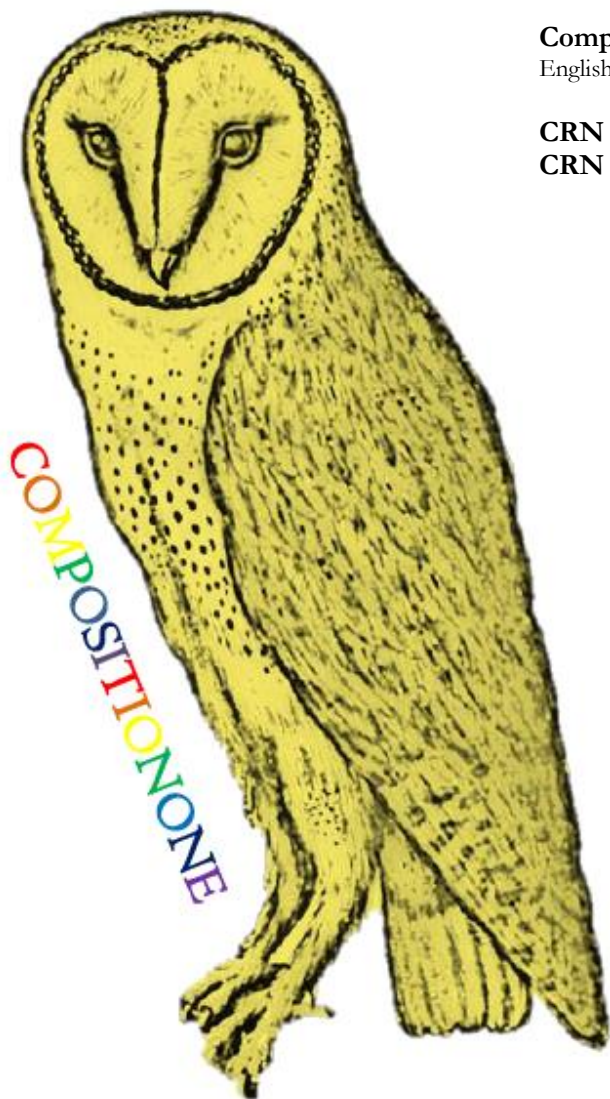


CRN 80751, Section 18: M/W, 11:15 – 12:05, English Building 70 + online
CRN 80752, Section 19: M/W, 12:20 – 1:10, English Building 70 + online



*One of the Varieties of Light:
Composing an Argument for Joy*

INSTRUCTOR: [Christopher Martin](#), MAPW | Lecturer of English

EMAIL: christopher.martin@kennesaw.edu

OFFICE: English Building 139

COURSE GUIDE WORDS: Sincerity, curiosity, creativity, complexity, and empathy are our guiding principles. If you consider them and apply them to everything you do in our time together, you will, as [Thoreau said](#), “meet with a success unexpected in common hours.”

COURSE DESCRIPTION & OUTCOMES: This course focuses on skills required for effective writing in a variety of contexts, emphasizing exposition, analysis, and argumentation. It also includes introductory use of a variety of research skills. Upon completion, you’ll be able to: 1) Practice writing in situations where print and electronic texts are used, examining why and how people choose to write using different technologies; 2) Interpret the explicit and implicit arguments of multiple styles of writing from diverse perspectives; 3) Practice the social aspects of the writing process by critiquing your own work and that of your colleagues; 4) Analyze how style, audience, social context, and purpose shape your writing in electronic and print spaces; and 5) Craft diverse types of texts to extend your thinking and writerly voice across styles, audiences, and purposes.

TEXTS: You will need the following texts by the beginning of the third week of class. We’ll also access various online texts and resources throughout the semester. E-book/Kindle versions are fine if they exist.

- [The Book of Delights: Essays](#) by Ross Gay | ISBN 978-1-61620-792-2
- [Understanding Rhetoric: A Graphic Guide to Writing](#) (2nd edition) by Elizabeth Losh, Jonathan, Alexander, Kevin Cannon, and Zander Cannon | ISBN 978-1-319-0620-6

MATERIALS: You’ll need a composition notebook or journal and other standard materials/organizational system for a composition class. Please bring these materials beginning the second day of class.

INSTRUCTOR COMMUNICATION & OFFICE HOURS

- **GroupMe messaging and email:** I prefer direct GroupMe messages to email, but both are fine. If emailing, in the subject line, please include your name, Comp I, and class time, plus anything else that’s applicable. I’m responsive to messages and emails and make it a point to be accessible outside of class, but please be as specific as possible when writing with a question. If you’re absent, please don’t use messaging or email to check in on what you missed. Meeting me in person is best for that. I can’t guarantee immediate or quick responses to messages or emails sent on weekends or at odd hours. If writing about a grade, please use your KSU email rather than GroupMe. Please don’t message through D2L.
- **Office hours:** Generally, I’ll be available in EB 139 on Mondays and Wednesdays from 10:00 – 11:00 AM and 1:30 – 2:30 PM and Tuesdays from 3:00 PM – 6:00 PM. These times aren’t guaranteed, so it’s best to send a quick message if stopping by, especially if you’re not already near. I’m happy to schedule in-person and online meetings at other times.

TECHNOLOGICAL INFORMATION

- **Online component/hybrid definition/D2L and Schoology:** As a hybrid course, significant discussion, collaboration, and work will take place online. On August 21, we will determine by popular vote between both classes whether to use D2L or Schoology as our online platform. Details forthcoming. Hybrid courses are partially online and partially in-person. This class is 1/3 online, 2/3 in person, meaning we'll meet twice a week for 50 minutes a time, with the rest of course content taking place online. In a hybrid course, reliable internet and computer access and regular use are required.
- **GroupMe:** I use GroupMe to facilitate communication, share updates/reminders, and to give you an easy way to reach out to me through text. Joining our class GroupMe is optional. I can't discuss grades via GroupMe. Other information will be discussed in class. Please see me or check your KSU email for GroupMe access.
- **[KSU student email](#):** You should check your KSU student email daily to stay updated on all KSU matters.
- **PDF and Microsoft Word:** In some cases, you'll be submitting work for this course as either PDF or .doc/.docx files. If you'll be sending work in other formats, please confirm that I'll be able to open what you send well before the due date.
- **Proficiency:** A basic level of proficiency is assumed for all of these technological components starting the first day of class. If you have any difficulty accessing or using any of them, or if you think you might, please let me know.
- **Creativity and innovation:** This is a hybrid class, which implies not only a degree of technological proficiency, but also an interest in utilizing and exploring various technologies, familiar and unfamiliar, that are not mentioned here. As with the writing you'll be doing for this course, I hope you'll approach our use of technology creatively and innovatively.

COURSEWORK & GRADING: The final grades that may be assigned in this course are A (90 - 100), B (80 - 89), C (70 - 79), D (60 - 69) and F (below 60). A grade of C or better is required to advance to ENGL 1102. See the KSU [FYC website](#) for more information. Grades in this course will be based on 100 available points. Therefore, points available for a given category represent the overall percentage. Grades are calculated by simple addition.

- **Composition Journal | 33 points (22 entries @ 1.5 points each) |** Throughout the semester, we'll complete 22 in-class writing activities in the style of a journal. Each entry will be worth 1.5 points and will come with its own guidelines. Most entries will be linked to the drafting processes of course portfolio components and/or will involve mini argumentative/analytical exercises to spark class discussion. Because they'll be connected to in-class activities, entries can't be made up due to absences. I'll collect journals and record points three times during the semester.
- **Online Discussion Threads | 25 points (5 threads @ 5 points each) |** Throughout the semester, we'll complete five online discussions valued at 5 points each. Each discussion thread will come with its own guidelines. Participating in peer review and drafting your own work will be necessary to complete certain threads.
- **Course Portfolio | 33 points (3 essays @ 11 points each) |** This portfolio will include three essays/compositions valued at 11 points each plus an analytical reflection for each. *The Book of Delights* and *Understanding Rhetoric* will form the basis of the essay/composition prompts, but you'll have options.
- **Composition Circles | 9 points (3 circles @ 3 points each) |** Three times throughout the semester, we'll circle up and share our work, which can be complete pieces or drafts. Each time you share will be worth 3 points. While sharing is encouraged, I'll provide alternative assignments for those who would rather not share.
- **Conferencing | 3 points extra credit |** At any point throughout the semester up through November 20, you can meet with me individually or in groups to discuss your work and get feedback. This conference will be worth three points extra credit that will be added to complete course portfolios. Incomplete course portfolios aren't eligible for extra credit. No other extra credit is available in this course.

ATTENDANCE: I take attendance primarily to learn your names. It's also helpful knowing whether you're attending class when providing feedback and instruction. While course engagement is central to success in this course—regularly attending in an engaged manner is the number one thing you can do to succeed in it—I have no attendance “policy” apart from the information in the above grading details. There will be daily, in-class work that factors into your course grade. Composition journal entries in particular cannot be made up due to absences. Composition circle participation can only be made up in extenuating circumstances. If such circumstances are preventing you from attending class, please reach out so I can help or connect you with campus resources if needed. My attendance “policy” amounts to this: You matter, and I value your presence.

CONFIDENTIALITY: Some things you compose in this class will be read and responded to by other students. As such, please do not disclose more about your personal life than you feel comfortable, though personal writing is welcome for certain rhetorical situations. It's my goal to foster a safe classroom environment. To protect the confidentiality of students, audio/video recording of the class is prohibited, as is publicizing discussion threads and other materials posted online.

MANDATED REPORTING: I am a mandated reporter, meaning I'm legally obligated to disclose through appropriate KSU channels should a given student share that they are in danger or have been a victim of assault or other forms of violence. Whether you do or do not disclose anything to me, if you are experiencing crisis, danger, or difficulty, I am here for you and I will gladly connect you with resources available here at KSU, such as [counseling services](#), that can help you.

FEEDBACK & CONFLICT RESOLUTION: If you have concerns with any aspect of the class, including my approach to teaching, I'm open to your constructive feedback and will strive to listen empathetically. Provided you contact me in a timely, professional manner, I'm willing to collaborate with you on finding resolutions. I welcome you to reach out.

WITHDRAWING: The last day to withdraw from this course without academic penalty is Wednesday, October 9.

ACADEMIC ASSISTANCE & STUDENT SUPPORT AT KSU

- **Individual/Small Group Meetings:** I am available for conferencing by appointment or during office hours.
- [First Year Composition](#)
- **Writing Center:** Students of all writing abilities will benefit from this free service for the entire KSU community. Work one-on-one with an experienced, friendly peer writing assistant to improve any kind of writing in any subject while developing effective, lasting strategies for topic development, research, revision, editing, source documentation, and much more. Appointments and drop-ins are welcome on both campuses (K-English 242 / M-Johnson 121), and online appointments are also available. See website for hours, scheduling, and information on resources, clubs, and events.
- [Counseling and Psychological Services](#)
- [Academic Support and Advising Services](#)
- [Student Success Services](#)
- **Student Disability Services:** Any student with a documented disability needing accommodation is requested to notify the instructor as early as possible.
- [Cultural and Community Centers](#) (Cultural Awareness Resource Center, Global Village, LGBTQ Resource Center, and Women's Resource Center)
- [ESL Center and International Student Support](#)
- [Military and Veteran Services and Support](#)
- [Career Services](#)
- [Division of Student Affairs](#)

VARIOUS KSU STATEMENTS & POLICIES

- **General Education:** ENGL 1101 satisfies one of KSU's general education program requirements. For more information about KSU's General Education program requirements and associated learning outcomes, please see the [catalog](#).
- [Federal, BOR, and KSU Policy Statements](#) (including statements on Academic Integrity, Student Conduct, Confidentiality, Sexual Harassment/Misconduct, Course Accessibility, etc.)
- **New Enrollment Status Statement:** Students are solely responsible for managing their enrollment status in a course; nonattendance does not constitute a withdrawal.
- [Student Rights and Responsibilities](#)
- [Office of Diversity and Inclusion](#)
- [Environmental Health and Safety](#)

See **COURSE SCHEDULE** and **ASSIGNMENT DESCRIPTION** documents for other course information. These documents are extensions of the syllabus. Each assignment description will include its own late work policy as needed. By remaining enrolled in this class past the drop/add period, you acknowledge receipt of this syllabus, provided to you August 19, 2019. This syllabus is subject to change. Any changes will be communicated in class or online.

The image on page 1 is my alteration of an unattributed 16th century Dutch illustration, titled "[Kerkuil](#)," accessed through [Wikimedia Commons](#).

“When everyone in the classroom, teacher and students, recognizes that they are responsible for creating a learning community together, learning is at its most meaningful and useful. In such a community of learning there is no failure.” —bell hooks