

Wear, English 102 Description

English 102 represents the second component of the University's composition curriculum. Accordingly, this class is, above all, a writing class. Three major papers as well as ten reading responses and various in-class writing assignments will be required. The writing process—drafting, audience, analysis, organization, revision, and style and mechanics—will still comprise the bulk of our coursework. English 102, however, emphasizes research and the proper ways to conduct various types of research, which will build upon the rhetorical strategies learned in English 101.

Over the course of the semester, we will use four war satires, their various television and cinematic adaptations, and various other historical and political documents (multimedia and otherwise) to examine the social, political, and psychological effects of war as viewed through the lens of satire. Unlike many courses that concentrate on war, this course will rely primarily upon comedic representations, and we will explore the concept of “black comedy” and how it allows these texts to communicate in ways different from traditional accounts of war and traditional war literature. As such, the course will begin with a broad overview of what satire is, its goals, and some of the common aspects most satires use to achieve those goals.