

ENGL 102 Course Descriptions, Spring 2027

English 102: Writing about Sports (Hanrahan)

Love them or hate them, sports intersect with every part of American culture, including business, economics, media, education, music, art, health, science, and questions of identity. In ENGL 102-01, we'll read, write, research, and talk about these intersections at a local level (here at Shepherd) and beyond. Whether you are your team's number one fan or someone who hated gym class, you'll find something to write about in this class, choosing and shaping projects that interest you while building your rhetorical skills.

- ENGL 102-01 MWF 9:10 – 10:00 (CRN: 40007)

English 102: The Writing and Rhetoric of Fairy Tales (Householder)

Tales Told and Retold: The Writing and Rhetoric of Fairy Tales—This course will focus on both analyzing and writing about fairy tales. Over three units, we will use fairy tales and their various interpretations and retellings to think about the research and composing process. Students will track the development of cultural identity, as well as the production of storytelling over generations, through a combination of personal retelling and cultural analysis.

- ENGL 102-08 TR 9:35 – 10:50 (CRN: 40055)
- ENGL 102-11 TR 11:00 – 12:15 (CRN: 40114)
- ENGL 102-13 TR 1:50 – 3:05 (CRN: 40225)
- ENGL 102-15 TR 3:15 – 4:30 (CRN: 40274)
- ENGL 102-18 TR 4:40 – 5:55 (CRN: 40666)

English 102: Dystopian Fiction and Film (James)

From totalitarian regimes to environmental collapse and technological domination, dystopian fiction and film reflect some of society's deepest fears and anxieties. This course explores the evolution of dystopian narratives across literature and cinema, examining how these works critique political systems, social norms, and human behavior. Students will engage with classic and contemporary works, including texts by George Orwell and Ray Bradbury; short stories such as "The Ones Who Walk Away from Omelas" and "The Lottery"; films such as *Fahrenheit 451* and *Soylent Green*; and selected episodes of *The Twilight Zone*, *Black Mirror*, and *The Handmaid's Tale*. English 102 emphasizes writing as a process and rhetoric as a lens for critical analysis. Through frequent low-stakes writing, sustained essay projects, comparative analysis, and revision, students will explore central dystopian themes such as surveillance, identity, resistance, conformity, and the consequences of unchecked power. Ultimately, students will consider how dystopian stories function not only as warnings about possible futures but also as mirrors of the world in which we live.

- ENGL 102-06 TR 8:10 – 9:25 (CRN: 40011)
- ENGL 102-09 TR 9:35 – 10:50 (CRN: 40066)

English 102: Dark Folklore: Appalachia and Beyond (Knuth)

How do local legends and folklore influence a culture? From the New England Vampire Panic to West Virginia's very own Mothman, this course will examine peculiar tales and traditions from Appalachia and beyond. We will study the rhetoric of the strange by examining cryptids, ghost stories, changelings, and more. Students will write, research, and discuss the ways in which communities use folklore to explain the unexplained.

- ENGL 102-02 MWF 11:10 – 12:00 (CRN: 40008)
- ENGL 102-03 MWF 12:10 – 1:00 (CRN: 40009)

English 102: Architecture and Fieldworking (Messenger)

These sections of English 102 will focus on architecture and urban, town, and rural planning as a spatial argument. We will use the techniques of fieldworking to explore the Shepherd campus, Shepherdstown, the region, and our own hometowns. Your writing and research will build to a final eight to ten-page fieldworking project that will combine your own fieldworking and academic sources to explore a site of your choice.

- ENGL 102-19 **OLA** (CRN: 40667)

- ENGL 102-20 **OLA** (CRN: 40668)
- ENGL 102-21 **OLA** (CRN: 40806)

English 102: Food Writing (Nixon)

Who doesn't like to eat? Over the course of the semester, this section of ENGL 102 will investigate food as a topic for practicing writing and research skills. Assignments will include a process flow, a dietary/cultural autobiography, an annotated bibliography, and a research paper. Among the reading assignments, we will spend some time together talking about Michelle Zauner's 2021 memoir *Crying in H Mart*, and we will watch the 2008 documentary *Food, Inc.*

- ENGL 102-04 MWF 1:10 - 2:00 (CRN: 40010)

English 102: Science Writing (Nixon) Restricted to STEM and Nursing Majors!

This course will cement major concepts introduced in ENGL 101/101S (e.g., audience, exigence, rhetoric) as students explore a single topic of their choosing across the entire semester. The class will together undertake projects assessing credibility of web-based sources, conducting secondary research, and reading and summarizing scholarly articles. Written assignments will build up to and include an annotated bibliography and a research paper, and the course will end with formal presentations of semester-long research projects.

- ENGL 102-05 MWF 2:10 - 3:00 (CRN: 40275)

English 102: Writing about Horror (Pate)

In this class, we'll focus on the horror genre and consider the ways horror often reflects social and cultural anxieties. We'll examine both classic and contemporary tales of horror, engage with various mainstream and avant-garde horror films, and think about relatively recent horror trends like creepypastas. We'll carry out cultural and rhetorical analyses of various horror works, and you'll complete a research project based on a film or story of your choice.

- ENGL 102-07 TR 8:10 - 9:25 (CRN: 40012)
- ENGL 102-10 TR 11:00 - 12:15 (CRN: 40113)

English 102: Writing about Pop Music (Stevens)

In this course, we will research, analyze, and write about pop music. We will write album reviews and narratives about our experience with music, complete rhetorical analyses that consider how the media talks about pop stars, and create well-researched group digital media projects that make arguments about a pop artist of your choosing.

- ENGL 102-12 TR 11:00 - 12:15 (CRN: 40224)
- ENGL 102-16 TR 3:15 - 4:30 (CRN: 40351)

English 102: Adaptation (Vaclav)

Our media landscape is built on telling and retelling stories. When and how stories are retold depends on their imagined audience, the genre of the adaptation, and the integration of popular cultural elements. In these sections of ENGL 102, we will examine and investigate the process of adaptation through several retellings of the story of *Alice in Wonderland*, as well as through self-guided projects in which students select and evaluate their own pair of source/adaptation. We will practice close reading, research, and argumentation to understand more fully what makes adaptations successful across different contexts.

- ENGL 102-14 TR 1:50 - 3:05 (CRN: 40265)
- ENGL 102-17 TR 3:15 - 4:30 (CRN: 40352)