Eng. 102: Reasoning and Research

Winter Quarter 2015

Instructor Information:
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Language and Literature 420
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Office Hours: 4:00-4:50 MW 3:00-4:50 T

Required Textbooks:
- Writer’s Harbrace Handbook

Welcome! English 102 begins where your English 101 class ended. By now you should be able to gather and use research in an appropriate and responsible way in order to justify a problematic thesis. English 102 will further aid in the expression, inquiry, reasoning, and research skills needed in advanced academic and argumentative essays. Emphasis will be placed on style, logic, and relationship to a perceived audience. Throughout English 101 you were taking the audiences’ lack of bias and willingness to hear you for granted. Being able to disseminate information is a vital skill in communication, but what if the audience doesn’t want to listen to you? What if the audience is antagonistic toward you? Unfortunately, many people in the business world aren’t interested in your opinions. It therefore becomes necessary to motivate people to care about your opinion and listen to it. This is where argumentative research writing becomes important. In this course we will discuss the history, purpose, and strategy of arguing a thesis. We will analyze how arguments can manipulate and distort the truth, so as writers and readers we can avoid unethical writing practices and recognize them in the arguments of others. Arguing can be difficult to master, but it is a fun, meaningful way to communicate. Let us begin.

Prerequisite: C- or higher in English 101 or exemption from English 101.

Outcomes:

- Perceiving and relating various perspectives on a question at issue and formulating generalizations about these relations
- Identifying assumptions and criteria to use in analyzing the writing of others
- Analyzing and synthesizing multiple sources, identifying varying perspectives and logical relations among the sources, and responding to questions at issue
Using MLA citation and documentation effectively
Identifying the logical progression of arguments
Describing the interrelationship between style and meaning in the writing of others and adjusting style to enhance meaning in one's own writing
Taking a position on a question at issue by developing a focused assertion based on a shared assumption, presenting evidence in support of a line of reasoning, addressing divergent stances on the issue, and using a variety of appeals while avoiding rhetorical fallacies
Critiquing source material by accurately summarizing all material used as well as identifying, analyzing, and appraising the source's assumptions, assertions, or textual features

Each essay written should have the following features:
- A clear and refined purpose
- Meaningful development
- Purposeful organization
- An effective tone
- Well-crafted sentences
- Consistent use of conventions for standard academic English

Assessment:
- Brief Writing project (2) 10%
- Judgment argument 25%
- Evaluation argument 25%
- Reasoning skill quizzes (3) 15% total
- Proposal Argument 25%

Class policies and procedures

- If at the end of the course your grade average is on a border, it will be raised if you have attended class consistently and participated actively.
- Late assignments will not be eligible for a full grade. An important part of education is the realization of deadlines. If you cannot turn in a paper on time, then you do not have good student skills. It is important to learn deadlines early on, so that when they become more important to you (i.e. when they can cost you your job) you will be able to handle them. If a paper misses the deadline, you may submit it within three class days for partial credit (minus two points). After three class periods (one week), the paper will receive an F grade. You are responsible for keeping track of your grades.
- No more than four absences are allowed. For each absence beyond the fourth, your grade will be dropped one percent. For example, if you have been absent five times one percentile point will be deducted from your grade, in some cases causing the grade to lower a full level. If you are not prepared
for class, you will be counted absent. When you do miss class, remember to talk with a classmate about that day’s lesson or get that day’s homework. You will be held responsible for completing any work assigned while you are absent. You will also be held responsible for submitting any homework that is due when you are absent. That means, make friends who can bring papers to class for you. Quizzes cannot be made up if missed.

- Plagiarized papers will receive a zero. The CWU handbook states that the following is a violation of college rules: buying, copying, borrowing, or otherwise plagiarizing another’s ideas, evidence, examples, images, opinions, or other material deemed “original.” If you plagiarize, not only will your paper fail, but also you may be expelled or subject to other disciplinary methods.

- If you receive a B or higher on an assignment, you may not rewrite the assignment, but if you receive a B- or lower you may rewrite. If you choose to rewrite a paper, the highest grade you can receive is a B. You must rewrite the paper within one week of the original due date. You must include the original, already graded paper with your new version. I will not re-grade your paper without the original. Late papers, regardless of the grade, may not be rewritten. In some cases, I may assign you to rewrite a paper if I feel that it does not meet your potential, or if the class as a whole has a problem with the topic.

- Please do not speak while I speak. I don’t really like it when you disrespect me, but I hate it when you disrespect the people around you. Everyone here wants to learn, so please help out by not talking. You can ask questions at any point during the class if you have them. If you must communicate with your neighbor, then please whisper. Also, please turn off you cellular phones.

- If you need course accommodation or adaptation because of disability, have emergency medical information to share with me, or need special arrangements in case the building must be evacuated, please make an appointment with me as soon as possible so your needs can be met.
Wednesday Jan. 7
Friday Jan. 9
Monday Jan. 12
Wednesday Jan. 14
Friday Jan. 16
Monday Jan. 19
Wednesday Jan. 21
Friday Jan. 23
Monday Jan. 26

Wednesday Jan. 28
Friday Jan. 30
Monday February 2
Wednesday Feb. 4
Friday Feb. 6
Monday Feb. 9
Wednesday Feb. 11
Friday Feb. 13
Monday Feb. 16
Wednesday Feb. 18
Friday Feb. 20
Monday Feb. 23

Introduction
Argument: the rhetoric
*Declaration of Ind.*

Advanced Thesis

Con section writing

Con Section writing
(Quiz 1)

No Class

Evaluation paper

Advanced Clarity

“Letter from Birm.”

NO CLASS

“Letter from Birm.”

Peer Review
MLA Review
Pathos/Ethos/Style

Judgment paper

Warrants

Warrants

Warrants
(Quiz 2)

No Class

Peer Review

Policy paper

“Lifeboat Ethics”

Jefferson 264

BWP 1 Assigned

**BWP 1 Due**

Evaluation argument assigned
King 293

BWP 2

**BWP 2 Due**

Evaluation DUE

Judgment argument assigned

Hardin 326

**Judgment DUE**

Policy argument assigned
Wednesday Feb. 25  
Logic  

Friday Feb. 27  
Logic  

Monday March 2  
Logic  

Wednesday March 4  
Logic  
(Quiz 3)  

Fallacies  

Friday March 6  

Monday March 9  
Fallacies  

Wednesday March 11  
“A Modest Proposal”  

Friday March 13  
Peer Review  

Tuesday March 17  
**Final paper due by 5:00**