

## FALL 2013 FAST TRACK

### ADVANCED COMPOSITION AND CRITICAL THINKING

INSTRUCTOR: **Charles Williams**

ENGLISH 1B: 74702

T-TH 11AM-230PM

LA-110

Office Hours: MW 9-930AM & TTH 9-11AM

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Phone: 909-652-6953

Office: LA 119

#### ***Required Material***

*The Structure of Argument (Chaffey Edition)* Seventh edition. Rottenberg, Annette T and Donna H. Winchell.

#### ***Introduction***

This course is designed to enhance reading, writing, and thinking skills beyond the English 1A level. While English 1A may have addressed some elemental aspects of proficient college writing, this class will target some of the more sophisticated conceptual and stylistic aspects of the writing process.

Our approach to critical thinking and writing will center on two things: First, we will focus on developing effective argumentation skills by employing rhetorical strategies and persuasive frameworks. Second, we will attempt to construct strategies for evaluating information in order to make rational decisions as citizens within a democracy. Ultimately, our aim is to become thinkers and writers who know the difference between education and propaganda.

#### ***The Work***

##### ***Writing Assignments***

The largest portion of your grade is based on three 3-page essays. My evaluation of these assignments will be based on how thoroughly your work considers the following issues (these items are not ranked in order of importance): MLA format, thesis/support, conceptualization, organizational effectiveness, and grammatical issues. The “writing activities” are ancillary assignments designed to help you develop a cogent and lucid argument. On assigned days, full drafts are due for peer review. Towards the end of the term, each student will have a small portion of class time to present their argument and field question from classmates.

##### ***Critical Reading Exercises***

We will read several essays in this class that will serve as models for our own arguments and/or platforms for critique. Your level of engagement with the readings will be evaluated through quizzes and scheduled presentations.

##### ***Debates***

I have selected topics for four separate debates in this class. Each of you will play two roles in this activity: the first is as a member of a debate team and second as a judge of at least one debate.

After I introduce the topics, the class will form teams and select sides. Each team will be responsible for researching their position and constructing an effective argument to present for the purpose of winning and receiving the maximum points for this assignment. Each

team will collectively write a one-page paper (team statement), declaring the details of their position due prior to the debate. Also each team will construct a "fact sheet" representing their research to distribute during the debate. I will meet with each team at least once to monitor their progress and preparation.

### **Fallacy Quiz**

You will become familiar with the fallacies presented in our text, *The Structure of Argument*. You will demonstrate your mastery of these terms in our class discussions, questions and answers during our presentations, and by examination.

### **Expectations**

Because of the demands of the course, participation is crucial to your success in this class. **Late essays will receive a twenty percent deduction and will be returned at my convenience. Any student missing 4 classes, arriving to class late more than 5 times, and/or lacking academic effort and progress may be dropped.**

I feel safe in assuming that everyone enrolled in this class is seeking to complete it successfully. Those who turn assignments in on time, attend class regularly, and engage themselves in their work (in-class and out-of-class) will be the students least surprised by the reward of their hard work.

I am aware that everyone has difficulties from time to time, which can make school burdensome. I hope that those who find themselves having difficulties will come speak with me as soon as possible or re-evaluate their priorities before unsuccessfully completing the course.

Here are a few more things to remember:

- Keep all documents until the end of the term. This includes handouts, drafts, and in-class writings.
- Failing to submit the first writing assignment on its due date or missing class during the first week of the term may result in your being dropped from the course.
- I do not accept assignments through email. Assignments must be submitted through the assigned medium to receive credit.
- Turn off cellphone ringers and other electronic notifications before the beginning of class. Text messaging and answering phone calls during class is not allowed.
- Most students are aware college courses often include "adult" topics; therefore, please be advised that some of the material discussed in English 1B may be considered mature in nature.
- All student writing submitted may be used as samples or examples in class.
- A college classroom is a professional environment; Our academic behavior—in the classroom, within study groups and online—must reflect this.

### **Plagiarism**

The department policy is as follows:

*Plagiarism, an unlawful act which is defined as the misrepresentation of the published ideas or words of another as one's own, will not be tolerated in Chaffey College English courses. At the discretion of the professor, plagiarism will be punished by either an F for the assignment or an F in the course.*

### **Grading**

Your overall grade for this course will be computed as follows:

<b>Category</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>points</b>	<b>score</b>
Claim of Fact Essay	15	150	
Claim of Value Essay	15	150	
Claim of Policy Essay	15	150	
Debate	15	150	
Critical Readings Exercises	10	100	
Writing Activities	12	120	
Fallacy Quiz	5	50	
Drafts	9	90	
Participation	4	40	
<b>Total</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>1000</b>	

### **Breakdown**

A+=	100-97
A=	96-93
A- =	92-90
B+=	89-87
B=	86-83
B- =	82-80
C+=	79-75
C=	74-70
D=	69-60
F=	59 & below

### **Campus Resources**

#### **Student Success Centers**

Chaffey College has created Student Success Centers, which offer free tutorials, workshops, learning groups, directed learning activities, and computer/resource access to assist students in their academic development and success.

The Rancho Success Centers are designed to address specific subject needs as well as more general multidisciplinary needs:

Math Center	MATH-121	(909) 652-6452
Language Success Center	BEB-101	(909) 652-6907
Writing Success Center	Library	(909) 652-6820
Multi-disciplinary/Reading Success Center	BEB-101	(909) 652-6932

The Fontana Success Center supports all academic support needs:

Fontana Success Center	FNFC-122	(909) 652-7408
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The Chino Center supports all academic support needs:

Chino Success Center	CHMB-147	(909) 652-8150
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Success Center Operating Hours: Monday-Thursday 8 am – 8 pm and Friday 10 am – 2 pm.

Call the Centers or consult the college website at [www.chaffey.edu/success/](http://www.chaffey.edu/success/) for information.

### ***Disability Programs & Services***

Chaffey College's Disabled Students Programs and Services, or DPS, serves an estimated 1500 students across all Chaffey campuses. DPS serves students with physical, learning, and psychological/psychiatric disabilities by providing accommodations based on the type of disability and verifying documentation. Services include academic counseling, disability related counseling and referral for community resources, test accommodations, tram services, adapted computer lab, assistive technology training, assessment, and equipment loan. For more information please contact the DPS general phone line at (909) 652-6379.

### ***EOPS and CARE***

Extended Opportunity Programs and Services (EOPS) is designed to ensure student retention and success through academic support and financial assistance for eligible students. Cooperative Agencies Resources for Education (CARE) is a program that serves a limited number of EOPS students who are single heads of household parents. It provides additional support services beyond those available through EOPS. The ultimate goal is completion of a certificate program, an associate degree, and/or transfer to a four-year college. Call (909) 652-6345 for more information.

### ***Veterans and Eligible Family Members***

Chaffey College's Veterans Resource Center (VRC) is dedicated to assisting veterans and eligible family members in achieving their educational goals efficiently and without impediments. If you are a veteran or eligible family member, please contact the Veterans Resource Center at (909) 652-6235 or [vinc.staff@chaffey.edu](mailto:vinc.staff@chaffey.edu) for information regarding educational benefits and opportunities. The Veterans Resource Center (VRC) is located in building AD-125 on Chaffey College's Rancho Cucamonga campus.

### ***Student Health Services***

Student Health Services is dedicated to assisting students to achieve and maintain optimum physical, mental and emotional health. We are committed to providing quality healthcare at a reasonable cost. All currently enrolled full and part time Chaffey College students on the Rancho Cucamonga Campus or any off campus site may utilize the services of the Student Health Office. Please have your Chaffey ID ready.

Rancho Campus  
Chino Campus

MACC-202 (909) 652-6331  
CHMB-105 (909) 652-8190

### ***Course Schedule***

Note: The Schedule may change at the instructor's discretion. All readings are available on eRes, located on the Chaffey College Library Homepage.

## **OCTOBER**

### **WEEK ONE**

- 15 Introduction to the course
- 17 Discuss Nemko (eRes); Writing Activity #1 Due

### **WEEK TWO**

- 22 Discuss Kamenetz (eRes) & Discuss Mitford (eRes)
- 24 Discuss Milgram (eRes) & Discuss *Structures* (129-133); Writing Activity #2 Due

WEEK THREE

- 29 Draft Workshop & Discuss Debate Topics
- 31 Practice Debate, Discuss Orwell (eRes) & *Structures* (133-137); Claim of Fact Essay Due

**NOVEMBER**

WEEK FOUR

- 5 Discuss Mencken (eRes), Spence (eRes); Writing Activity #3 Due
- 7 Discuss King (eRes); Draft Day II

WEEK FIVE

- 12 Discuss *Structures* (137-143) and Vidal (eRes); Claim of Value Essay Due
- 14 Reading: TBA & Writing Activity #4 Due; Start Short Presentations

WEEK SIX

- 19 Draft Day III
- 21 Short Presentations & Debate #1; Claim of Policy Essay Due

WEEK SEVEN

- 26 Short Presentations Debate #2
- 28 Holiday: No Class Meeting

**DECEMBER**

WEEK EIGHT

- 3 Short Presentations & Debate #3; Fallacy Quiz
- 5 Short Presentations & Debate #4