

Course Blog Post Assignment Prompt
ENGL 105, Sec 050
Spring 2020

In order to practice different types of writing styles across genres and modalities, this course will incorporate a running blog in which students reflect on their experiences in ENGL 105. The blog will appear on our course website (<https://engl105sp2020.web.unc.edu/>) as the page “Course Blog”.

Each student will be responsible for composing, proofreading, polishing, and posting a single blog post to this blog throughout the semester. Each of you has been randomly assigned one of the sixteen weeks this term. (Two of you will write a post for Week 15, and two of you will write a post for the final week.)

Your blog post should be a **minimum of 500 words and should include at least one image**, but you are encouraged to write/include more. (One of the images you include should be set as your “featured image” for your post, so an image appears in the list of posts on the course blog.) Your post should reflect on the work you and your classmates have done during the past week, including work both within and outside of the classroom. What have you done? What have you learned/practiced? What project are you currently working on? How is it going? You can incorporate other events beyond ENGL 105, including what else is going on in other classes or your life beyond the classroom or in current events, as long as these relate back directly to work in our class. You can also relate your post to what’s been going on earlier in the semester as well, again, as long as the focus remains on the current week’s events.

Your post should be more than a narration of what you’re doing; aim to reflect on your experiences, what you’re learning, and how you’re growing as a writer, a student, and a person.

This will be posted online, so it’s acceptable to use contractions (such as “can’t,” etc.), but you should still avoid being overly informal, incorporating slang terms with which others might not be familiar, etc. You should also not include any material that would be inappropriate to include in a course assignment. Take advantage of the online medium by including images, media, attachments, and hyperlinks, although these also should not be inappropriate, offensive, etc. This is the first time I’ve asked ENGL 105 students to write a course blog, but I’ve used this tool in other classes. For an example of another course blog, if you’re feeling lost, see the class blog for Visual Approaches to Global Health, 2019, at <http://yss2019.epidemictoemotion.org/>.

Your course blog post is your chance to have a voice in the overall story of our semester together. It is **worth 5% of your final course grade**.

Here is the order in which you will be posting, chosen at random. Please plan ahead. If you know in advance of a challenge with a particular date, it is up to you to find someone who will switch with you and get that switch approved by me in advance. Be aware of not just when your post is due; plan ahead so you’re paying special attention during your week, taking notes, etc. This will make it easier when you actually write your post.

Remember, your post should focus primarily on what’s going on during your week, so you are not allowed to post any earlier than 5:00pm on the Thursday of your respective week. For instance,

Ashlyn will be posting about week 2, so she cannot post earlier than 5:00pm on Thurs. Jan. 16, but she must post no later than 11:59pm on Mon. Jan. 20.

Posting Schedule:

Week 1 (due Mon. Jan. 13 by 11:59pm) Elizabeth Smithy
Week 2 (due Mon. Jan. 20 by 11:59pm) Ashlyn Tharington
Week 3 (due Mon. Jan. 27 by 11:59pm) Mitchell Greene
Week 4 (due Mon. Feb. 3 by 11:59pm) Eric Zheng
Week 5 (due Mon. Feb. 10 by 11:59pm) Seena Bahhur
Week 6 (due Mon. Feb. 17 by 11:59pm) Leo McNicholas
Week 7 (due Mon. Feb. 24 by 11:59pm) MolliePierce Kilpatrick
Week 8 (due Mon. March 2 by 11:59pm) Juliet Xu
Week 9 (due Mon. March 9 by 11:59pm) Abby Jethro
Week 10 (due Mon. March 16 by 11:59pm) Lynelle Huskey
Week 11 (due Mon. March 23 by 11:59pm) Grace Newhall
Week 12 (due Mon. March 30 by 11:59pm) Jesus Enriquez
Week 13 (due Mon. April 6 by 11:59pm) David Lewis
Week 14 (due Mon. April 13 by 11:59pm) Peyton Whitaker
Week 15 (due Mon. April 20 by 11:59pm) Andrew Sadler
Week 15 (due Mon. April 20 by 11:59pm) David Dingfelder
Week 16 (due Sun. April 26 by 11:59pm) Hern Lim
Week 16 (due Sun. April 26 by 11:59pm) Sarah Laible

Technical Info:

- The blog is part of a website I've made through <http://web.unc.edu/> which basically operates through Wordpress.
- Go to the course website at <https://engl105sp2020.web.unc.edu/>. Scroll to the bottom and look for the heading "Webmaster Login." The second option allows you to log in using your ONYEN. Once you're logged in, go to the Dashboard. Then click on "All Posts" and then "Add New."
- I suggest you compose your post ahead of time offline on Microsoft Word and then copy and paste it into the browser.
- Don't forget to insert at least one image. Also consider adding hyperlinks, more images, or other media.
- Do not alter any settings for the blog or any other webpage or the site in general.
- When you make your blog post, DO insert a "featured image."
- On the right, you'll see a spot to add tags for your post. Feel free to use some already listed and/or add your own.
- On the right, you'll also see a place to choose a category for your post. Make sure you select "Weekly Reflections" for your blog post.
- Remember to hit "Publish" near the top-right corner when you're done. I also suggest viewing your post like any other online visitor to double-check one final time after you've published, just in case you need to go back and edit changes.