

This course will build upon the reading, writing, and critical thinking skills you learned in English 101, as well as introduce you to the research process. Through the assigned texts, rhetoric text, and additional readings, we will explore the ways in which language and representations of the body/body modification are used in the media and in our day-to-day lives.

What is body modification? The answer to this is not simple, especially if you consider the range of changes people impose on their bodies daily; body modification, thus, is not just piercing and tattoos, it is tanning, body building, dieting, make-up, plastic surgery—all the way to the more extreme tongue-splitting, sub-dermal implants, and suspensions. In this course, we will examine the modified bodies and they way body modification permeates our lives; we will go beneath the surface and address the rhetoric of body modification, its impact on representation, and our perception of otherness.