

**English 201      Fall 2015**

**Instructor: Aaron A. Abubo, MFA**

**CRN# 10900      3 Units**

**Email: aaron.abubo@imperial.edu**

**Meets: Tuesdays 6:30p – 9:40p**

**Office hours by appointment only**

**Room 2139**

### **Required Textbooks**

*Everything's an Argument*, 6th ed., by Lunsford & Ruszkiewicz

ISBN: 978-1-4576-0606-9

*The Things They Carried*, by Tim O'Brien

ISBN: 978-0-618-70641-9

*MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers*, 7th ed.

ISBN: 978-1-6029-0241-1

### **Course Description**

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**

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 Requirements and Instructional Methods**

This is an advanced composition course designed to prepare you for the world of university writing, and will be challenge you to analyze the arguments of others in addition to crafting well-reasoned arguments of your own. To that end, you will be writing much and often. A large part of becoming a competent writer is becoming a competent and critical reader. To that end, we will be reading and analyzing readings from the required texts and from outside sources throughout the semester. We will be responding to texts on a regular basis, so it is imperative that you complete all reading assignments in a timely manner.

This class will consist of a combination of essays, short response papers, research and analysis, in-class workshops, and quizzes and exams. You will be responsible for understanding the material from all assigned readings as well as information covered in lectures and in-class discussions.

Students will be required to complete all assignments in a timely manner, within the guidelines provided.

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

## Course Grading Based on Course Objectives

Argument Analysis Essay:	175
Research Essay:	175
Final Essay:	300
In-Class Writing:	100
Reading Responses:	150 (10 points each)
Final Exam:	100
<b>Total:</b>	<b>1000</b>

Your final grade will be based on the percentage of available points earned. Grades will be assigned as follows:

- A:** 90% - 100%
- B:** 80% - 89.9%
- C:** 70% - 79.9%
- D:** 60% - 69.9%
- F:** 0% - 59.9%

## Academic Honesty

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.

## **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**

**Electronic Devices:** Cell phones and electronic devices must be turned off and put away during class, unless otherwise directed by the instructor.

**Food and Drink** are prohibited in all classrooms. Water bottles with lids/caps are the only exception. Additional restrictions will apply in labs. Please comply as directed by the instructor.

**Disruptive Students:** 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.

**Children in the classroom:** Due to college rules and state laws, no one who is not enrolled in the class may attend, including children.

## **Online Netiquette**

What is netiquette? Netiquette is internet manners, online etiquette, and digital etiquette all rolled into one word. Basically, netiquette is a set of rules for behaving properly online.

Students are to comply with the following rules of netiquette: (1) identify yourself, (2) include a subject line, (3) avoid sarcasm, (4) respect others' opinions and privacy, (5) acknowledge and return messages promptly, (6) copy with caution, (7) do not spam or junk mail, (8) be concise, (9) use appropriate language, (10) use appropriate emoticons (emotional icons) to help convey meaning, and (11) use appropriate intensifiers to help convey meaning [do not use ALL CAPS or multiple exclamation marks (!!!)].

## **Additional Student Services**

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)**

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**

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**

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**

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**

<b>Week 1</b>	Introduction to Argument
<b>Week 2</b>	Ethos, Pathos, Logos
<b>Week 3</b>	Argument Analysis Essay #1 assigned
<b>Week 4</b>	<b>TBD</b>
<b>Week 5</b>	Workshop Fallacies of Argument Essay #1 draft due
<b>Week 6</b>	Structuring Arguments Essay #1 Final due
<b>Week 7</b>	Arguments of Fact, Definition
<b>Week 8</b>	Evaluations, Proposals, Causal Arguments Essay #2 assigned
<b>Week 9</b>	Academic Arguments
<b>Week 10</b>	Refutation Essay #2 draft due
<b>Week 11</b>	Finding and Evaluating Sources Essay #2 final due Final Essay assigned
<b>Week 12</b>	Style and Presentation Source list due
<b>Week 13</b>	Documenting Sources & Avoiding Plagiarism
<b>Week 14</b>	Final Essay Workshops Final Essay draft due
<b>Week 15</b>	<b>**Holiday**</b> <b>**No Class**</b>
<b>Week 16</b>	Individual Meetings
<b>Week 17</b>	Final Exam ***Tentative, subject to change without prior notice***