



Basic Course Information

Semester:	Spring 2023	Instructor Name:	Dr. Cynthia J. Spence
Course Title & #:	English 201 – Advanced Composition	Email:	cynthia.spence@imperial.edu
CRN #:	20597	Webpage:	None
Classroom:	Face-to-Face Room 2726	Office #:	#2799
Class Dates:	February 13th – June 9th	Office Hours:	Office hours are Wednesday 5:00-6:00 p.m. Online office hours are Friday 2:00 p.m.-4:00 p.m. via email
Class Days:	Wednesday	Office Phone #:	#760-355-5702 – Most of my classes are online this semester, phone calls are not a recommended point of contact.
Class Times:	6:00 p.m. to 9:10 p.m.	Type of Class:	This class focuses on argument, critical thinking, and advanced composition
Units:	3	Emergency Contact:	cynthia.spence@imperial.edu

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)

Student Learning Outcomes

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

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. Student will identify formal and informal fallacies in language and thought.
5. Student will recognize and apply the effects of denotation and connotation; emotive language; and various figures of speech, especially metaphor, within argumentative prose.



6. Student will revise written drafts and edit appropriately for an academic audience, observing conventions of coherence, unity, purpose, grammar, mechanics, and documentation.
7. Students will write essays and research papers, mostly argumentative and analytical, composing a total of at least 6,000 words (approximately 24 pages) of formal writing.

Textbooks & Other Resources or Links

This is a ZTC/OER Course -Zero Textbook Cost/Online Educational Resources All reading materials are provided free on Canvas

Scholars have articulated the rationale for using a **theme based approach** as a “meaningful” way to personally engage students in the learning process (Handal & Bobis, 2004; Lipson, et al., 1993); connect to students’ life experiences, interests, and existing knowledge bases (Handal & Bobis, 2004; Lipson, et al., 1993; Mangan, 2014); **create a focus for learners that reveals connections among knowledge areas** (Lipson, et al., 1993); promote positive attitudes in learners (Lipson, et al., 1993); **and improve student success/achievement** (Handal & Bobis, 2004; Mangan, 2014). Mangan (2014) reports increased student performance in theme-based classes, citing an 87% pass rate in “fear and horror” themed introductory English classes at a community college, compared to a 78% pass rate in traditional versions of these classes across the Texas community college system.

The theme for our course is “**Argument Through the Lens of the United States Supreme Court.**” All the course readings and assignments will be based on this theme.

E-book Provided Free on Canvas

Rubinstein, Justine. *The Supreme Court*. National Highlights Inc, 2020. *EBSCOhost*, <https://search-ebSCOhost-com.ezproxy.imperial.edu/login.aspx?direct=true&db=nlebk&AN=2652055&site=ehost-live>.

Course Requirements and Instructional Methods

Out of Class Assignments: The Department of Education policy states that one (1) credit hour is the amount of student work that reasonably approximates not less than one hour of class time and two (2) hours of out-of-class time per week over the span of a semester. WASC has adopted a similar requirement. English 201 is a 3-unit college level English class. This means students should expect to spend three hours a week in our Canvas shell and six hours a week outside of the Canvas shell reading, studying, researching, and writing.

Course Grading Based on Course Objectives

I have designed the course in the student’s favor, I tend to grade in the student’s favor, and I offer several extra credit opportunities. With this in mind, a point total of 799 will receive a C, not a B. However, a point total of 800 will receive a B, not a C. I encourage you to watch your point total during the course, not your percentage total on individual assignments, and work towards the grade you would like to receive. I accept late work, but there will be a deduction in points for the assignment.



Grading Scale: 0-599 = F, 600-699 = D, 700-799 = C, 800-899 = B, 900 -1000 = A

*****I do not round point totals up or down*****

Text-Dependent Chapter Questions	6 X 20	120
Chapter Research Projects	6 X 20	120
Discussion Threads	12 X 20	240
Amendment Summaries	5 X 20	100
Supreme Court Jurist Case Analysis Essay		100
Traditional Argument Essay		100
Rogerian Essay		100
Quizzes	6 X 20	120
Point Total		1000

Course Policies

Attendance:

- 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.
- 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.
- **Asking someone else to write your essay or using an essay writing service is a serious academic honesty infraction.**
- 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, essay, or assignment, and the instructor may report the incident to the Campus Disciplinary Officer, who may place related documentation in a file. A plagiarism score above 25% is a serious error and will result in a point deduction on the essay.

Anyone who **allows another student to copy** discussion threads, summaries, or essays will also receive a "0" on the assignment – **enabling another student to cheat is also cheating.** 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. **Also remember, that any paper you have written and submitted to another teacher for a grade no longer belongs to you, it belongs to the instructor and can't be submitted in this class for a grade.**

There is an entire plagiarism module available to you in our course Canvas shell if you need more information, but you can always feel free to discuss any questions before you submit your assignment.



IVC Student Resources

- IVC wants you to be successful in all aspects of your education. For help, resources, services, and an explanation of policies, visit <http://www.imperial.edu/studentresources> or click the heart icon in Canvas.

Anticipated Class Schedule/Calendar

*****The Assignment Calendar is Subject to Change, Changes Will Be Announced*****

Course Topics Covered	Class Assignments Due @ 11:59 p.m. on Sundays
Week One – February 13th Course Introduction, MLA rules review, Scholarly Articles, EBSCOhost, MLA Works Cited review	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Works Cited Quiz (20 points) • Plagiarism Quiz (20 points) • Introductions Quiz (20 points) • Commas Quiz (20 points) • Words to Avoid in Academic Writing Quiz (20 points) • Paragraph Quiz (20 points)
Week Two – February 20th Chapter 1 – “A Visit to the Supreme Court” Amendments to the Constitution Through the Lens of Argument	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Text-Dependent Questions for Chapter One (20 points) • Research Project for Chapter One (20 points) • Amendment Summary One (20 points) • Discussion Thread Two (20 points)
Week Three – February 27th Chapter 2 “The History of the Supreme Court” – Introduction Traditional Argument Essay	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Text-Dependent Questions for Chapter Two (20 points) • Research Project for Chapter Two (20 points) • Argument Thesis Approval Thread Discussion Thread Three (20 points) • Discussion Thread Four (20 points)
Week Four – March 6th Amendments to the Constitution Through the Lens of Argument	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Amendment Summary Two (20 points) • Discussion Thread Five (20 points)
Week Five – March 13th Traditional Argument	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Traditional Argument Essay (100 points)
Week Six – March 20th Chapter 3 “Cases That Shaped the Court”	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Text-Dependent Questions for Chapter Three (20 points) • Research Project for Chapter Three (20 points) • Discussion Thread Six (20 points)
Week Seven – March 27th Amendments to the Constitution Through the Lens of Argument	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Amendment Summary Three (20 points) • Discussion Thread Seven (20 points)
Week Eight – April 3rd Chapter 4 “Change and Conflict”	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Text-Dependent Questions for Chapter Four (20 points) • Research Project for Chapter Four (20 points) • Discussion Thread Eight (20 points)
Spring Break – April 10th- 16th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No assignments due – enjoy your spring break
Week Nine – April 17th Amendments to the Constitution Through the Lens of Argument	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Amendment Summary Four (20 points) • Discussion Thread Nine (20 points)
Week Ten – April 24th Chapter 5 “How the Supreme Court Works” Rogerian Argument	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Text-Dependent Questions for Chapter Five (20 points) • Research Project for Chapter Five (20 points) • Discussion Thread Ten (20 points)
Week Eleven – May 1st Rogerian Argument	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rogerian Argument Discussion Thread Ten (20 points)
Week Twelve – May 8th Amendments to the Constitution Through the Lens of Argument Text Analysis Through the Lens of Argument	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Amendment Summary Five (20 points) • Discussion Thread Eleven (20 points)
Week Thirteen – May 15th Supreme Court Juist Analysis Essay	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supreme Court Jurist Case Analysis Essay (100 points)



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<p>Week Fourteen – May 22nd Chapter 6 “How a Case is Decided.”</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Text-Dependent Questions for Chapter Six (20 points)• Research Project for Chapter Six (20 points)• Discussion Thread Twelve (20 points)
<p>Week Fifteen – May 29th No new instruction – focus on completing the essays and any outstanding assignments</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Rogerian Argument Essay (100 points)• Course Review Discussion Thread (20 points)
<p>Week Sixteen – June 5th No new instruction – focus on completing the essays and any outstanding assignments</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Submit any late assignments by Friday June 9th 11:59 p.m.