

Basic Course Information

Semester:	Fall 2016	Instructor Name:	Christina Shaner
Course Title & #:	201 Advanced Composition	Email:	christina.shaner@imperial.edu
CRN #:	10286	Webpage (optional):	
Classroom:	205	Office #:	2785
Class Dates:	8.16.16 to 12.8.16	Office Hours:	MF 11:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. TR 10:30 to 11:00 a.m.
Class Days:	TR	Office Phone #:	760.355.6162
Class Times:	11:20 a.m. to 12:45 p.m.	Emergency Contact:	email (NOT phone)
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)

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:

- 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

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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.*

Textbooks & Other Resources or Links

Aristotle. *On Rhetoric: A Theory of Civic Discourse*. Translated by George A. Kennedy. 2nd ed., Oxford UP, 2007. [ISBN: 9780195305098]

Imperial Valley College Course Syllabus – ENGL 201:10286

Shakespeare, William. *Julius Caesar: The Oxford Shakespeare*. Edited by Arthur Humphreys, Oxford UP, 2009. [ISBN: 9780199536122]
Modern Language Association. *MLA Handbook*. 8th ed., Modern Language Association, 2016. [ISBN: 9781603292627]

Course Requirements and Instructional Methods

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. Instructions for revision submission will be covered in class. 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.

Course Grading Based on Course Objectives

Grades will be determined on a 100-point scale (with the customary letter divisions: 90-100=A; 80-89=B; and, so on). Assignment point distribution will be as follows:

- #1 Close Reading Essay (synthesizing a definition of critical thinking): 15
- #2 Analysis Essay (studying the purpose/fallacies in a propaganda text): 20
- #3 Annotation Essay (evaluating sources from research): 10
- #4 Argumentative Essay (developing an accurate understanding of a topic/text): 20

MLA Quiz: 5
Midterm Exam: 15
Final Exam: 15

To determine your point totals during the semester, multiply the number possible for an assignment by the grade/score you earned. For example, if you achieved a "B" on a project worth 15 points, multiply to find 85% of 15. See the following:
.85 x 15 = 12.75 points. Add the numbers as you complete assignments. As you do so, remember that it's possible to improve some scores by revising and resubmitting essays.

Attendance

Students absent the first day will be dropped. For all other absences during the semester, contact a classmate (NOT your professor) to request notes or information. For absences due to *required* attendance at an IVC-affiliated event, meet with the professor (prior to the planned absence) to arrange project submission methods or exam dates. Students who accumulate more than three consecutive unexcused absences are to be dropped.

Required policy content—not written by the professor in this class

- *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

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.

Computers, tablets, and phones must be shut off or silenced whenever they are not required for an in-class activity. If you have advance notice of a situation requiring response to a possible call, notify the professor before the class session.

Online Netiquette

Not applicable.

Academic Honesty

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 school employees ignorant of (or unconcerned about) professional ethics.

- *False authorship.* Obtaining by any means another’s work, and using that work in an essay/assignment presented for a grade. Including text copied with minor changes/adjustments, translating from another language without acknowledgement, and/or patchwriting several sources into one document.
- *Misrepresentation of source.* Distorting or altering the meaning of a source text in order to support a claim, or falsification of information about the source. Most often the result of personal bias or inadequate reading.
- *Unacknowledged collaboration.* Allowing too much outside influence or re-writing of the student’s work. The individual’s cooperation is irrelevant.
- *Recycling.* Submitting all or part of a text that was originally prepared by the student at some other time for some other purpose. The student’s failure rests in lying about the text and the circumstances of its development.
- *Insufficient citation.* Using excerpts or paraphrased content from another’s work with faulty, or no, citation. Failing to employ quotation marks for exact text or, when appropriate, block spacing.

Required language—not written by the professor in this class (NOTE: The following administration-generated, non-expert verbiage is potentially misleading and insufficient in its description of plagiarism and the actual responses to it for a college assignment here or elsewhere. See above for precise description of plagiarism.)

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.

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)

Required language—not written by the professor in this class

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

Required language—not written by the professor in this class

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 provide basic health services for students, such as first aid and care for minor illnesses. Contact the IVC [Student Health Center](#) at 760-355-6128 in Room 1536 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

Required language—not written by the professor in this class

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 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

Aug 16	Syllabus & rhetorical key terms	Oct 11	Shakespeare, <i>Julius Caesar</i> , Act I
Aug 18	Review critical thinking excerpts	Oct 13	Shakespeare, <i>Julius Caesar</i> , Act II
Aug 23	Workshop #1 / Context for ancient rhetoric	Oct 18	Shakespeare, <i>Julius Caesar</i> , Act III
Aug 25	Submit Essay #1 / Key thinkers & ideas	Oct 20	Submit Essay #3 / Shakespeare, <i>Julius Caesar</i> , Act IV
Aug 30	Aristotle, <i>On Rhetoric</i> , Book 1	Oct 25	Shakespeare, <i>Julius Caesar</i> , Act V
Sept 1	“propaganda” (handout) & fallacies (handout)	Oct 27	<i>Caesar</i> analysis
Sept 6	Fallacies (cont.)	Nov 1	Aristotle, <i>On Rhetoric</i> , Book 2
Sept 8	Review propaganda piece	Nov 3	Submit Essay #4 / ideology activity
Sept 13	Review propaganda piece	Nov 8	Fallacy identification activity
Sept 15	“ideology” (handout)	Nov 10	MLA Quiz / ideology activity
Sept 20	Submit Essay #2 / “hegemony” (handout)	Nov 15	Midterm review
Sept 22	Toulmin model (handout)	Nov 17	Midterm review (cont.)
Sept 27	Isocrates, “Against the Sophists”	Nov 22	HOLIDAY
Sept 29	Isocrates, “Against the Sophists” (cont.)	Nov 24	HOLIDAY
Oct 4	Isocrates, <i>Antidosis</i>	Nov 29	Workshop – essay revisions
Oct 6	Midterm Exam	Dec 1	Submit Essay Revisions / content review
		Dec 6	Final Exam
		Dec 8	Quiz Retakes / Return revisions

*****Tentative, subject to change without prior notice*****