Basic Course Information

Semester	SPRING 2015	Instructor's Name	Prof. David R. Zielinski
Course Title & #	English 201: Advanced Composition	Instructor's Email	david.zielinski@imperial.edu
CRN	20307		
Room	202	Office	2790
Class Dates	17 Feb to 12 June	Office Hours	M through Th 7:00 to 7:30 a.m. Tu and Th 10:00 to 11:00 a.m.
Class Days	Tuesday and Thursday	Office Phone	(760) 355-6470
Class Times	1:30 to 2:55 p.m.	Emergency Contact	English Dept. Secretary (760) 355-6224
Units	3		

Course Description

English 201 is the standard second-semester college-level composition course. The prerequisite for this 3-unit class is English 110, "Composition and Reading" (or its equivalent). In English 201, we emphasize critical thinking in reading and writing beyond that achieved in previous English courses. Written argumentation will focus on classical rhetoric and contemporary issues. Students' research skills are enhanced, and the overall purpose of the course is to improve skill with writing at the college level. English 201 is acceptable for credit in both the CSU and UC systems.

Student Learning Outcomes

Upon completion of this course, the student will be 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

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

· *identify* the structure of arguments, including the assertions/claims and the proof/support;
· *analyze* arguments critically, evaluating multiple arguments for validity and soundness, distinguishing fact from judgment and knowledge from opinion, and differentiating relevant from irrelevant support;
· *analyze* and construct both deductive and inductive arguments;
· *write* argumentative prose that defines, that analyzes casual relationships, that advocates solutions, that evaluates judgments, and that refutes other arguments;
· *identify* formal and informal fallacies in language and thought;
· *recognize* and apply the effects of denotation and connotation; emotive language; and various figures of speech, especially metaphor, within argumentative prose;
· *revise* written drafts and edit appropriately for an academic audience, observing conventions of coherence, unity, purpose, grammar, mechanics, and documentation.

Recommended Textbooks and Required Materials

A good college dictionary is recommended. A paperback version of the <u>American Heritage</u> dictionary is a good choice, as is <u>Random House</u>. Look for a dictionary that has been updated within the past few years and that contains around 70,000 entries, biographical information, word histories, and grammar assistance. Good dictionary apps include: Free Dictionary, and WordWeb.

You might also wish to purchase a copy of <u>The MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers</u> (7th ed.). New copies of the MLA Handbook contain an access code to the MLA website that offers a wealth of additional information not found in the handbook itself. At the very least, you should have an MLA reference guide handy to help you create proper MLA citations for your papers.

Also, you will need to download and print copies of the following <u>required</u> documents (which are readily available on the Internet and can be found with a simple Google search):

> Facione's article "Critical Thinking: What It Is and Why It Counts"

>> Copies can be found at <u>www.insightassessment.com</u>,
>> and make sure the copyright date is 2015
>> 28 pages

> Plato's dialogue, <u>Meno</u>

>> Look for the Holbo and Waring translation at
>> <u>https://www.ma.utexas.edu/users/rgrizzard/M316L_SP12/meno.pdf</u>
>> 33 pages

Course Requirements and Instructional Methods

We will be producing a variety of written products this session, from quizzes to short response papers to more ambitious research projects. Short response papers will help you generate and develop ideas for more challenging assignments. Argumentative essays will require research and MLA documentation.

You also will be asked to complete a variety of writing assignments online using Blackboard. These assignments include: personal journals, blogs, wikis, and online discussions.

Be prepared to work in collaboration with classmates, in small groups, on selected assignments.

Students are expected to produce original work. If source material is borrowed, appropriate MLA citations are necessary. Plagiarism will not be tolerated; students guilty of this "academic felony" will be given an "F" on the assignment and then referred to the Associate Dean of Student Affairs for possible disciplinary action.

A Message from Management Regarding 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 <u>and</u> two (2) hours of out-of-class time per week over the span of a semester. WASC has adopted a similar requirement.

Course Grading Based on Course Objectives

Quizzes, Short Response Papers, and Online Writing Activities help students develop ideas that will find their way into more ambitious projects. These activities (to include online journals and blogs) also provide students with practice in developing their individual writing style. Many of these papers will be written in class, but some will be assigned for homework (printed or posted on Blackboard).

Essays present ideas in a more formal manner appropriate for a college-level academic arena. These projects could also be developed into more ambitious research projects. Some of these projects might be assigned during class time, as well. Others will be submitted through Blackboard.

Research Projects provide students opportunities to develop in-depth analyses of important ideas, wherein their critical-thinking skills are exercised and accurate documentation is provided. Much more than essays, these research projects represent sophisticated attempts at argumentation, taking advantage of classic techniques of rhetoric. Some of these projects will be collaborative, created using Blackboard wikis. MLA Style will be used to document all sources, when necessary.

Quizzes, SRP, and Online activities	**30%**
Essays	**20%**
Research projects	**30%**
Final exam	**20%**

Anticipated Class Schedule / Calendar

PART I: "Critical Thinking"
> *(two weeks)*
> Introduce course website and MLA documentation requirements
> Practice writing in personal journals, blogs, wikis, and discussion forums
> Focus on critical thinking and appropriate online support materials
> Begin work of defining, analyzing, and researching "Critical Thinking"
> Conclude investigation of theme with research project

PART II: "Education: Focus on Basic Skills and Preparedness"
> *(one and one-half weeks)*
> Focus on Plato's Meno and related ideas
> Study and respond to current issues in education
> Investigate various learning theories
> Utilize online tools for developing research projects

PART III: "Current Events: Our Consumer Culture"
> *(one and one-half weeks)*
> Focus on current events to include the viewing of at least one film
> Study and respond to a variety of online materials and direct observation
> Emphasize development of primary sources for research
> Final Exam: argumentative in-class essay connected to the theme of Part III

Attendance

College policy is clear on 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. 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.*

Classroom Etiquette

Make every effort to use restrooms and cell phones before class begins. There is no drinking or eating allowed in the classroom. Please do not make appointments that conflict with class time. Make an effort to consider your education a priority. Cases with extenuating circumstances need to be cleared with the instructor. If you do miss a class, you are responsible for any and all assignments due upon your return, to include any handouts. <u>Late papers will not be accepted.</u> The last day to drop the class with a "W" is 16 May 2015.

Academic Honesty

College policy is clear regarding the topic of "Academic Honesty" (all italicized material is taken from official college documents):

- <u>*Plagiarism*</u> *is to take and present 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 correctly "cite a source," you must ask for help.*

- <u>*Cheating*</u> *is defined as fraud, deceit, or dishonesty in an academic assignment or using or attempting to use materials, or assisting others in using materials, or assisting others in using materials, which are prohibited or inappropriate in the context of the academic assignment in question.*

  Anyone caught cheating or 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 School 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) use of a commercial term paper service.

Additional Help

- *Blackboard support center:* http://bbcrm.edusupportcenter.com/ics/support/default.asp?deptID=8543
- *Learning Labs:* There are several labs on campus to assist you through the use of computers, tutors, or a combination. Please consult your college map for the Math Lab, Reading & Writing Lab, and Learning Services (library). Please speak to the instructor about labs unique to your specific program
- *Library Services:* There is more to our library than just books. You have access to tutors in the learning center, study rooms for small groups, and online access to a wealth of resources.

Disabled Student Programs and Services (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. If you feel you need to be evaluated for educational accommodations, the DSP&S office is located in Building 2100, telephone 760-355-6313.

Student Counseling and Health Services

Students have counseling and health services available, provided by the pre-paid Student Health Fee. We now also have a fulltime mental health counselor. For information see http://www.imperial.edu/students/student-health-center/. The IVC Student Health Center is located in the Health Science building in Room 2109, telephone 760-355-6310.

Student Rights and Responsibilities

Students have the right to experience a positive learning environment and due process. For further information regarding student rights and responsibilities please refer to the IVC General Catalog available online at http://www.imperial.edu/index.php?option=com_docman&task=doc_download&gid=4516&Itemid=762

Information Literacy

Imperial Valley College is dedicated to help students skillfully discover, evaluate, and use information from all sources. Students can access tutorials at http://www.imperial.edu/courses-and-programs/divisions/arts-and-letters/library-department/info-lit-tutorials/