

English 102 Classes and Themes
Winter Quarter 2025

Aaron Barrell **102 Sec HYA (Hybrid) (8:00am-9:50am TuTh)**
102 Sec HYC (Hybrid) (10:00am-11:50am TuTh)

Conversation & Public Discourse. Socrates is known to have performed his philosophical lessons in conversation with students, and to have prioritized the asking of questions over the forming of answers. In this class, our reading and writing will be shaped by questions such as: Is conversation a lost or dying art? How do we listen to and talk with those with whom we disagree? What are the qualities of a healthy public discourse? Does conversation make us more human? In assigned as well as independent reading, and in your own in-depth writing and research, you will take a critical attitude toward the ways that conversation helps us understand our world.

Dana Harker **102 Sec HYB (Hybrid) (10:00-11:20am TuTh)**

The Dignity of Labor. How does the concept of the dignity of labor intersect with economic and social inequalities, and how can this concept be used to promote more equitable and fulfilling work for all people? This class will explore the tension between capitalism and the continued push for dignified labor. We will also examine the social and moral implications of our everyday economic choices and their impact on the fight for economic justice.

Cobi Seslar **102 Sec A (10:00am-12:10pm MW)**
102 Sec B (12:20pm-2:30pm MW)
102 Sec OLI (Online)

Film & Culture/Anime & Archetype. Dive into Anime and Film; explore the expression of culture, mythology, symbolism, and archetypes. Research how anthropology and psychology interact while history and tradition bridge with the modern changing world through the fantastic art of animation and film. **Students write a multi-chapter research essay on a single film, anime, or TV series; they explore how the real world, past and present, influences modern art.** This quarter, we will be looking at a broad range of films in the class, including *Everything Everywhere All At Once*, *Kubo and the Two Strings*, *Princess Mononoke*, and the *Avatar: The Last Airbender* series. We'll get the opportunity to analyze your favorite films and animation pieces in the context of what influences art in the real world and what choices the directors and producers make in creating their pieces and emphasizing messages. Students report loving this class!

Diane Houston **102 Sec HYE (Diversity) (Hybrid) (10:00am-11:20am MW)**
102 Sec OLH (Diversity) (Online)

Ethnicity and Gender in Today's United States. What unexamined assumptions do many of us share about the roles ethnicity and gender play in American culture today? We will examine a variety of ideas on current social issues including racial equity, social justice, gender identity, immigration, religious discrimination, and popular media portrayal of gender and race. You'll be free to travel the ethnicity or gender-based cultural avenues you feel moved to explore while learning to write a compelling multiple-source research paper using MLA style.

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Michael DuBon **102 Sec C (12:20pm-2:30pm TuTh)**

Writing In Your Field. How do I connect my research writing to my future professional and academic goals, and how do I direct my writing to the audiences that it will benefit the most? Have you ever wondered as a future educator what kind of research and writing goes into creating public school curriculum, or as a future welder the current discussions around evolving techniques and technologies, or as a future medical researcher what persuades investors to put their money into funding medical research? Learn how to research, read, analyze, and synthesize, the kinds of communications and documents you may encounter within your chosen fields, ultimately producing an academic research essay that helps you work towards your professional and academic goals.

Kevin Craft **102 Sec OLA (Online)**
 102 Sec OLB (Online)

Survival in the Misinformation Age. This course investigates a few crucial themes of our addled age—the elusiveness of truth, the omnipresence of distraction, the history of "information" and how it goes astray. Our main concerns include: how to spot and debunk fake news, propaganda, BS; how to step outside your time-consuming social media bubble; how to live as free citizens in a privacy-threatened digital multiverse. Research methods and critical thinking skills to distinguish and document quality sources from mis- and disinformation are emphasized. MLA, APA, and LOL styles covered.

Steven Tobias **102 Sec OLC (Online)**
 102 Sec OLD (Online)
 102 Sec OLE (Online)

Contemporary Slavery. This section of ENGL& 102 focuses on the frequently overlooked issue of contemporary slavery. Many people associate slavery with the 19th-century U.S. South, and assume that it ended after the Civil War. In reality, there are over 20 million slaves in the world today—more than during any other historical era. In this course, you will explore how slavery has persisted in various forms to the present day, and is linked with many goods and services that are regularly consumed in Washington State. Studying contemporary slavery will help you understand how labor and consumption are often linked to race, class, gender, sexuality, caste, and other factors.

Diane Elizabeth **102 Sec OLF (Online)**
 102 Sec OLG (Online)

Physical and Mental Health. Our current lifestyles, cultural norms, and world events have a profound impact on our physical and mental health. We all have bodies and minds, and yet very little time in school is spent learning how to take care of them. As a result, we might not think much about it until we have significant health issues. In this class you will have a chance to research health topics that are of interest to you, share your experiences with others, and learn from classmates' experiences. You will learn the essentials of writing a research paper, and you will leave this class with information that will serve you well, not only in academics but in life in general.