

Basic Course Information

Semester:	Spring 2015	Instructor Name:	Christina Shaner
Course Title & #:	201 Advanced Composition	Email:	christina.shaner@imperial.edu
CRN #:	20304	Webpage (optional):	
Classroom:	404	Office #:	2785
Class Dates:	2.17.2015 to 6.12.2015	Office Hours:	MW 12:00 to 1:00 TR 11:00 to 12:00
Class Days:	W	Office Phone #:	760.355.6162
Class Times:	6:30 to 9:40 p.m.	Emergency Contact:	email
Units:	3		

Course Description

Required language—not written by the professor in this class

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) Prerequisite: ENGL 110 or ENGL 101 with a grade of "C" or better.

Student Learning Outcomes

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Upon course completion, the successful student will have acquired new skills, knowledge, and/or attitudes as demonstrated by being able to:

- *Interpret appropriately and analyze a written argument for claim, evidence, reasoning, fallacies, and overall effectiveness. (ILO 1, ILO 2)*
- *Develop an effective written argument containing a factual claim, providing valid and appropriate evidence, utilizing appropriate reasoning strategies, and avoiding fallacies. (ILO 1, ILO 2, ILO 3)*
- *Demonstrate command of rules regarding plagiarism and academic ethics. (ILO 3)*

Course Objectives

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

- *Student will identify the structure of arguments, including the assertions/claims and the proof/support.*
- *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.*
- *Student will analyze and construct both deductive and inductive arguments.*
- *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.*
- *Student will recognize and apply the effects of denotation and connotation; emotive language; and various figures of speech, especially metaphor, within argumentative prose.*

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

Textbooks & Other Resources or Links

Aristotle. *On Rhetoric: A Theory of Civic Discourse*. Trans. George A. Kennedy. 2nd ed. New York: Oxford UP, 2007. Print. [ISBN #9780195305098]

Modern Language Association. *MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers*. 7th ed. New York: Modern Language Association, 2009. Print. [ISBN #9781603290241]

Course Requirements and Instructional Methods

To begin the semester, you should already have experience identifying the most common logical fallacies and developing sound reason. You should have some skill with analysis of claims and stakeholders. You should have some idea of research methods and evaluation of sources. We will build on this foundation. Since the quality of your writing and thinking depends on the depth and range of your reading, you should expect to engage a variety of texts with some complexity—both for class assignments and as part of independent research.

All writing projects must be completed and submitted as described in individual assignment sheets. Late essays/projects will receive a one-letter grade deduction per day overdue. Partially completed projects will receive failing grades. Each of the major writing projects you submit may be revised once for an improved grade (unless that grade was the result of an ethics violation); however, any accumulated penalties will remain.

Course Grading Based on Course Objectives

While you should consult the professor with specific questions about your work, it's up to you to monitor your overall effort, progress, and points. Points will be distributed as indicated:

- #1 Critical Thinking Essay: 10
- #2 Sophistry Essay: 20
- #3 Research Annotations: 10
- #4 Research Essay: 20
- Midterm Exam: 20
- Final Exam: 20

Attendance

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IVC Attendance Policy:

- 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. 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.
- Regular attendance in all classes is expected of all students. A student whose continuous, unexcused absences exceed the number of hours the class is scheduled to meet per week may be dropped. For online courses, students who fail to complete required activities for two consecutive weeks may be considered to have excessive absences and may be dropped.
- Absences attributed to the representation of the college at officially approved events (conferences, contests, and field trips) will be counted as 'excused' absences.

The following reflects expectations regarding missed work and excused absences:

If you should miss a class session in college, you must *contact a classmate* (NOT your professor) to request notes. Absence due to required attendance at an IVC-affiliated event will be excused, though the professor must be notified in advance and assignment deadlines must be met. All other absences are unexcused. Students absent the first day will be dropped. Students who accumulate *three* consecutive unexcused absences may be dropped.

Classroom Etiquette

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, realistic assessment of subject.

Students who disrupt or interfere with a class may be sent out of the room and told to meet with the Campus Disciplinary Officer before returning to continue with coursework. Disciplinary procedures will be followed as outlined in the [General Catalog](#).

Computers, tablets, and phones should be shut off or silenced. If you have advance notice of an emergency situation (such as a sick child) requiring the need to respond to an anticipated call, notify the professor before the class session.

Academic Honesty

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Academic honesty in the advancement of knowledge requires that all students and instructors respect the integrity of one another's work and recognize the important 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.*

Anyone caught cheating or plagiarizing will receive a zero (0) on the exam or assignment, and the instructor may report the incident to the Campus Disciplinary Officer, who may place related documentation in a file. 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.

The preceding administrator-produced verbiage is potentially misleading and insufficient in its description of plagiarism and the responses to it. The following reflects a more comprehensive review of plagiarism types and the range of outcomes:

Depending on type and severity, an instance of plagiarism may be addressed with an ungraded revision; a reduced/failing grade for the project; or disciplinary action from administrative staff. If you are at all uncertain on the issue of plagiarism, show me your source materials and explain your research methodology before submitting the essay. Do not solicit "help" from personal acquaintances. Instances of plagiarism can occur through contact with faculty unaware of professional ethics or plagiarism standards.

- **False Authorship.** Obtaining by any means another's work, and using that work in an essay/assignment presented for a grade. False authorship includes texts copied with minor changes/adjustments, translation from another language without acknowledgement, and patchwriting several sources into one document.
- **Misrepresentation of Source.** Distorting or altering the meaning of a source text in order to support a claim. Falsification of information about the source would also fall into the category of misrepresentation. Most often, students misrepresent the text because of personal bias or inadequate reading skills.
- **Unacknowledged collaboration.** Allowing too much outside influence or re-writing of the student's work. The individual's consent or cooperation is irrelevant.
- **Recycling.** Submitting all or part of a text that was prepared for another assignment/course.
- **Insufficient Citation.** Including quotations or paraphrased content from another's work with faulty, or no, citation. Direct quotations also require quotation marks or, when appropriate, block quote spacing.

Additional Student Services

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Imperial Valley College offers various services in support of student success. The following are some of the services available for students. Please speak to your instructor about additional services which may be available.

- **[Blackboard Support Site.](#)** *The Blackboard 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.](#)** *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.*

Disabled Student Programs and Services (DSPS)

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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.

Student Counseling and Health Services

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Students have counseling and health services available, provided by the pre-paid Student Health Fee.

- **[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.*

Student Rights and Responsibilities

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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](#).

Information Literacy

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Imperial Valley College Course Syllabus – ENGL 201: Advanced Composition

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.

Anticipated Class Schedule/Calendar

Feb 18	Syllabus & rhetorical key terms	Apr 22	James Baldwin, “Going to Meet the Man” James Baldwin, “Going to Meet the Man”
Feb 25	Review critical thinking excerpts Aristotle, <i>On Rhetoric</i> , Book 1	Apr 29	Gorgias, “Encomium of Helen” (bring Aristotle book) Gorgias, “Encomium of Helen” (bring Aristotle book)
Mar 4	Submit #1 Aristotle, <i>On Rhetoric</i> , Book 2	May 6	Isocrates, “Against the Sophists” Submit #3
Mar 11	Fallacies & propaganda Toulmin model (handout)	May 13	Isocrates, <i>Antidosis</i> Workshop
Mar 18	Review of propaganda piece for #2 “Ideology” (handout)	May 20	Aristotle, <i>On Rhetoric</i> , review Submit #4
Mar 25	“Hegemony” (handout) Submit #2	May 27	Fallacy identification activity Workshop – essay revisions
Apr 1	Research practicum James Baldwin, “Going to Meet the Man”	Jun 3	Midterm review Submit Essay Revisions
Apr 15	Midterm Exam	Jun 10	Final Exam