Basic Course Information

Semester:	Winter 2025	Instructor Name:	Christina Shaner
Course Title & #:	Advanced Composition 201	Email:	christina.shaner@imperial.edu
CRN #:	201.15092	Webpage (optional):	Canvas course
Classroom:	online/Canvas	Office #:	2785
Class Dates:	1/2/25 to 2/3/25	Office Hours:	not applicable in winter
Class Days:	not applicable	Office Phone #:	760.355.6162
Class Times:	not applicable	Emergency Contact:	email
Units:	3	Class Format/Modality:	online/asynchronous

Course Description (text not written/edited by the professor in this class)

This course offers advanced instruction in argumentation and critical thinking in reading and writing through the evaluation and analysis of primarily non-fiction texts. Limitation on Enrollment: Course not open to students with a "C" or higher in English 204. (C-ID: ENGL 105) (CSU/UC)

Course Prerequisite(s) and/or Corequisite(s) (text not written/edited by the professor in this class)

ENGL 105 or ENGL 110 or ESL 108 - with a grade of "C" or better.

Student Learning Outcomes (text not written/edited by the professor in this class)

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.*
2. *Develop an effective written argument containing a factual claim, providing valid and appropriate evidence, utilizing appropriate reasoning strategies, and avoiding fallacies.*
3. *Demonstrate command of rules regarding plagiarism and academic ethics.*

Course Objectives (text not written/edited by the professor in this class)

Upon satisfactory completion of the course, students will be able to:

1. *Critically read, analyze, and evaluate complex arguments for validity and soundness, distinguishing fact from opinion, and differentiating relevant from irrelevant support*
2. *Demonstrate an understanding of formal and informal fallacies in language and thought and identify such fallacies in the writings of others*

3. *Identify a text's premises and assumptions in various social, historical, cultural, psychological, or aesthetic contexts*
4. *Recognize and analyze rhetorical methodologies such as inductive and deductive reasoning, cause and effect, and logos, ethos, and pathos*
5. *Compose thesis-driven arguments to suit a variety of rhetorical situations, including interpretation, evaluation, and analysis*
6. *Find, analyze, interpret, and evaluate primary and secondary sources, incorporating them into written essays using MLA documentation without plagiarism*
7. *Use style, diction, and tone appropriate to a diverse academic community and to the purpose of the specific writing task; proofread, edit, and revise essays so English grammar, usage, or punctuation does not impede clarity*
8. *Write argumentative and analytical papers composing a total of at least 5,000 words of formal writing*

Textbooks & Other Resources or Links

English 201 is what's known in the field of English as a "rhetoric/composition" or "rhet/comp" course. The basics of reasoning and evidence, with particular emphasis on induction, will be addressed in the Canvas course modules. Additional readings or content for assignments may be provided via links and screenshots.

While content I provide in the Canvas course will serve as your textbook on rhetoric and composition, you must acquire two books that will serve as the basis for your major research project:

Baddiel, David. *Jews Don't Count: How Identity Politics Failed One Particular Identity*. TLS, 2021.
Horn, Dara. *People Love Dead Jews: Reports from a Haunted Present*. Norton, 2022.

A failure to read Canvas course content, the required book, or external (linked) sources will lead to misunderstanding and inadequate outcomes on assignments.

Book Buying Tips

Visit the bookstore on campus or try the "Purchase Course Textbooks" link in the Canvas course navigation menu to check IVC bookstore prices and compare them with those of commercial retailers.

To confirm that you have found the correct edition of a book for this or any other class, consult the international standard book number for the particular text you need. That number appears with the publication information just after the title page in a physical copy of a book as well as in listings for books on bookseller websites.

The ISBN for the Horn book in paperback format is 9781324035947. The ISBN for the Baddiel book in paperback format is 9780008399511.

Course Requirements and Instructional Methods
[Describe course activities, assignments, tests, homework, etc.]

Course Grading Based on Course Objectives

All assignments must be written and submitted by the student according to project instructions. Instructions for the preparation of any required or optional revisions will be provided.

Partially completed essays or projects without all required sources or evidence most often lead to assignment grades in the D or F range.

Late assignments will receive a 5% grade deduction per calendar day. For example, a discussion task completed three days late will receive a 15% deduction from the earned grade.

Feedback and Peer Review

Grading time varies by type of assignment and due to workload.
*   The typical turnaround time for essays in a university composition course is two weeks but may take longer if there are ethical/plagiarism issues and due to our double teaching load at IVC. Essay grading includes multiple readings, feedback writing, determining the grade, and self-checking.
*   Discussions should be graded within one week but may take longer due to ethical concerns.
*   Exams should be graded within one week but may take longer due to ethical concerns.
*   Quiz grading is either immediate or within a few days for online multiple-choice and short-answer quizzes.
*

Peer review projects, when required for an essay, will take place within the grading period. Peer reviews will be completed in the Canvas DocViewer using the software's annotation tools. Instructions will be provided.

Software

Revisions will be prepared using the "**track changes**" features available in **Microsoft Word** or **Apple Pages**. Since Google Docs does not support the exporting of a document with changes marked, you must use Word or Pages to generate essays for this class. Written and video instructions for track changes features will be provided when needed.

An online version of Word is accessible via the Canvas course menu; however, you may have difficulty preserving editing marks with that version of the software. As a student at this institution, you should be eligible to install **Microsoft 365** on your personal device at no added cost. To do so, go to Microsoft to confirm your IVC student status and follow the instructions provided.

Assignments

Grades will be determined on a 100-point scale (with the customary letter divisions: 90-100=A; 80-89=B; and, so on). A student begins the semester with zero points and increases their total with each graded assignment. Assignment point distribution will be as follows:
*   **essay 1 - 15 points**
*   **essay 2 - 15 points**
*   **essay 3 - 15 points**
*   **essay 4 - 23 points**

- **proposed sources - 2 points**
- **discussions - 11 points**
- **peer review - 2 points**
- **quizzes - 12 points**
- **final exam - 5 points**

To convert a percentage to a point total, multiply the number possible for that assignment by the grade you earned. For example, if you earn an 85% on a project worth 15 points, multiply to find 85% of 15 (.85 x 15 = 12.75 points).

To convert a point total to a percentage, divide the number by the total possible for the assignment. For example, if you earn a 12.75 out of 15 possible for an assignment, divide 12.75 by 15 (12.75/15 = .85 or 85%).

To check your current course grade, divide your overall points earned by the number of points possible for all assignments graded by that date.

Academic Honesty (Artificial Intelligence -AI) (text not written/edited by the professor in this class)

IVC values critical thinking and communication skills and considers academic integrity essential to learning. Using AI tools as a replacement for your own thinking, writing, or quantitative reasoning goes against both our mission and academic honesty policy and will be considered academic dishonesty, or plagiarism unless you have been instructed to do so by your instructor. In case of any uncertainty regarding the ethical use of AI tools, students are encouraged to reach out to their instructors for clarification.

Accessibility Statement (text not written/edited by the professor in this class)

*Imperial Valley College is committed to providing an accessible learning experience for all students, regardless of course modality. Every effort has been made to ensure that this course complies with all state and federal accessibility regulations, including Section 508 of the Rehabilitation Act, the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), and Title 5 of the California Code of Regulations. However, if you encounter any content that is not accessible, please contact your instructor or the area dean for assistance. If you have specific accommodations through **DSPS**, contact them for additional assistance.*
We are here to support you and ensure that you have equal access to all course materials.

Course Policies

There are two major ethical concerns. One involves abuse and the other involves cheating.

Discrimination

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 a subject. There is no "freedom" or "right" to abuse members of an identity group. We will study some attempts to use such propaganda and tie it to claims of "belief" or "culture."

Plagiarism

Depending on type and severity, an instance of plagiarism may be addressed with a reduced or failing grade for the project or through disciplinary action from an administrator. If the latter, no revision will be accepted. Your writing and reasoning skills are required in this class. Those skills do not improve if you rely on artificial "intelligence" programming. AI programs are used to avoid thinking or learning. Further, presenting the results of such as your work is fraud. Finally, letting someone else think for you while assuming that the content from software programmers is accurate demonstrates authoritarianism. To make the point abundantly clear, use of artificial intelligence - whether a dedicated AI product (such as ChatGPT, Grammerly, and the like) or AI generated "suggestions" in your word processing software - is plagiarism.

Types of plagiarism include:

- **False authorship:** False authorship refers to the presenting of someone/something else's ideas and/or words as your own in an assignment presented for a grade. Common attempts to disguise it include inserting minor word changes and translating from text in another language.
- **Unacknowledged collaboration:** Unacknowledged collaboration refers to instances of excessive influence on or re-writing of your work. The cooperation of an another person or the legality of a piece of software in the U.S. is irrelevant.
- **Misrepresentation of source:** Misrepresentation refers to the distorting or altering of meaning in a source text in order to promote an assumption. It may be performed through unconscious bias.
- **Insufficient citation:** Insufficient citation refers to the appearance of someone else's work with faulty, or no, citation. It may appear due to lack of attention to MLA format.
- **Recycling:** Recycling refers to the reuse of text prepared by the student for some other purpose without approval or acknowledgement.

Other Course Information

Attendance

According to current school policy, a student may be removed from the roster for consecutive absences in excess of the unit value for that course. In an online, sixteen-week course valued at three units, the student is then eligible for removal after one and a half weeks of missed activities. In a condensed course, the student is eligible for drop if they miss most of one week.

Sick days and personal matters count toward the missed days allowed. An instructor has no right to require paperwork or details related to a personal absence.

For absences or deadline conflicts due to required attendance at an IVC event, make arrangements in advance with the professor. Personal meetings with IVC staffers/faculty do not apply.

Email

My IVC email is as follows: christina.shaner@imperial.edu

- **How to email a professor:** Send email through Canvas or from your college email account - not from a personal address. Be sure to include the specific purpose of the message in the subject line. In the message, attempt to communicate with clarity and accuracy in complete sentences. Don't forget to identify yourself and the course.
- **Why you shouldn't use a personal email account:** Personal email accounts provide no reliable sender information. The name/address itself can diminish the student's credibility and/or imply a kind of immaturity or unprofessionalism. Since the sender could be anyone, no confidential business (including grades and projects) may be discussed.
- **How to make emailing quicker and easier:** If you want the convenience of official student email fed straight to your smartphone, consider downloading the Microsoft Outlook app so that you may access IVC communications without mixing your personal life and your professional/student life. Alternatively, you may download the Canvas app to email through Canvas as questions occur to you. If you encounter a technological issue with your IVC email account, notify your instructors and work with IT to resolve it.

Canvas Help

If you experience difficulty with Canvas, use your cursor or trackpad to select the floating question mark or the "Help" icon in the account navigation bar (the dark grey bar with white icons on the left side of the Canvas page).

Alternatively, you may navigate directly to the software developer's student guide.

Financial Aid (text not written/edited by the professor in this class)
Your Grades Matter! In order to continue to receive financial aid, you must meet the Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) requirement. Makings SAP means that you are maintaining a 2.0 GPA, you have successfully completed 67% of your coursework, and you will graduate on time. If you do not maintain SAP, you may lose your financial aid. If you have questions, please contact financial aid at finaid@imperial.edu.

IVC Student Resources (text not written/edited by the professor in this class)
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

Unit 0
course information and policies

Unit 1
basic terms for argument
discussion

Unit 2
MLA review
Updated 11/2024

source for essay
essay

Unit 3
dialectic and rhetoric
quiz

Unit 4
track changes
sophistry
fallacies and propaganda
Toulmin
discussion

Unit 5
ideology
populism
sources for essay
essay

Unit 6
fascism
totalitarianism
quiz

Unit 7
IHRA definition of antisemitism
Baddiel support
discussion

Unit 8
hegemony
Gramsci
essay instructions

Unit 9
research support
quiz

Unit 10
research support
Horn support
discussion

Updated 11/2024

Unit 11
ethos checks
proposals

Unit 12
works cited list
parenthetic citation issues
quiz

Unit 13
Horn support
discussion

Unit 14
essay

Unit 15
peer review
quiz

Unit 16
revisions
final exam

Subject to change without prior notice