

Basic Course Information

Semester:	Summer 2017	Instructor Name:	Christina Shaner
Course Title & #:	Advanced Composition	Email:	christina.shaner@imperial.edu
CRN #:	201:30109	Webpage (optional):	n/a
Classroom:	404	Office #:	2785
Class Dates:	6.19.17 to 7.27.17	Office Hours:	n/a
Class Days:	MTWR	Office Phone #:	760.355.6162
Class Times:	10:00 a.m. - 12:10 p.m.	Emergency Contact:	email
Units:	3		

Course Description

Catalog/Web content—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

Catalog/Web content—not written 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. (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

Catalog/Web content—not written by the professor in this class

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]

Modern Language Association. *MLA Handbook*. 8th ed., Modern Language Association, 2016. [ISBN: 9781603292627]

Smith, Zadie. *White Teeth*. Vintage, 2000. [ISBN: 9780375703867]

Course Requirements and Instructional Methods

All major projects must be written and submitted by the student according to project instructions. Each graded essay may be revised and resubmitted one time. Partially completed essays or projects without all required sources will receive failing grades. Late essays may not be accepted.

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 aspects of critical thinking) - 15
- #2 Analysis Essay (studying the logic in a text/character) - 20
- #3 Annotation Essay (evaluating sources from independent research) - 20
- #4 Argumentative Essay (developing an understanding of a text/topic) - 20
- MLA Quiz - 5
- Midterm Exam - 10
- Final Exam - 10

To determine your point totals for each assignment, multiply the number possible by the grade/score you earned. For example, if you earn a "B" on a project worth 15 points, multiply to find 85% of 15 (.85 x 15 = 12.75 points). To check your current course grade, divide your overall point total by the number of points possible for all graded assignments.

Attendance

For absences due to *required* attendance at an IVC event, meet in advance with the professor to make arrangements. If you simply skip a class, contact a classmate (*not* the professor) to request notes or updates. If you accumulate the number of absences outlined in the content below, you are to be dropped from the roster.

"Template" 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, reality-based assessment of subject. See the general catalog for more information on classroom disruption and disciplinary procedures.

Computers, tablets, and phones must be shut off or silenced whenever they are not required for an in-class activity. Exceptions may be made for students with medical need documented by DSPS.

Online Netiquette

Not applicable.

Academic Honesty

Depending on type and severity, an instance of plagiarism may be addressed with a reduced or failing grade for the project or disciplinary action from an administrator. If you are at all uncertain, show your professor the essay draft and any source materials. Do not solicit “help” from personal acquaintances or other faculty as they may be ignorant of (or unconcerned about) professional ethics. If an essay is sent to student discipline, no revision will be accepted. Types of plagiarism include:

False authorship. Obtaining by any means another’s work, and using that work in an assignment presented for a grade. Common attempts to disguise it include: inserting minor word changes and translating from text in another language.

Misrepresentation of source. Distorting or altering the meaning of a source text in order to promote an assumption.

Unacknowledged collaboration. Allowing outside influence or re-writing of the student’s work. Cooperation is irrelevant.

Recycling. Submitting all or part of a text that was originally prepared by the student for some other purpose.

Insufficient citation. Using excerpts or paraphrased content from another’s work with faulty, or no, citation.

“Template” content—not written by the professor in this class (NOTE: The following is insufficient in its description of plagiarism and the actual responses to it for a college assignment here or elsewhere.)

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

“Template” content—not written by the professor in this class

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)

“Template” content—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

“Template” content—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

“Template” content—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

“Template” content—not written by the professor in this class

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

ENGL 201: Tentative Schedule

June 19 – Introduction to course / critical thinking excerpts
June 20 – Review of critical thinking excerpts, cont. / citation
June 21 – **Workshop essay #1** / basic rhetorical concepts
June 22 – **Submit essay #1** / history of rhetoric

June 26 – Fallacies
June 27 – Toulmin model / propaganda text
June 28 – **Workshop essay #2** / ideology
June 29 – **Submit essay #2** / research prep

July 3 – Smith, *White Teeth*, Ch. 1-5
July 4 – HOLIDAY
July 5 – Smith, *White Teeth*, Ch. 6-10
July 6 – **Submit essay #3** / Smith, *White Teeth*, Ch. 11-15

July 10 – **Midterm Exam**
July 11 – Smith, *White Teeth*, Ch. 16-20
July 12 – **Workshop Essay #4** / Aristotle, *On Rhetoric*, Book 1
July 13 – **Submit essay #4** / Aristotle, *On Rhetoric*, Book 1, cont.

Imperial Valley College Course Syllabus – ENGL 201: Advanced Composition

July 17 – Aristotle, *On Rhetoric*, Book 2
July 18 – Isocrates, *Against the Sophists*
July 19 – Isocrates, excerpt from *Antidosis* / fallacy activity
July 20 – Gorgias, *Encomium of Helen* / MLA review

July 24 – **MLA quiz** / revision prep
July 25 – **Submit Revisions** / Midterm review
July 26 – Course review
July 27 – **Final Exam**