

Basic Course Information

Semester:	Spring 2017	Instructor Name:	Christina Shaner
Course Title & #:	Advanced Composition	Email:	christina.shaner@imperial.edu
CRN #:	201:20284	Webpage (optional):	
Classroom:	810	Office #:	2785
Class Dates:	2.14.17 to 6.8.17	Office Hours:	MW 11-12:30 & TR 10:30-11
Class Days:	TR	Office Phone #:	760.355.6162
Class Times:	11:20-12:45	Emergency Contact:	email
Units:	3		

Course Description

Required language— not written by the professor in this class

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)

Student Learning Outcomes

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Upon course completion, the successful student will have acquired new skills, knowledge, and or attitudes as demonstrated by being able to:

- 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)*

Course Objectives

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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.

Textbooks & Other Resources or Links

Aristotle. *On Rhetoric: A Theory of Civic Discourse*. 2nd ed., translated by George A. Kennedy, Oxford UP, 2007. [ISBN: 9780195305098]
Vonnegut, Kurt. *Mother Night*. Dial Press, 2009. [ISBN: 9780385334143]
MLA Handbook. 8th ed., Modern Language Association, 2016. [ISBN: 9781603292627]

Course Requirements and Instructional Methods

All major projects must be written and submitted by the student according to project instructions. Each graded essay may be revised and resubmitted one time. Partially completed essays or projects without all required sources will receive failing grades. Late essays may not be accepted.

While you should consult the professor with specific questions about your work, it's up to you to monitor your overall effort, progress, and points.

Course Grading Based on Course Objectives

Grades will be determined on a 100-point scale (with the customary letter divisions: 90-100=A; 80-89=B; and, so on). Assignment point distribution will be as follows:

- #1 Close Reading Essay (identifying critical thinking) - 15
- #2 Analysis Essay (studying the logic in a text/character) - 20
- #3 Annotation Essay (evaluating sources from independent research) - 20
- #4 Argumentative Essay (developing an understanding of a text/topic) - 20
- MLA Quiz - 5
- Midterm Exam - 10
- Final Exam - 10

To determine your point totals during the semester, multiply the number possible for an assignment by the grade/score you earned. For example, if you achieved a "B" on a project worth 15 points, multiply to find 85% of 15. See the following: $.85 \times 15 = 12.75$ points. Add the numbers as you complete assignments. As you do so, remember that it's possible to improve some scores by revising and resubmitting essays.

Attendance

For absences due to *required* attendance at an IVC event, meet in advance with the professor to make arrangements. If you simply skip a class, contact a classmate (*not* the professor) to request notes or updates. If you miss more than three consecutive absences, you are to be removed from the course.

Required policy content—*not* written by the professor in this class

1. A student who fails to attend the first meeting of a class or does not complete the first mandatory activity of an online 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.
2. Regular attendance in all classes is expected of all students. A student whose continuous, unexcused absences exceed the number of hours the class is scheduled to meet per week may be dropped. For online courses, students who fail to complete required activities for two consecutive weeks may be considered to have excessive absences and may be dropped.

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

Classroom Etiquette

No student may attempt to use this class or its assignments to advocate discriminatory ideology or implement it as a weapon against other students, the professor, or parties/identities not present/represented. Recognizable, historically determined bigotry creates a toxic environment in the classroom and impedes and discourages sound, nuanced reason; self-critique; and, reality-based assessment of subject.

Computers, tablets, and phones must be shut off or silenced whenever they are not required for an in-class activity. Exceptions may be made for students with medical need documented by DSPS.

Online Netiquette

Not applicable.

Academic Honesty

Depending on type and severity, an instance of plagiarism may be addressed with a reduced or failing grade for the project or disciplinary action from an administrator. If you are at all uncertain, show your professor the essay draft and any source materials. Do not solicit "help" from personal acquaintances or other faculty as they may be ignorant of (or unconcerned about) professional ethics. If an essay is sent to student discipline, no revision will be accepted. Types of plagiarism include:

False authorship. Obtaining by any means another's work, and using that work in an assignment presented for a grade. Includes text copied with minor changes/adjustments, translating into English without acknowledgment, and/or patch writing several sources into one document.

Misrepresentation of source. Distorting or altering the meaning of a source text in order to promote an assumption, or falsification of information about the source. Most often the result of a personal bias or inadequate reading skill.

Unacknowledged collaboration. Allowing too much outside influence or re-writing of the student's work. The individual's cooperation is irrelevant.

Recycling. Submitting all or part of a text that was originally prepared by the student at some other time for some other purpose. The student's failure rests in lying about the text and the circumstances of its development.

Insufficient citation. Using excerpts or paraphrased content from another's work with faulty, or no, citation. Failing to employ quotation marks for exact text or, when appropriate, block formatting.

Required language—not written by the professor in this class (NOTE: The following administration-generated, non-expert verbiage is potentially misleading and insufficient in its description of plagiarism and the actual responses to it for a college assignment here or elsewhere. See above for precise description of plagiarism.)

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.

Anyone caught cheating or plagiarizing will receive a zero (0) on the exam or assignment, and the instructor may report the incident to the Campus Disciplinary Officer, who may place related documentation in a file. 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.

Additional Student Services

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Imperial Valley College offers various services in support of student success. The following are some of the services available for students. Please speak to your instructor about additional services which may be available.

- **Blackboard Support Site.** The Blackboard 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.** 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.

Disabled Student Programs and Services (DSPS)

Required language—not written by the professor in this class

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.

Student Counseling and Health Services

Required language—not written by the professor in this class

Students have counseling and health services available, provided by the pre-paid Student Health Fee.

- **Student Health Center.** A Student Health Nurse is available on campus. In addition, Pioneers Memorial Healthcare District provide basic health services for students, such as first aid and care for minor illnesses. Contact the IVC [Student Health Center](#) at 760-355-6128 in Room 1536 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.

Student Rights and Responsibilities

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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](#).

Information Literacy

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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.

Anticipated Class Schedule/Calendar

ENGL 201: Tentative Schedule

Week 1	Critical thinking excerpts
Week 2	Workshop essay #1 / citation Submit essay #1 / classical rhetoric
Week 3	Aristotle, <i>On Rhetoric</i> : Book 1
Week 4	Propaganda & fallacies
Week 5	Propaganda text for analysis Toulmin model
Week 6	Workshop essay #2 Submit essay #2 / ideology
Week 7	Aristotle, <i>On Rhetoric</i> : Book 2 Prep for research / literary terms
Week 8	Midterm exam Vonnegut, ch. 1-11
Week 9	Vonnegut, ch. 12-27 Source check
SPRING BREAK	
Week 10	Submit essay #3 Vonnegut, ch. 28-45
Week 11	Workshop Essay #4 sophistry review
Week 12	Submit essay #4 Isocrates, “Against the Sophists”
Week 13	Isocrates, excerpt from <i>Antidosis</i>
Week 14	MLA quiz Ideological claims

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Week 15	Fallacy identification
Week 16	Midterm review Final Exam (last session of term)