

Imperial Valley College – Winter 2019

English 201 CRN: 15028 Units: 3
Advanced Composition:
Critical Reasoning and Writing

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12:30 – 2:45 p.m.
Room 2726
January 2 – February 1

Course Description

Emphasizes critical thinking in reading and writing beyond that achieved in ENGL 110 or ENGL 101. Written argumentation will focus on deduction and induction, an understanding of the fallacies of language and thought, the application of valid evidence, and refutation. (CSU, UC)

Course Objectives

Upon satisfactory completion of the course, students will be able to:

1. Student will identify the structure of arguments, including the assertions/claims and the proof/support.
2. Student will analyze arguments critically, evaluating multiple arguments for validity and soundness, distinguishing fact from judgment and knowledge from opinion, and differentiating relevant from irrelevant support.
3. Student will analyze and construct both deductive and inductive arguments.
4. Student will write argumentative prose that defines, that analyzes casual relationships, that advocates solutions, that evaluates judgments, and that refutes other arguments.
5. Student will identify formal and informal fallacies in language and thought.
6. Student will recognize and apply the effects of denotation and connotation; emotive language; and various figures of speech, especially metaphor, within argumentative prose.
7. Student will revise written drafts and edit appropriately for an academic audience, observing conventions of coherence, unity, purpose, grammar, mechanics, and documentation.
8. Students will write essays and research papers, mostly argumentative and analytical, composing a total of at least 6,000 words of formal writing.

Student Learning Outcomes

1. Interpret appropriately and analyze a written argument for claim, evidence, reasoning, fallacies, and overall effectiveness. (ILO1, ILO2)
2. Develop an effective written argument containing a factual claim, providing valid and appropriate evidence, utilizing appropriate reasoning strategies, and avoiding fallacies. (ILO1, ILO2, ILO3)
3. Demonstrate command of rules regarding plagiarism and academic ethics. (ILO3)

Prerequisites

Prerequisites: A “C” grade or higher or “Pass” in English 110 or English 101.

Required Texts

“The Stranger”, Albert Camus. *Please purchase a physical copy in order to reference page numbers correctly.*

“Writing Arguments, A Rhetoric with Readings”, Ramage, Bean, Johnson. Concise 7th Edition. Pearson, 2016

Assignment Overview & Course Requirements

Assignment #1: Argumentative research paper. (Letter grade)

Assignment #2: Argumentative research paper. (Letter grade)

Assignment #3: Argumentative research paper. (Letter grade)

Midterm: An in-class essay responding to a prompt. (Quiz grade)

Final: An in-class essay responding to issues found in “The Stranger” no less than 5 paragraphs in length and aimed at an academic audience. (Letter grade)

Annotated Bibliography: List sources and describe specifically what part of each is relevant to your research paper and why. (Letter grade)

Presentation: Towards the due date of essays, students will give a 4-6 minute presentation on his or her research topic. Students who are researching similar ideas may perform the presentation as a small group. The presentation can come in many forms, from traditional methods we are familiar with, to more experimental ones, such as creating a music video, a dramatic play, a documentary/mocumentary, a display of artifacts, etc. Guidelines will be established and examples will be given beforehand. The audience will be your peers in this class. (Letter grade)

Extra Credit: Throughout the semester there will be many ways to receive extra credit points. These points will only influence homework and quiz scores.

In-class Writings/Group Work: There will be a number of in-class writing assignments and group assignments that are required and integral to the class. It is your responsibility to come prepared with a notebook and writing instrument. Please be sure to complete and submit all in-class writing assignments at the end of class. These will be graded either pass or fail and impact your participation grade. These exercises cannot be made up. That being said, you are allowed to miss three without any penalty to your grade.

Canvas: All readings and assignment rubrics will be uploaded to Canvas. All readings will be found under "files." All assignments (homework and essays) will be found under "pages."

Assignment Return Policy: All essay assignments will be handed back a week before the next essay assignment is due. The midterm will be handed back a week before final is due.

Grading system

10%: Homework, Quizzes (unannounced), Midterm

10%: Participation (includes attendance, in-class writings, group work, rough drafts and peer presentation grades)

10%: Presentation

10%: Bibliography

15%: First essay assignment

15%: Second essay assignment

15%: Third essay assignment

15%: Final

90 + = A 80 – 89 = B 70 – 79 = C

60 – 69 = D 59 – = F

Policies

Assignments:

- All essay assignments (including rough drafts) are due in hard copy (meaning typed) at the beginning of class unless otherwise stated. All assignments received after will be marked late.

- Barring emergencies, late papers/homework will be marked down a letter grade for each day they are missing. Assignments that are turned in late will also be handed back to students later than usual. If you have unusual circumstances discuss them with me.

- All assignments must be completed satisfactorily. An assignment that does not follow instructions or is incomplete will receive zero credit.

- Emailed assignments are not accepted. Assignments randomly placed in my mailbox or taped to my office door without permission are also not accepted.

Attendance:

- A student who fails to attend the first meeting of a class will be dropped by the instructor as of the first official meeting of that class. Should readmission be desired, the student's status will be the same as that of any other student who desires to add a class. It is the student's responsibility to drop or officially withdraw from the class. See General Catalog for details.

- Your presence in class is necessary. A student whose continuous, unexcused absences exceed the number of hours the class is scheduled to meet per week (3) may be dropped without notice. Students who exceed this number will automatically receive an F for their participation grade.

- Absences, accompanied by the appropriate paperwork, attributed to the representation of the college at officially approved events (conferences, contests, and field trips) will be counted as 'excused' absences.

- Please avoid coming late to class. Students who arrive to class more than 20 minutes late or leave more than 20 minutes early will be marked as absent. The majority of our quizzes occur at the start of class, so students who are consistently tardy will find their quiz grade heavily affected. If for any reason you have to leave early inform me before lecture.

Classroom & Email Etiquette:

- Our classrooms are protected spaces for open, thoughtful exchange and respectful communication. Disruptive behavior or offensive language will not be tolerated, and students responsible for behaving this way will be asked to leave the classroom.

- Students who are found to be chatting—including signing—amongst each other during lecture will lose participation points. If the problem is consistent they will also be asked to leave the classroom.

- Please turn off all cell phones during class. Please do not text or go online during class. Students who are consistently seen using their cell phones will lose participation points. If you find it necessary to use a laptop, you must sit near one of the front rows.

- Food and Drink are prohibited in all classrooms. Water bottles with lids/caps are the only exception. Additional restrictions will apply in labs.

- Children and others in the classroom: Due to college rules and state laws, no one who is not enrolled in the class may attend, including children.

- Responses to email could take up to two days, or depending on the content not answered at all. This should in no way act as an excuse to turn in any work late. Under no circumstances should students email assignments, or inquire about their current grade in the class. If you are absent, check the syllabus for due dates, Canvas for handouts and assignments, or ask your peers for lecture notes. If you are concerned about your overall grade please refer to the grading system breakdown.

DSPS

Any student with a documented disability who may need educational accommodations should notify the instructor or the Disabled Student Programs and Services (DSP&S) office as soon as possible. The DSP&S office is located in Building 2100, telephone 760-355-6313. Please contact them if you feel you need to be evaluated for educational accommodations.

If you have a documented disability or condition for which you require modifications, adjustments, or accommodations, please inform me as soon as possible. If, due to your disability you find that you will not be able to meet the requirements of the course, inform me of that within a week of receiving this syllabus.

Academic Integrity

Academic honesty in the advancement of knowledge requires that all students and instructors respect the integrity of one another's work and recognize the important of acknowledging and safeguarding intellectual property.

There are many different forms of academic dishonesty. The following kinds of honesty violations and their definitions are not meant to be exhaustive. Rather, they are intended to serve as examples of unacceptable academic conduct.

- Plagiarism is taking and presenting as one's own the writings or ideas of others, without citing the source. You should understand the concept of plagiarism and keep it in mind when taking exams and preparing written materials. If you do not understand how to "cite a source" correctly, you must ask for help.
- Cheating is defined as fraud, deceit, or dishonesty in an academic assignment, or using or attempting to use materials, or assisting others in using materials that are prohibited or inappropriate in the context of the academic assignment in question.

All work that you submit is expected to be your own original work, created specifically for this class. Cheating, plagiarism, and colluding will not be tolerated. Any student who engages in this type of conduct will receive a zero for that particular assignment. Depending on the severity of the incident they may be reported for further investigation

and disciplinary action. Repeated acts of cheating may result in an F in the course and/or disciplinary action. Please refer to the General Catalog for more information on academic dishonesty or other misconduct. Acts of cheating include, but are not limited to, the following: (a) plagiarism; (b) copying or attempting to copy from others during an examination or on an assignment; (c) communicating test information with another person during an examination; (d) allowing others to do an assignment or portion of an assignment; (e) using a commercial term paper service.

Student Rights and Responsibilities

Students have the right to experience a positive learning environment and to due process of law. For more information regarding student rights and responsibilities, please refer to the IVC General Catalog.

Student Services

Imperial Valley College offers various services in support of student success. The following are some of the services available for students.

- **Canvas.** The Canvas Support Site provides a variety of support channels available to students 24 hours per day.
- **Learning Services.** There are several learning labs on campus to assist students through the use of computers and tutors. Please consult your Campus Map for the Math Lab; Reading, Writing & Language Labs; and the Study Skills Center.
- **Library Services.** Imperial Valley College is dedicated to helping students skillfully discover, evaluate, and use information from all sources. The IVC Library Department provides numerous Information Literacy Tutorials to assist students in this endeavor. There is more to our library than just books. You have access to tutors in the Study Skills Center, study rooms for small groups, and online access to a wealth of resources.
- **Student Health Center.** A Student Health Nurse is available on campus. In addition, Pioneers Memorial Healthcare District and El Centro Regional Center provide basic health services for students, such as first aid and care for minor illnesses. Contact the IVC Student Health Center at 760-355-6310 in Room 2109 for more information.
- **Mental Health Counseling Services.** Short-term individual, couples, family, and group therapy are provided to currently enrolled students. Contact the IVC Mental Health Counseling Services at 760-355-6196 in Room 2109 for more information.

ANTICIPATED COURSE SCHEDULE

Week 1 January 2 – 4

Intro to course & course materials

Assignment #1 handout, examples and discussion

Essay organization

Stasis theory

Writing with imagination

Rhetorical appeals

(Readings*: Syllabus

Week 1 Canvas readings located under “files”

Writing Arguments chapters 1, 2, 3 and 6

Homework**: Description ex.

Paragraphing ex.)

* Readings will be quizzed and discussed the following class unless otherwise specified.

**All homework is due the following class meeting unless otherwise specified.

Week 2 January 7 – 11

Rhetorical appeals continued

Moves of revision

Citing sources

Selecting and integrating material

Summary, paraphrasing and direct quotation

Thesis statements

Toulmin logic

Wednesday: Due rough draft assignment #1 (Must meet page count)

Thursday: Due assignment #1

Friday: Group 1 presentations

Assignment #2 handout, examples and discussion

(Readings: Week 2 Canvas readings located under “files”

The Stranger chapters 1 – 3

Writing Arguments chapters 4, 5 and Appendix 2)

Week 3 January 14 – 18

Rogerian Counterargument

Fallacies

Thursday: In-class Midterm

Friday: Due rough draft assignment #2 (Must meet page count)

(Readings: Week 3 Canvas readings located under “files”

The Stranger chapters 4 – 6

Writing Arguments chapter 7 and Appendix 1
Homework: Fallacy ex)

Week 4 **January 22 – 25**

Monday: Holiday – No class

Tuesday: Due assignment #2

Tuesday: Group 2 presentations

Assignment #3 handout, examples and discussion

Types of claims

(Readings: Week 4 Canvas readings located under “files”

The Stranger complete

Writing Arguments chapters 10 – 14)

Week 5 **January 29 – February 1**

Semester review

Thursday: Due assignment #3

Thursday Group 3 presentations

Friday: In-class final

Note: Instructor reserves the right to change any scheduled instruction or assignment depending on needs or speed of class.

