstyear.barnard.edu/fyw/fyw-curriculum-and-courses/.

Cross-Listed Courses

Spring 2020: ENGL BC1210
Course Number | Section/Call Number | Times/Location | Instructor | Points | Enrollment
---|---|---|---|---|---
ENGL 1210 | 001/00472 | M W 1:10pm - 2:25pm | Vrinda Condillac | 3 | 12/15
ENGL 1210 | 002/00473 | M W 2:40pm - 3:55pm | Vrinda Condillac | 3 | 15/15
ENGL 1210 | 003/00474 | T Th 10:10am - 11:25am | Elizabeth Auran | 3 | 15/16
ENGL 1210 | 004/00475 | T Th 11:40am - 12:55pm | Vrinda Condillac | 3 | 16/15
ENGL 1210 | 005/00476 | T Th 1:10pm - 2:25pm | Vrinda Condillac | 3 | 16/15
ENGL 1210 | 006/00658 | T Th 2:40pm - 3:55pm | Vrinda Condillac | 3 | 16/15
ENGL 1210 | 007/00659 | T Th 2:40pm - 3:55pm | Vrinda Condillac | 3 | 16/15
ENGL 1210 | 008/00747 | M W 2:40pm - 3:55pm | Vrinda Condillac | 3 | 15/15
ENGL 1210 | 009/00748 | T Th 2:40pm - 3:55pm | Pamela Cobrin | 3 | 14/15
ENGL 1210 | 010/00770 | M W 2:40pm - 3:55pm | Nina Sharma | 3 | 15/15

ENGL BC1211 First-Year Writing: Critical Conversations: Legacy of the Mediterranean. 3 points.
For the most updated course description, see the First-Year Writing Program website: https://firstyear.barnard.edu/fyw/fyw-curriculum-and-courses/.

Spring 2020: ENGL BC1211
Course Number | Section/Call Number | Times/Location | Instructor | Points | Enrollment
---|---|---|---|---|---
ENGL 1211 | 001/00477 | M W 11:40am - 12:55pm | Duygu Ula | 3 | 16/16
ENGL 1211 | 002/00478 | M W 11:10am - 2:25pm | Penelope Usher | 3 | 16/16
ENGL 1211 | 003/00479 | M W 11:10am - 2:25pm | Benjamin Breyer | 3 | 16/16
ENGL 1211 | 004/00480 | M W 2:40pm - 3:55pm | Duygu Ula | 3 | 16/16
ENGL 1211 | 005/00481 | T Th 10:10am - 11:25am | Benjamin Breyer | 3 | 16/16
ENGL 1211 | 006/00482 | T Th 11:40am - 12:55pm | Andrew Lynn | 3 | 16/16
ENGL 1211 | 007/00483 | T Th 11:40am - 12:55pm | Wendy Schor-Haim | 3 | 16/16
ENGL BC1212 First-Year Writing: Critical Conversations: The Americas. 3 points.

For the most updated course description, see the First-Year Writing Program website: https://firstyear.barnard.edu/fyw/fyw-curriculum-and-courses (https://firstyear.barnard.edu/fyw/fyw-curriculum-and-courses/).

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