

English 201: Advanced Composition
Spring 2013

Instructor: Deirdre Rowley Office #2792 Phone: 355-6484
Email: use Blackboard or deirdre.rowley@imperial.edu - Put English 201 in the subject line
Office Hours: Monday/Wednesday: 3:30-4:30PM Tuesday/Thursday: 1:00-2:00PM

Course Description: This course emphasizes critical thinking in reading and writing beyond that achieved in English 101. Written argumentation will focus on deduction and induction, an understanding of fallacies of language and thought, the application of valid evidence, and refutation. 3 credits

Course Objectives:

- To identify the structure of arguments, including the assertions/claim and the proof/support
- To analyze arguments critically, evaluating multiple arguments for validity and soundness, distinguishing fact from judgment and knowledge from opinion, and differentiating relevant from irrelevant support.
- To analyze and construct both deductive and inductive arguments
- To identify formal and informal fallacies in language and thought
- To recognize and apply the effect of denotation and connotation; emotive language; and various figures of speech, especially metaphor, within argumentative prose
- To revise written drafts and edit appropriately for an academic audience, observing conventions of coherence, unity, purpose, grammar, mechanics, and documentation

English 201 Student Learning Outcomes

Upon completion of this course, the student will be able to:

- Interpret appropriately and analyze a written argument for claim, evidence, reasoning, fallacies, and overall effectiveness.
- Develop an effective written argument containing a factual claim, providing valid and appropriate evidence, utilizing appropriate reasoning strategies, and avoiding fallacies.
- Demonstrate command of rules regarding plagiarism and academic ethics.

Texts and Materials:

- You should have one of these from a previous writing class: *Modern Language Association Handbook* 7th edition
- *Gate to Woman's Country* by Sheri S. Tepper (PB or ebook)
- *The Lucifer Effect* by Philip Zimbardo (PB or ebook)
- A way to back up your computer work

Census Requirements:

Instructors are required to clear their rosters of inactive enrollment as of census. Inactive enrollment in a course is defined as the following:

As of each census day, any student who has

- Been identified as a no show, defined as a student who fails to attend the first class meeting.
- No notation will be made on students' records for courses dropped prior to census for the course.

Attendance: You are expected to attend every class on time, prepared with the completed assignments. If you expect you will be tardy, absent, or unprepared once in a while this is not the class for you.

- Students not present the first class meeting **will** be dropped. (See Spring 2013 student guide page 19-20.)
- Regular attendance is expected. (See Spring 2013 student guide page 19-20.)
- Students who no longer wish to participate in class are responsible for dropping themselves using the online registration system. Specific instructions and deadlines are listed each term in the Student Guide.
- A student **may** be excluded from further attendance in a class during any term when absences after the close of registration exceeds the number of class hours which the class meets each week.
- **However, it is your responsibility to drop yourself, not the instructor's.** Dropping after the deadline to drop classes, (April 12, 2013), will not be possible. (See Spring 2013 student guide page 19-20.)
- Do not schedule lengthy vacations or trips that mean you will miss class. It is your responsibility to come to class and complete the assignments.
- Do not schedule counseling, doctor, dentist, or mechanical appointments during class time.
- Emergencies do occur. Contact me as soon as possible, but be aware, the benefits obtained from any college class are the result of regular attendance. A class missed is missed instruction.

Student Responsibilities:

- Obtain the required materials the first week of class. Assignments will not be delayed nor extended for anyone who did not obtain the required materials in a timely manner. Bring your binder, extra paper, pencils, pens, and books to each class meeting.
- You are expected to arrive in class with the assigned reading completed.
- All assignments must be completed and submitted in by the due date to receive credit. Late work is not accepted and earns a zero. Once closed an assignment is closed.
- Always back up your work. Losing your work because you didn't back it up is not an excuse for not turning in an assignment.
- Keep track of your own assignments, due dates, grades, and attendance. An assignment notebook is a wonderful thing.
- Exchange phone numbers with other students. If you miss class call a classmate to get the assignment.
- Sending an email to me, requesting the homework for the period of time you were absent is not sufficient. I teach other classes and am required to attend meetings. I may not even see your email until the day of the next class meeting. Contact your classmates to find out what you missed.
- If you have problems understanding an assignment, it is your responsibility to make arrangements for a conference with me, in my office, to discuss this problem before the assignment is due. Lack of understanding on your part is not an excuse for turning in an assignment late.
- This class is taught using the workshop method. Students are expected to participate in class activities. If you are unwilling, for any reason, to share your writing with your classmates and share in their writing as well, you would be wise to find a writing instructor that utilizes a different form of writing instruction.
- Any student with a documented disability who may need educational accommodations should notify the instructor or the Disabled Student Programs and Services (DSPS) office as soon as possible: Room 2117, Health Sciences Building, (760) 355-6312.

How to Contact Your Instructor:

- You may call and leave a voice mail. Make sure you speak slowly and distinctly. All too often voice mails are garbled and difficult to understand.
- If I return your call, and your phone is busy I can only try again a limited number of times.
- The best way to contact me is through BB email. This avoids the IVC spam nanny.
- Whether you call or email, remember, I may not be in the office on holidays and weekends.
- Save discussions of a personal nature, grades, absences, personal problems, for my office.

Making an Appointment:

- See me in person immediately before or after class.
- Stop by my office. I may be in.
- Send an email, **several days in advance** of when you want the appointment. Make sure you have a return email confirmation that lets you know I will be in my office at the time you request.
- As much as is possible, if you can not make my office hours, I will do my best to meet with you at your convenience.

Class Assignments:

- Completed essays are expected to have gone through several drafts and the writing workshop process.
- Keep all drafts. Drafts may be required to be handed in with the completed essay.
- Essays must have gone through the writing workshop process, or they will not be graded. [Essay Minimum Length will be announced through BB for each essay.]
- If you miss a class conference due to being absent, you may come to my office to make up the missed conference, or you may substitute proof of a writing lab conference. This is limited to ONE during the course of the semester.
- Extra conferences beyond those in class may be done one-on-one in my office or through the writing lab.
- Essays are only accepted for grading the day they are due outside of the grace period.
- Journal and Blog assignments on Blackboard have open and closing dates. Give yourself enough time to complete such assignments before they close. If you have computer problems, use the computer labs on campus or a computer at your local public library. Computer problems are not a viable excuse for not doing an assignment.
- All writing done outside of class must be typed or word processed and done in MLA style.
- If you are having problems, come to my office for a personal conference on your writing.
- "Save" as you type. Back up your work. Disasters happen, and technology is not perfect.
- Late work, outside the single grace period, (see grading) is not accepted. Good writing often takes longer than expected. Don't wait until the last minute.
- Assignments are due at the beginning of class.
- An absence entitles the student to turn in the homework due the date of the absence on the day the student returns to class. The homework due the day of the absence must be presented immediately at the beginning of the first class meeting when the student returns. Assignments due the day a student was absent will not be accepted the second, third, or succeeding class meeting after a student returned to class.
- If you have arrived in English 201 with inadequate English grammar skills, you will be expected to work individually with English Grammar 101 or myskillstutor.com either in the writing lab or off campus online to ensure control of English mechanics, grammar, and sentence structure as per English 201 requirements.

Time:

- An English 201 class spends 3 hours in the classroom with lectures, discussions, and class activities.
- English 201 has out of class assignments. A college student can expect to spend approximately 2 to 3 hours studying outside of class for each hour spent in class. This means a student can expect to spend between 6 and 9 hours a week reading, taking notes on assigned readings, memorizing material, and writing papers outside of time spent in the classroom. Some weeks will require less time. Some weeks will require more time.
- **As Confucius said, "Learning is labor, call it what you will."**

Behavior:

- No iPods or CD players in class.
- Turn off your cell phone. No calls are to be received during class. Leaving class to make or answer a cell phone will result in the student being removed from class and sent to the Dean of Students.
- **No food or drink in class** with the exception of plain water. [This is a college rule.]
- Please make arrangements for childcare. No children may be brought to class.
- Any differences between my evaluation of your work and your estimation of your work must be discussed in my office, not in the classroom.

Academic Honesty:

The purpose of this class is to produce informed, competent writers. This requires doing your own writing. If a student's in-class writing is demonstrably different from that student's out-of-class writing, the instructor reserves the right to base the student's course grade solely on the student's in-class writing grades. Any writing turned in under your name that is not properly cited is considered plagiarism. (See Cheating and Plagiarism)

Cheating and Plagiarism. IVC expects honesty and integrity from all students. A student found to have cheated on any assignment or plagiarized will receive a zero for the assignment and sent to Disciplinary Officer Sergio Lopez. A second occurrence of cheating or plagiarism may result in dismissal from class and expulsion from IVC as outlined in the General Catalog.

Disruptive Students: Most of you are here to learn, but some students are not serious. To preserve a productive learning environment, students who disrupt or interfere with a class may be sent out of the room and told to meet with Sergio Lopez, Campus Disciplinary officer, before returning to continue with coursework. Mr. Lopez will follow disciplinary procedures as outlined in the General Catalog.

Research Format:

You will do essays in which research may be required. MLA format is required.

Essay Format:

MLA format is required. Students in this class will utilize good writing practices per English 201 curriculum requirements. Any writing turned in under your name that is not properly cited is considered plagiarism. MLA handbooks are available in the bookstore. Buy it once. Use it for years to come.

Submitting Essays

Essays will be submitted in two formats. One: through SafeAssign in Blackboard. Two: hard copy complete with drafts and revisions, in class. Both must be received on time to have the essay eligible for grading. Instruction will be given on how to submit electronically through Blackboard. Essays are not accepted late. (See Grace Period below.)

Grace Period

Each student has **ONE** grace period to turn in a completed essay *one day late* with no penalty. An essay turned in under the grace period may be brought to my office and submitted in person, placed in my Arts and Letters mailbox in the Science Building, or slid under my office door. Otherwise, final drafts are due when they are due.

Essay Topics:

Essay topics will be assigned and discussed in class. Changing an essay's topic without prior approval will result in a grade of zero.

Quizzes and Quick Writes

Quizzes are almost never announced. Students who keep up with the readings, pay attention to class instruction, asking questions where needed for clarification, have no problems with unannounced quizzes. Missed quizzes may not be made up.

Quick Writes are listed on this syllabus. Whenever possible, arrangements are made to have quick writes given in a computer lab. If absent, a student may make up a quick write within five (5) school days of returning to class. Arrangements must be made to do this outside of class time.

Grading Procedures:

Quizzes	10%
Essays	20%
Quick Writes	25%
Homework: plans, drafts, summaries, journals, blogs	5%
Mid-Term	15%
Final Exam	25%

- No past or previously un-submitted assignments will be accepted once final grades are submitted to Instruction, so do not ask, plead, or even inquire.
- Grades are available 24/7 online. Any questions concerning grades must be brought to my attention within a week of the grade being posted. After that time, the grade is considered accurate.
- It is suggested students keep a file of graded and returned assignments.
- Your grade is the grade you earn. No grade will be changed due to problems with financial aid, graduation, or transfer requirements.
- Grades in other classes, math, P.E., art, or previous writing classes are not necessarily indicative of grades earned in this class.

Assignments Spring 2013

[These assignments may be altered as necessary during the semester.]

Week	Anc. Bk	Readings, Essays, Class Topics
one	Gate. 1-4	General introduction, syllabus, Review academic essay format, plagiarism avoidance, journals, 1 st Discussion topic, Start <i>Lucifer Effect</i>
two	5-8	1 st Discussion Topic – narrowing focus, writing workshop techniques, effective planning, drafts, who is the audience, avoiding generalization, using logos
three	9-13	1 st DT – expanding the in-depth view, focusing on drafts, clarity, presentation of ideas through illustration and examples
*four	14-18	<u>Monday: 1st DT Essay due</u> , 2 nd DT, use of Internet, introduce persuasive essay format, claim, support – proof, narrowing focus – developing an argument *Wednesday: quick write
five	19-22	2 nd DT – expanding the in-depth view, focusing on support, MLA, drafts, inductive /deductive: which works best when, avoiding slippery slope, using pathos, serious planning, drafts
six	23-26	2 nd DT – exchanging ideas, communicating effectively with the reader, when is enough really enough, drafts
*seven	27-30	<u>2nd DT Essay due</u> , quiz, Review, 3 rd DT *Wednesday – Mid-Term (quick write)
eight	31-35	3 rd DT, exploring the topic, looking at casual arguments, effective analogies, using figures of speech effectively, avoiding purple prose, ethos, focusing on the audience, detailed planning, drafts
nine	Lucifer 1,2,3	3 rd DT, narrowing the focus, expanding the depth, review of effective support, remembering the reader, the power of story, drafts,
*ten	4-5	3 rd DT, conclusion = solution, the call to action, subtlety when and where, effective research & avoiding false authority, drafts *Wednesday: quick write
eleven	6-7	<u>3rd DT Essay due Monday</u> 4 th DT, Movies – a barometer, dealing with controversy, argumentative style, examining & evaluating other writers, planning
Spring Break	8-10	
twelve	11-12	4 th DT, What do we know? What did we discover? Truth or Opinion? Need we agree? , respect for opposing viewpoints, straw man and ad hominem, either or, drafts
thirteen	13-14	4 th DT narrowing focus, increasing depth, reader background – how much is enough (review audience), drafts
fourteen	15-16	<u>4th DT Essay due Wednesday</u>
fifteen		Review, preparation for exam
EXAMS		Final exam May. 6, 2013