ENGL 212: Topics in Critical Writing
Summer 2020 – Online
Monday, June 29-Saturday, August 15

Professor: Dr. Kim Lacey (please, call me Kim!)
Virtual office hours on Canvas: Monday and Thursday, 10:00 a.m.-11:00 a.m. I will be in the chat room on Canvas. If you'd prefer to conference, we can set something up, too. If these times don't work for you and you'd like to have an online meeting, we can figure out a good time!
E-mail: krlacey@svsu.edu

Considerations before we begin this course
- This is a 16-week course crammed into 7 weeks. There will be a lot of work.
- ENGL 212 is a Category 10 course, meaning you will be writing a lot.
- This is an asynchronous course, meaning we will not be "meeting" for a virtual lecture nor will be meeting in person. You are responsible for completing each week's module on time.
- Please read the course calendar, which is at the end of the syllabus, carefully. Note that some assignments are due at different times throughout the week, but all are due by 11:59 p.m. EST. If you are living in a different time zone, please make sure you take careful note of this requirement. No late assignments will be accepted. If you know there's a conflict, submit your work early.

Very important
Ask yourself this question: "What will happen to my participation in this course if my computer goes down?" If the answer is "I am doomed," then you should withdraw and register for a different section another time. You need to have backup technology plans, because a "down" computer will not excuse you from the work in this course. Please use a cloud-based storage system (such as Dropbox, Google Docs, or OneDrive) to save your work and have access to it in multiple locations. Please also download the Canvas app on your phone.

Technology requirements
Canvas: To have success in this class, you are expected to access and use Canvas regularly.
Cloud storage: You should also have access to a cloud-based storage system (as noted above). I really like Dropbox, but you might be partial to Google Docs. It's completely your decision, so find one you like and can access easiest. SVSU students have free access to Microsoft OneDrive, which is another great service. If you don't use one of these services already, please start this semester.
Video creation: You must have access to a means of creating and posting a video. This could simply be recording a video on your phone, tablet, or computer. You do not need extra software or editing know-how. You'll see in my weekly videos that I'm fairly laidback when it comes to recording videos. Please feel free to do the same.
Film access: You will be responsible for watching a film on your own time this semester. You can access this film however you'd prefer, but please plan ahead.
Blogging platform: Finally, you will also be required to have a dedicated blogging platform for the "Surveillance Anthology" assignment (please see the assignment description for further details).
Email: Please check your SVSU email regularly. I'd recommend at least once a day. You will receive notifications about grades, paper feedback, and other course communication via email.
Chat, Teams, Conferences: All of these can be used for Office Hours. If you'd like to "meet" we can do so in any of these "places."
Canvas app: Please make sure you download the Canvas app on your phone or tablet (if you use one). This will save you time and allow you to complete class work if you have a free minute here-or-there.

Lots of students like to use the app for online courses because they can watch videos or post to the discussion boards on the go.

Course questions
Randolph Lewis, the author of our book *Under Surveillance*, asks, "What are the implications of living with these rapidly proliferating surveillance technologies and practices? What are the hidden costs of living in a society in which surveillance is deemed essential to governance, business, and ordinary social life? What are the emotional burdens and benefits of living in a surveillance-obsessed culture? And ultimately, what is driving the vast market for surveillance on an emotional and ideological level in ways that often transcend logic and reason?" We will use these questions to guide our thinking throughout the semester.

Class procedures
This course is divided into modules. You are expected to complete the activities in each module by the due dates. While all of the modules are available "on demand," the modules are **NOT** self-paced—that is, each week has different activities that must be completed in that week (i.e., discussion posts). You must complete all the activities in each module to earn credit. Please be aware that some modules will require you to comment on others' discussion posts. Just as you would in a face to face class, you are expected to be active and participate in discussion with your classmates. Failure to do so will result in a lower grade. In rare cases, depending on the course needs, I might cancel an assignment. If you complete an assignment and it is ultimately canceled, you do not receive extra credit for completing it.

Participation in this course is asynchronous, meaning you are not expected to be online at the same time as the professor or as your peers. Each week, all instructions and assignments, along with a description of the week's activities, are made available to you in the "Modules" tab.

I check the course site daily and will generally respond to questions within 24-48 hours, so feel free to post any questions you have in the "Questions for Kim" discussion board. Please note, however, that email is the easiest way for me to respond. Oftentimes, I will repost questions I receive via email on the "Questions for Kim" discussion board (with your name removed). Many students have the same questions, so this saves time for everyone. Please consider checking the "Questions for Kim" discussion board before emailing me—someone may have already asked the same question!

Canvas is not a new tool at SVSU, and I do expect you to be well versed in using Canvas. However, if you need help, please refer to the extensive library of Canvas how-to videos and help pages: http://guides.instructure.com/

Participation
For this class, I strongly suggest you log on at least once a day, if for no other reason than just to keep up with what is going on in the course. I also want to reinforce that you should try to check the course at least one weekend day, even if you have completed the requirements for the week.

Similar to face-to-face courses, attendance does not equal participation. Merely logging in does not mean that you are participating in class. Although I do not take attendance in this course, you are required to demonstrate professionalism towards the other members of our learning community.

Tone
The objective of our discussions will be collaborative rather than combative. Remember that even an innocent remark in the online environment can be easily misconstrued. Some suggestions to avoid misunderstandings are to carefully proofread your responses and to remember that humor online is sometimes difficult to carry off. Sarcasm is particularly difficult to get across in written form, so be careful. Disrespect will not be tolerated.

Our classroom
We will spend most of our time in class in following places:
- Modules (access via "Modules" tab): The entire semester is built around 7 weekly modules. In each module, you'll find all the work to be completed that week. You should follow these in order.
- Assignments (access via the "Assignments" tab): Paper descriptions are available in the "Assignments" tab. You can also find these under the "Files" tab.
- Discussion posts (access via the "Discussions" tab): This is where you will post your discussion posts. Your discussion posts will be assessed in the following ways: 3 points: superior; 2 points: mediocre; 1 point: poor; 0 points: no submission.

Required text to purchase
This text has been ordered at the bookstore, but feel free to shop around online for the cheapest price.
Randolph Lewis, *Under Surveillance: Being Watched in Modern America*
ISBN: 978-1477312438
You will also be required to watch one film. If you have to rent it, you will want to factor in that cost, too.

Assignments
Surveillance log and reflection (beginning of semester): 7%
Surveillance log and reflection (end of semester): 7%
Funopticon film analysis: 14%
Surveillance memoir: 10%
Nature cam video review: 7%
Surveillance Anthology and analytical reflection: 16%
Discussion posts (reflections, responses, questions, etc.): 3% each/39% total

Grading scale
↑95%: A
↑90%: A-
↑87%: B+
↑83%: B
↑80%: B-
↑77%: C+
↑73%: C
↑60%: D
  0%: F

Please note: SVSU does not give out C- grades. Any grade lower than 73% automatically defaults to a D. Any grade lower than a 60% automatically defaults to an F. There are no "pluses or minuses" in that range. ENGL 212 courses use a common rubric, which can be found in the "Files" tab.

Grade postings
All grades will be posted on Canvas. I do not share grades or other course related information on social media.

Late work
Late work is unacceptable. Please ensure that your work is submitted on time. The deadlines are clearly marked on all paper descriptions and on the course calendar. If you know a due date conflicts with something outside of class, plan ahead and submit your assignment early. If Canvas is not working, please email me your work. For all major papers, and regardless of how you submit them, I will send a confirmation e-mail by 9 a.m. the next morning. If you do not receive a confirmation e-mail, I did not receive your paper.

Accessibility and accommodations
Students with needs which may restrict their full participation in course activities are encouraged to contact the SVSU Office of Accessibility Resources and Accommodations Services, Wickes Hall 260, Phone: 989-964-7000. SVSU does not discriminate based on race, religion, color, gender, sexual orientation, national origin, age, physical impairment, disability, or veteran status in the provision of education, employment, and other services.

Academic integrity policy
According to the *SVSU Student Handbook*, "Academic integrity is undermined whenever one is dishonest in the pursuit of knowledge. Dishonesty takes many forms, including cheating, plagiarism, and other activities for undermining the educational process. […] Cheating occurs whenever one attempts to gain an advantage through a violation of rules regarding the relevant behavior. It should be assumed that collaboration is cheating unless explicitly authorized. […] Plagiarism involves intentionally or unintentionally presenting another person's expressions – ideas, opinions, illustrations, data, style – as one's own expression" (16).

Forms of plagiarism include directly transcribing (copying) without quotation and attribution, summarizing without attribution, paraphrasing or patchwork paraphrasing without attribution, patching electronic materials (including pictures, graphs, and/or charts) without attribution.

Please see the full Academic Integrity Policy here:
http://www.svsu.edu/studentconductprograms/policies/academicintegritypolicy/

In ENGL 212 plagiarism or cheating in any form, deliberate or otherwise, will result in the grade of zero (0) for the entire assignment and will be reported to the Academic Conduct Board for further sanctions.

Writing Center information
One of the many advantages as an SVSU student is the Writing Center. You are strongly encouraged to meet with a tutor to discuss your writing. During this Summer semester, the Writing Center is holding online tutoring only. Visit them here: http://www.svsu.edu/writingcenter/onlinetutoring/
Tutors are available:
Mondays: 6-9 p.m.
Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays: 11 a.m.-3 p.m.
Sundays: 6-9 p.m.
For information about how to schedule a session, check out this short video:
https://youtu.be/bC0T1CX_Mwk

Course Calendar

Important notes:

- This schedule is subject to change. If changes are made, you will be notified via e-mail.
- Make sure you read through and complete the entire module for each week. The "module work" listed below is simply a checklist of weekly requirements. Each part of the module has very specific directions.
- Only major papers are listed in the "Major Paper Due Dates" column. There is other work that needs to be completed during each week.

WEEK/MODULE	MODULE WORK	MAJOR PAPER DUE DATES *(Reminder: Unless otherwise noted, all assignments in this column are due by Sundays at 11:59 pm EST)*
Module 0: Introduction to the Course Preferably before the course begins, but can complete during Week 1	1. Take a look around!	
Week 1: Monday, June 29-Sunday, July 5	1. Welcome! 2. Video: Weekly update #1 3. Discussion post: Introduce yourself B-I-N-G-O! 4. Reading: *Under Surveillance* (*US*): Introduction (1-11) 5. Discussion post: Reflection questions (due Thursday, July 2, 11:59 p.m.) 6. Video: Review "Surveillance Log and Reflection" assignment 7. Discussion post: Respond to other discussion posts (due Sunday, 11:59 p.m.) 8. Reminder!	Surveillance Log and Reflection
Week 2: Monday, July 6-Sunday, July 12	1. Video: Weekly update #2 2. Reading: *US*: Chapters 1-2, "Feeling Surveillance" and "Welcome to the Funopticon" (12-81) 3. Discussion post: Reflection questions (due Thursday, 11:59 p.m.) 4. Video: Review "Funopticon Film Analysis" assignment	

	5. Video: Review "Surveillance Anthology and Analytical Reflection" assignment 6. Discussion post: Respond to other discussion posts (due Sunday, 11:59 p.m.)	
Week 3: Monday, July 13- Sunday, July 19	1. Video: Weekly update #3 2. Reading: • "Disney Meets Orwell with These Super Cute Surveillance Cameras" • "Snowden Just Showed Us How Big the Panopticon Really Was; Now It's Up to Us" • "These Viral Coronavirus Cellphone Maps Send A Powerful Message: But Here's The Problem" • "Millions of Voiceprints Quietly being Harvested as Latest Identification Tool" • "Photographer Proves End of Privacy Is Here Through Photos That Will Blow Your Mind" • "How This 2014 Instagram Hoax Predicted the Way We Now Use Social Media" 3. Discussion post: Creating questions (due Thursday, 11:59 p.m.) 4. Videos: • What Would You Do?: Racially Appropriate toys • What Would You Do?: Customer Cuts in Line, Wins Prize 5. Discussion post: WWYD: Reflection (due Sunday, 11:59 p.m.) 6. Discussion post: Answering questions (due Sunday, 11:59 p.m.) 7. Reminder!	Funopticon Film Analysis
Week 4: Monday, July 20- Sunday, July 26	1. Video: Weekly update #4 2. Reading: *US*: Chapter 3, "Growing Up Observed" (82-110) 3. Discussion Post: Reflection questions (due Thursday, 11:59 p.m.) 4. Video: Review "Surveillance Memoir" assignment 5. Discussion Post: Respond to other discussion posts (due Sunday, 11:59 p.m.)	
Week 5: Monday, July 27- Sunday, August 2	1. Video: Weekly update #5 2. Reading: *US*: Chapter 4, "Watching Walden" (111-157)	Surveillance Memoir

	3. Discussion Post: Reflection questions (due Thursday, 11:59 p.m.) 4. Video: Review "Surveillance Log and Reflection" assignment 5. Discussion post: Respond to other discussion posts (due Sunday, 11:59 p.m.) 6. Reminder!	
Week 6: Monday, August 3- Sunday, August 9	1. Video: Weekly update #6 2. Video: Review "Nature Cam Analysis" assignment 3. Reminder!	Nature Cam Video Review Surveillance Log and Reflection
Week 7: Monday, August 10- **Saturday**, August 15	1. Video: Weekly update #7 2. Course evaluation 3. Discussion post: Surveillance Anthology "presentations" (due <u>Wednesday,</u> 11:59 p.m.) 4. Discussion post: Respond to other surveillance Anthology "presentations" (due **Saturday,** 11:59 p.m.) 5. Reminder! 6. Bye and thank you!	Surveillance Anthology (Due **Saturday**!)