

Spring 2015 Argument-Based Research (Eng 112-06) Syllabus

Instructor: Ms. Laura Knudson

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Class times: 1/13/15-5/12/15

T/Th, 11:00-12:13

Campus: Merencas

Office Hours: By appointment only

Note: The course instructor reserves the right to make adjustments, changes, or corrections to this document during the semester as he or she deems necessary and will be responsible for communicating such information.

Description

This course, the second in a series of two, introduces research techniques, documentation styles and argumentative strategies. Emphasis is placed on analyzing data and incorporating research findings into documented argumentative essays and research projects. Upon completion, students should be able to summarize, paraphrase, interpret and synthesize information from primary and secondary sources using standard research format and style. *This course has been approved to satisfy the Comprehensive Articulation Agreement general education core requirement in English composition.*

10% Census Date for this Class: 1/22/15

Drop Grade Required Date: 1/23/15

Last Withdrawal Date for this Class: 2/19/15

Final Exam Date/Time/Location: 11 – 1:30pm, Tuesday, May 12

Pre-Requisites: ENG 111 minimum grade of C

Required Materials:

- Kirszner, Laurie G. and Stephen R. Mandell. Practical Argument. Boston: Bedford, 2014. (2d Ed.)

I strongly suggest that you consult [this](#) link prior to purchasing any textbooks.

System Requirements

- Microsoft Word is not free, but at <http://cpcc.onthehub.com/> you can get it for free. You must submit your work in Word.
- There are several other free programs out there: [Open Office](#), [Libre Office](#). [Neo Office](#) is free for Mac users.
- Internet access
- Blackboard (internet based program)

Course Objectives: Building on skills acquired in English 111, this course explores the principles and applications of argumentative writing. A minimum of four assignments require documented research from traditional and electronic sources, and students will develop the ability to responsibly incorporate borrowed material and to construct sound arguments using various rhetorical strategies, such as Toulmin and Rogerian argument. Students will also learn to recognize how oral, visual and written argument function in American culture, primarily through the close analysis of assigned readings and varying assignments that may incorporate proposal projects, longer essays, and/or oral presentations. Students will familiarize themselves with various invention strategies and will be encouraged to participate actively in revision and peer-editing activities.

Specifically, students will be asked to:

1. Learn the terminology of argument and practice applying it to a range of assigned essays;
2. Recognize the features of two principal models of argument – Toulmin-based argument and Rogerian argument;
3. Practice constructing a variety of claims, including claims of fact, definition, cause, value, and policy;
4. Practice incorporating different kinds of support, including kinds that employ strategies of deduction, definition, cause, sign, induction, and statistics;
5. Practice using different kinds of appeals, including those that address logic, ethical behavior, and the emotions;
6. Develop argumentative papers that address particular audiences;
7. Conduct research responsibly and gather it from both traditional and online sources;
8. Familiarize themselves with a variety of invention strategies when conceiving an argument;
9. Organize, draft, revise, and peer edit per assignment.

Core Competencies: As a Learning College, CPCC has identified four core competencies critical to the success of graduates, either in the workplace or as they continue their education: communication, critical thinking, personal growth & responsibility, and information technology & quantitative literacy. All graduates are expected to demonstrate proficiency in each of the competencies that goes beyond simple content mastery. This course will address Information Technology & Quantitative Literacy.

Grading Policies:

Essays, in class work, and projects make up the final grade. Some assignments may be read, but not graded.

Evaluation/Assessment:

80% = Major Writing/Composition Assignments & Projects @ 20% each: Essay 1 (Rhetorical Analysis), Essay 2 (Rogerian), Essay 3 (Definition), Essay 4 (Analyzation)

20% = Minor assignments and attendance

Grading Scale:

- **A+ to A- (100-90) = EXEMPLARY.** Weaknesses are missing or minor. There are far more strengths than weaknesses.
- **B+ to B- (89-80) = ABOVE AVERAGE.** Distinctive but minor weaknesses are present. There are more strengths than weaknesses.
- **C+ to C- (79-70) = AVERAGE.** Distinctive and major weaknesses are present. There are as many weaknesses as strengths.
- **D+ to D- (69-60) = BELOW AVERAGE.** Distinctive and major weaknesses are present. There are more weaknesses than strengths.
- **F+ to F- (59-0) = UNACCEPTABLE.** Distinctive and major weaknesses are present. There are far more weaknesses than strengths.

Division Attendance Policy: Consistent and timely attendance is essential to success in English courses, which orchestrate a great deal of the writing process during class meetings; therefore, *the division does not permit a student to pass a course* in which he or she misses more than 20% of its class meetings. The only exceptions to this limit are for documented medical reasons, documented government responsibilities, and/or absences due to religious observances and/or military temporary duty/development that are properly communicated according to the College policies found at <http://www.cpcc.edu/ccr/resources/college/attendance> . **20% of 32 classes = 6 classes.** **In other words, you can blow off 5 classes, but after 6 classes, I am forced to fail you.**

College Attendance Policies: Regular class attendance is required to remain entitled to financial aid and veterans' benefits. Faculty are required to report those students who stop attending class, which may result in the loss of benefits. If you miss 2 weeks of class, (4 consecutive classes) I will mark you as Stopped Attending in our online attendance system. *I will attempt to contact you prior to dropping you; however, after you have missed four consecutive classes, if you do not email me, or respond to my emails, you will be dropped.* The official date for withdrawal from the course is prior to 35% of the class meetings: 35% of 32 classes = 11 class meetings (this would be in the sixth week of class, and the exact date is found at the top of this syllabus).

Course Entry: The College prohibits a registered student from entering class for the first time after the 10% census date.

Plagiarism and Academic Integrity: Any student who violates the CPCC Code of Academic Integrity, which includes but is not limited to these infractions, is subject to disciplinary action with penalties ranging from warnings to course failure:

- Theft: submitting one or more parties' whole or partial work as your own assignment with or without compensation and/or the other parties' knowledge and/or consent
- Self-Stealing: submitting your own whole or partial, unrevised or partially revised work that has been previously submitted at this or other institutions without instructor permission for an assignment

Special Services Certification: Per College policy, students who have a documented disability or who think they may have a learning challenge may contact the office of Services for Students with Disabilities at 704-330-6556. Instructors will provide the necessary accommodations upon the advice of the Office of Services for Students with Disabilities.

Withdrawals & Incompletes: Withdrawing from a course is sometimes necessary; however, it is advisable to discuss this with the instructor before doing so. Those experiencing difficulty should seek help from the Academic Learning Center. Before withdrawing, consider whether this course is a prerequisite for another course; whether the course will be offered again in the future; whether withdrawing will delay plans to transfer graduation; or whether withdrawing will affect eligibility for honors designation, health insurance benefits, or other financial arrangements. When a student determines he or she will be unable to complete courses in which currently enrolled, it is the student's responsibility to initiate procedures leading to a formal withdrawal ("W") by deadline to avoid a failing ("F") grade per College policy.

Course Policies/Procedures:

Students are expected to adhere to the [Student Code of Conduct](#).

Each assignment will be submitted electronically through Blackboard. **Do not attempt to submit anything by emailing it to me. It will not be read or graded.**

*Failure to submit the final draft for any assignment by the due date will result in an automatic grade deduction. 10 points are lost on each day that a paper is late. **This includes weekends. It is not possible to pass this class without turning in all of the major assignments.**

Technology

Please be sure to TURN ON your cell phone when class begins and be sure it is readily available. Phones can be valuable classroom tools if used in the right way; if you want to look something up to add to our class discussion,

share a relevant video via our class Blackboard page, or even take a selfie and Tweet it for the class to see, please feel free to use your cell phone. You may also use your phone for note taking, live Tweeting of questions and relevant information during class, posting, sharing, etc. If you need to take a call, just step outside and return when you can. Please be aware of the students around you; if you are disrupting another student, you may be asked to put away your device.

Attendance

I will take attendance at the start of class. If you miss the attendance sheet for class on Monday, for instance, and remember on Wednesday, it is too late to sign in for Monday. Your time to sign in and be counted as attending class is during that class. I submit attendance to the school every week, and am held accountable for its accuracy. You are expected to keep up with the number of classes you miss.

Expectations

1. Attend classes, participate and respond to any discussions or assignments, online or otherwise.
2. Read and understand this syllabus. Comply with all policies outlined in this document.
3. Be proactive! Ask questions if you are unclear about an assignment or course policy.
4. Come prepared to each class. Read and complete all assignments prior to class.
5. Be respectful of each other's writing. No inappropriate criticism will be tolerated.
6. Turn in all work on time and complete all assignments thoughtfully and to the best of your ability.
7. Check your e-mail and discussion boards on Blackboard regularly!
8. Own all required textbooks for ENG 112 by the second week of class.

Expectations for Communication

- I understand that there will be times you will be frustrated with an assignment or a grade on the assignment. However, at no time are you allowed to resort to disrespectful communication with me (typing in all capital letters, using curse words, threats, name-calling or any other communication that is otherwise considered disrespectful by the instructor). If you write me an e-mail that I deem to be disrespectful, you will receive a failing grade for this course.
- E-mails will be answered within one business day. So, if you e-mail me on a Friday afternoon, you will not receive a response until the next business day. This policy holds true for holidays as well. By the way, if you have read this far, you rock. This is an Easter egg that, if you are the first person to bring it to my attention, you will get a free absence from class. Once someone has found this Easter egg, though, it is not redeemable. If you find this in class, yell bingo; if you find it outside class, shoot me an email. Now back to your regularly scheduled programming. If you e-mail me during a holiday, I will respond the first business day we return from that holiday. Do not expect an immediate response from me. You will receive an answer to your question or comment as soon as possible, but definitely within one business day. If you have not heard from me within one business day, I have not received your e-mail or you have not included your identifying information in the email and I thus have no idea who you are. If you have not included your identifying information in the email, you will not receive a response.
- It is crucial that you check your CPCC e-mail regularly. You are responsible for all content in any e-mail sent to your CPCC e-mail address.
- *Always include your class information in your email to me, otherwise, I will not respond to your email. You may put it anywhere – in the subject line, in the signature, in the body, but somewhere in your email, you must identify yourself as well as the class in which you are enrolled.*

Please be aware of how to access assignments and how to upload assignments before any deadlines. There will be no exceptions for technical issues, uploading incomplete assignments or not knowing how to perform the actions needed to be successful in this course. You must upload all documents in Word format, otherwise, you will receive a zero and your work will be considered late.

If you are having technical difficulties using your home computer, there are several computer labs on every CPCC campus available to students. Check out this link for locations and hours of operation: www.cpcc.edu/its/students/computer-support/stc-locations-hours. Your local library also has computers for public use.

A Final Note...

We will be sharing our work with each other and at times working in groups. While it is okay to disagree, it is NEVER okay to be DISAGREEABLE. You are expected to maintain a polite and respectful manner at all times. Constructive criticism should be just that, constructive. As the instructor for this course, I reserve the right to dismiss any student (without written or verbal warning) who intimidates, threatens or otherwise disrupts the classroom environment.