

Imperial Valley College – Winter 2016

English 201 CRN: 15027 Units: 3
Advanced Composition:
Critical Reasoning and Writing

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10:00 a.m. – 12:10 p.m.
Room 2726
January 3 – February 3

Course Description

ENGL 201 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

"Citizen: An American Lyric" by Claudia Rankine, Graywolf Press, 2014

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

Assignment Overview

Essay #1: Process-Analysis/Personal Narrative. (Letter grade)

Essay #2: Research paper. Analytical Reading. (Letter grade)

Essay #3: Research paper. Claim of Value. (Letter grade)

Essay #4: Research paper. Citizen: An American Lyric. (Letter grade)

Annotated Bibliography: Instead of an works cited page for one assignment students will list sources and describe specifically what part of each source is relevant to research paper and why. (Letter grade)

Presentation: Throughout the semester each student will give a 4-6 minute presentation of 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 (PowerPoint...), to more experimental ones, such as creating a music video, a game, a dramatic play, a documentary/mocumentary, a display of artifacts, etc. (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.

Course Requirements

10%: Homework, Quizzes (unannounced, includes midterm)
10%: Participation (buffer will exist, this grade cannot be made up)
15%: First assignment
15%: Second assignment
15%: Third assignment
15%: Fourth assignment
10%: Bibliography
10%: Presentation

Note: There will be a number of in-class writing assignments and group assignments that are required and integral to the class. These will be graded either pass or fail and impact your participation grade. 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.

Grading system

90 + = A 80 - 89 = B 70 - 79 = C
60 - 69 = D 59 - = F

Policies

Assignments:

- Assignments are due in hard copy at the beginning of class unless otherwise stated. Assignments will be considered late if you turn them in after they have been collected, and will be penalized half a grade. Barring emergencies, late or emailed papers **will not be accepted**. 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.

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.

- 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. 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 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 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. Please do not wait until an assignment is due or towards the end of the semester to inform me.

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 importance 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 Support Site.** 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.

COURSE SCHEDULE

Week 1 **January 3 – 6**

Intro to course & course materials

Essay #1 introduction, example and discussion

Creating introductions

Structuring paragraphs

Establishing expertise and authority

Rhetorical appeals

Writing with imagination, understanding figurative language

Defining analysis

(Week 1 Readings*: Review Syllabus

Canvas links: “UC personal insight questions for transfer students...”

Canvas handouts: Appendix 2, Introductions, Conclusions, Writing for Your Audience, Structuring Paragraphs

Week 1 Homework*: Educational Itinerary, Structuring Paragraphs, Description, Analysis)

***Note:** Readings will be quizzed/discussed the following class unless otherwise specified. Homework is due the following class of assigned date unless otherwise specified.

Week 2 **January 9 – 13**

Due Monday: Essay #1

Assignment #2 handout, examples and discussion

What makes an argument?

Fallacies in argument

Counterarguments

Constructing a thesis statement

Evaluating facts and sources

Summary, paraphrasing, direct quotation

Selecting and integrating material

Moves of revision

Creating a bibliography

(Week 2 Readings: “Writing Arguments” Chaps. 1 – 8 & Appendix 1

“Citizen” pgs. 1 – 37

Canvas links: “Yes, your opinion can be wrong...” “The Danger of a Single Story”

Canvas handouts: Counterarguments, Thesis Example, Moves of Revision, Bibliography

Template, Internal & External Credibility, Fallacies

Week 2 Homework: Fallacies Handout)

Week 3 **January 16 – 20**

Holiday on Monday, no class

Due Tuesday: Essay #2

Group 1 presentations

Essay #3 handout, example and discussion

Stasis theory

Toulmin logic

Types of claims

(Week 3 Readings: “Writing Arguments” Chaps. 10 – 14

“Citizen” pgs. 41 – 79

Canvas handouts: Types of claims

Week 3 Homework: Warrants Handout)

Week 4 **January 23 – 27**

Due Monday: Essay #3

Group 2 presentations

Essay #4 handout, examples and discussion

Midterm

Claims cont.

(Week 4 Readings: *Finish* "Citizen")

Week 5 **January 30 – February 3**

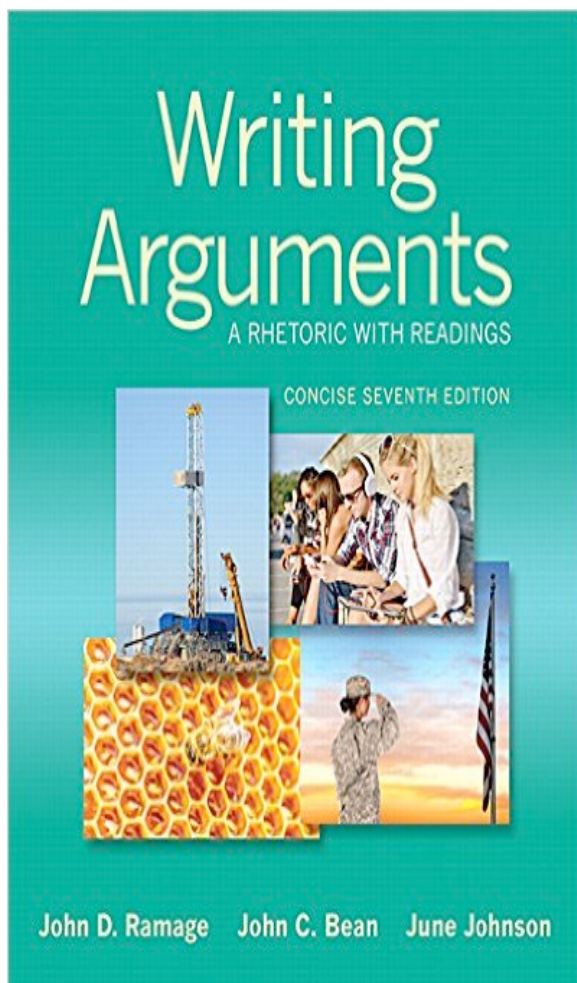
Semester review

Due Thursday: Essay #4

Group 3 presentations

Movie TBA

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



CITIZEN

AN AMERICAN LYRIC

CLAUDIA RANKINE