

drop deadline
grade scab

English 3 Essay and Argument: Critical Reading and Writing

Fall 1998 T TH 1:00 - 2:15 P.M./PHY 76

Instructor Laurie Tobenkin

Prerequisite: C or better in English 1A; Fulfills critical thinking requirement

Required Text:

Current Issues and Enduring Questions Barnet and Bedau

Course Description:

Welcome to English 3. The goal of this course is to sharpen your critical reading, writing and thinking skills beyond the level achieved in English 1A. We will write and read essays focused on logical reasoning (both inductive and deductive), critical analysis, argument and synthesis of arguments. Diverse viewpoints are encouraged, especially when they are well-substantiated. Please be prepared to read and write, both in and out of class, and to share your ideas and writing with your fellow students.

Attendance:

Attendance is required and essential in this class. A student may be dropped from the class after five or more absences. Much of the writing and some of the reading will take place in class, as well as essential groupwork and paper preparation, so it will be necessary to be here. If you have an unavoidable absence, you will need to contact me or one of your classmates to ensure that you are aware of any assignments that were given on that date. You will be expected to turn in any assignments and complete the readings due by the next meeting. It is also your responsibility to get papers to me by the due date whether or not you are able to attend class: absence is not an excuse for handing papers in late. If an emergency or illness occurs, you are welcome to call me to discuss alternatives.

Tardiness is disruptive and disrespectful to the class. I will discuss this with students individually if a pattern develops. Continuing tardiness after discussion may cause you to be considered absent for that session.

Sign In Sheet:

I will circulate a sign-in sheet at the beginning of every class. This will be our official record of your attendance, so remember to sign the sheet! If you must be late to a class, make sure you sign in before leaving at the end of class.

Assignments:

There will be approximately 4 - 5 short papers and one extensive paper which will include secondary sources (10 - 15 pages). Each paper will be brought in for workshop with your fellow students prior to its official due date. You must bring in the typed draft of your paper, along with copies, on workshop day for discussion with your group or points will be deducted. This is to ensure that each workshop group is productive. After your paper is returned with my comments, you will have the opportunity to revise it once for a higher score (if desired). All papers must be typed, double-spaced, and have all drafts dated and attached.

Along with the papers, there will be a summary test, short writing assignments, a

workshop group oral presentation and a final.

Schedule:

Week 1: Introductions/Summarizing
Week 2: Summarizing
Week 3: Summary Test
Week 4: Critical Analysis Paper Workshop/due date
Week 6: Comparative Analysis Paper Workshop/due date
Week 8: Argumentative Paper Workshop/due date
Week 10: Oral presentations/Letter to the Editor
Week 11: Oral presentations/Letter due
Week 12: Synthesis Ideas Workshop
Week 13: Short Critical Analyses on Synthesis Workshop/due date
Week 15: Synthesis Paper Draft Workshop/Draft due date
Week 16: Synthesis Paper due
Week 18: Final