

Instructor: Deirdre Rowley

Office # 2792

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Office Hours: M/W: 11:30-12:30pm T: 10-11am Th 11-12pm

Email: deirdre.rowley@imperial.edu (Put **English 111** in the subject line.)

**Course Description:** A course for college students who wish to develop the critical reading and thinking skills necessary for all types of college level reading.

**Course Objectives:** Students will learn

- To locate, paraphrase, and outline the main idea and supporting detail of expository prose.
- To demonstrate the ability to take accurate notes from textbooks.
- To identify patterns of development in expository prose.
- To accurately analyze and criticize both inductive and deductive arguments.
- To recognize and identify common fallacies in argumentation.
- To demonstrate an ability to criticize argumentation by identifying hidden premises and assumed values in argumentation.
- To show an understanding of techniques used to persuade.
- To develop speed and a flexibility of reading skills appropriate to university demands.
- To show growth in the ability to distinguish and identify word meanings.

**Student Learning Outcomes:**

- Identify the three main persuasive appeals in selective texts.
- Show growth in the ability to distinguish and identify word meanings appropriate to the college-transfer level.
- Identify persuasive techniques in print, visual, and aural media.
- Identify, analyze, and critique inference and its effects.

**Texts and Materials:**

- *Beyond Feelings* by V.R. Ruggiero 9<sup>th</sup> edition



- *Dies the Fire* by S. M. Stirling
- Used copies are fine. Ebooks are fine. These books may possibly be available free on the web.
- *MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers* seventh edition (No, we are not doing a research paper, and yes this is optional but strongly suggested.)
- An English only language dictionary of your choice
- A binder or spiral notebook. (You will want to take notes.)
- An assignment notebook
- Some form of back up for written assignments: memory stick, external hard drive, cloud.

**How to Contact Your Instructor:**

- The best way to contact me is through Blackboard Messages.
- Blackboard messages are usually answered within 24 hours.
- You may call my office and leave a voice mail. Make sure you speak slowly and distinctly. All too often voice mails are gabled and impossible to understand.

- If I attempt to return your call, and your phone is busy, I can only try again a limited number of times.

### **Making an Appointment:**

- Stop by my office. I may be in.
- See me before or after class to make an appointment.
- As much as is possible, if you cannot make my office hours, I will try to meet with you at your convenience.

### **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, Sept. 3, 2013, students will be dropped who have

- Been identified as a no shows, 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 Fall 2013 student guide.)
- Regular attendance is expected. (See Fall 2013 student guide.)
- 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, (Nov. 29, 2013), will not be possible. (See Fall 2013 student guide..)
- 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 books, 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.
- 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.

- Homework can also be found listed in the class Blackboard site.
- 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.
- 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.

### **Academic Misconduct Policy:**

Academic misconduct includes misconduct associated with the classroom, laboratory or clinical learning process. Some examples of academic misconduct are cheating and plagiarism.

Cheating includes, but is not limited to, (a) use of any unauthorized assistance in taking quizzes, tests, assessment tests or examinations; (b) dependence upon the aid of sources beyond those authorized by the faculty member in writing papers, preparing reports, solving problems, or carrying out other assignments; or (c) the acquisition, without permission, of tests or other academic material belonging to a member of the college faculty or staff.

Plagiarism includes, but is not limited to, the use of paraphrased or directly quoted published or unpublished work of another person without full and clear acknowledgment. It also includes the unacknowledged use of materials prepared by another person or agency engaged in the selling of term papers or other academic materials. Information gathered from the internet and not properly identified is also considered plagiarism.

Any student found by a faculty member to have committed academic misconduct may be subject to sanctions as determined by the faculty member. Sanctions MAY include a warning, grade adjustment, and course failure. Consequences for plagiarism include a zero on the assignment and a referral to Sergio Lopez, Dean of Student Development and Campus Events.

### **Discipline Policy:**

“Imperial Valley College is maintained for the purpose of providing students in the community with programs of instruction in higher education. The College is concerned with the fostering of knowledge, the search for truth and the dissemination of ideas. Students shall assume an obligation to conduct themselves in a manner compatible with the college’s function as an educational institution.

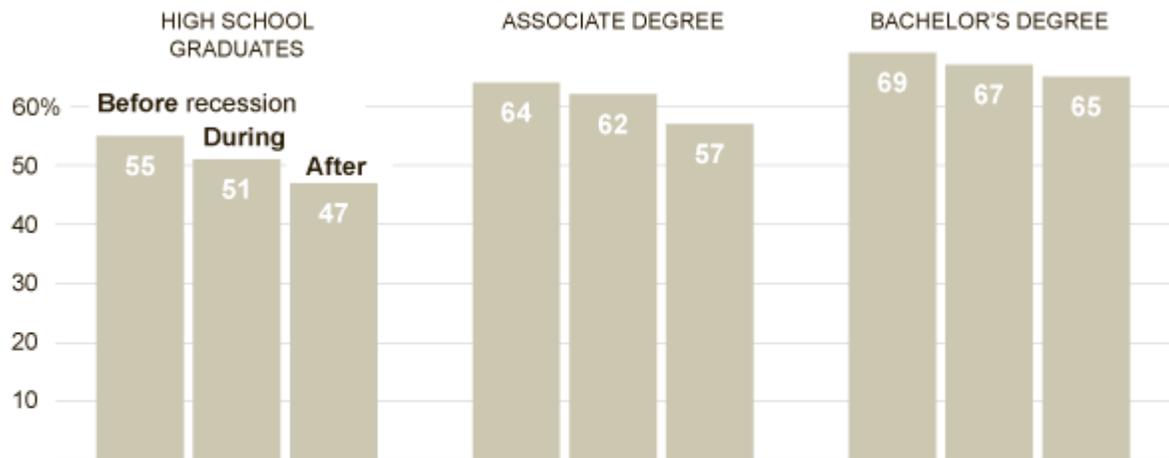
An instructor MAY REMOVE a student for the day of removal and the next class meeting. Such action must be immediately reported to Sergio Lopez, Dean of Student Development and Campus Events. During the period of removal the student MAY NOT return without the consent of the instructor.” In the case of an online class, the student will be blocked from the class site.

### **Do yourself a favor:**

- Create a schedule for work, eating, rest, play, online class time, reading lab, and study/reading time. Post your schedule. Tell family and friends they can contact you are available outside or work, class time, and study/reading time.
- Turn off your cell phone or pager while you are studying, reading, or doing assignments.
- Working and studying while you are hungry produces poor results. Eat prior to these activities. Eating while studying divides your attention.
- If you have children, you usually don't take them to work with you. Make arrangements so they don't interrupt your online class time or you study/reading time either.

- Often a discussion with children, even small children, explaining how going to school requires concentration and quiet time, helps them to understand you won't be available during this time. It also sets an excellent example for their academic experiences.
- Read the assigned material before attempting the assignments.
- Take notes on the readings before coming to class.
- Doing your best at all time results in your best getting better.
- Carefully read, then re-read the TIME section that follows this graph

**Why it is worth your time and effort to work very hard and do well in your college classes: This graph shows the unemployment rates for various educational levels before, during, and after the current recession. See Note under graph for dates.**



**Graduating to Unemployment** The employment rate for graduates is down. Since the end of the recession, high school graduates have fared the worst. Their rate has fallen 8 percentage points.

Note: Date ranges defined as July 2005-November 2007 (before recession), December 2007-June 2009 (during) and July 2009-December 2011 (after).

Source: The Pew Charitable Trusts

#### Time:

- An English 111 class spends 3 hours in the classroom with lectures, discussions, and class activities. This holds true for other academic classes as well.
- English 111 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."**

**Homework:** Assignments must be submitted in a timely fashion to earn credit. Why take the class if you aren't going to do the work?

## Types of Assignments

***Beyond Feelings:*** You may expect **discussions, homework, journals, essays, quizzes, reviews, and tests.**

***Dies the Fire:*** This book will provide examples of material presented in Beyond Feelings. You may expect **discussions, quizzes, tests, journals, and short formal essays.**

Students may read ahead of the class in *Dies the Fire*, if they desire. It is only asked you not reveal what happened to someone who hasn't read as much of the novel as you have.

### Essay Format:

MLA format is required. Students in this class will utilize good writing practices per English 101 curriculum requirements.

### Grading:

Text book questions, reviews, review quizzes	15%
Journals , discussions	10%
Vocabulary	10%
Essays	15%
Mid- Term	25%
Final	25%

- Grades are available on Blackboard 24/7. Any questions must be brought to my attention within the week the grade was posted. After that time, the report is considered accurate.
- Missed quizzes, online or face-to-face may not be made up.
- Outside of absences (see next bullet), **no late work is accepted.**
- Work due the day a student was absent may be turned in the next time a student is in class without penalty.
- Grades are available 24/7. Therefore, no discussion of grades is entertained after final grades are posted.

**Remember your math classes. The little items can often sink or float a grade. A series of zeros, even if only worth 5 or 10 percent of a grade, can spell disaster.**