English 200--Advanced Composition

Dr. Carl Silvio
Spring 2005
Office: 5-518
Hours: MWF 9:00-10:00; TTh 1:00-2:00; and by appointment
Email: csilvio@monroecc.edu
Office Phone: 292-3391

Texts:

Rottenberg, Annette T, ed. Elements of Argument.

Course Content and Goals:
The goal of this English 200 course is primarily to teach you how to write a carefully researched deliberative essay that follows the conventions of MLA documentation. All of your assignments are focused to give you the ability to write a clear and convincing argument based on mature and intelligent deliberation. The course is also designed to help you become a more discerning reader, able to question and evaluate what you read and recognize techniques and argumentative strategies.

Participation:
The quality of this class will depend largely on your contributions to class discussion, thus your participation will be factored into your overall grade. The daily reading assignments must be completed by the date they are scheduled for discussion in order to ensure your understanding of the in-class writing and discussions. Also factored into this grade is a presentation on your research topic and final argumentative paper. You will receive detailed explanations for each of these presentations. Your participation grade is worth 10% of your final grade.
Papers/Writing Assignments:
All papers must be completed to pass this course. Each of the assignments (except for the initial summary) will be focused on a research topic of your choice, and will build upon each other, working up to the final argumentative paper.

- proposal of research topic (ungraded)
- summary of an article from your book (5 %)
- library assignment, locating 10 sources (5 %)
- annotated bibliography of six sources (10 %)
- critique of a scholarly essay on your topic (15 %)
- informational essay on your research topic (20 %)
- argumentative essay on your topic (25 %)

Quizzes:
Over the course of the semester I will give an unspecified number of unannounced reading quizzes based on the assigned material. These quizzes will cumulatively account for 10 % of your grade.

Grading is as follows:

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<tr>
<th>Assignment</th>
<th>Weight</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>summary of article</td>
<td>5 %</td>
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<tr>
<td>Quizzes</td>
<td>10 %</td>
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<tr>
<td>Library Assignment</td>
<td>5 %</td>
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<td>Annotated Bibliography</td>
<td>10 %</td>
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<tr>
<td>3-4 page Analysis</td>
<td>15 %</td>
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<td>3-5 page Informational essay</td>
<td>20 %</td>
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<td>12-20 page Argumentative synthesis</td>
<td>25 %</td>
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<tr>
<td>Participation</td>
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Total: 100%

Each essay will consist of multiple drafts, all of which will be turned in with your final draft. Any additional in-class work such as reflective writing or peer responses will also be included.
with the final essay. Because learning how to successfully revise your writing is an important component of the writing process, failure to complete any of these drafts and in-class assignments will result in a lowered essay grade of five points for each item that is missing.

Note: Any more than 10 errors in mechanics (spelling, punctuation, grammar, usage, citing sources, etc.) will result in an automatic D for the assignment. If you know that grammar/spelling has been a problem for you in the past, please don’t hesitate to meet me during my office hours for extra help. Free tutoring is also available in the English department writing lab.

**All out of class assignments must be typed in 12 point font and double-spaced.**

**Attendance:**
Regular attendance is required for this course. For each absence after the third, your grade will be reduced by 3 percentage points. I will not automatically drop you if you stop attending class.

**Withdrawal Policy:** Apr 29 is the last day to withdraw from the course with a grade of “W.” I will not withdraw you from class. See p. 195 in the handbook for withdrawal policies. Note: Withdrawal may impact your eligibility for financial aid.

**Late Work:**
Late work will not be accepted without my prior consent. If absent from class, you cannot make up in-class work and are responsible for any homework assignments. Please exchange phone numbers/email addresses with another student so as to be able to contact them to find out what you may have missed.

**Email:**
**DO NOT SEND WORK TO ME VIA EMAIL.** You may email me with questions about assignments or concerns you have about the class.

**Preparation:**
Please come to class prepared to discuss the assigned readings. Students who come to class unprepared will be asked to leave and will be counted absent. **Timeliness:** Arriving late to class or is disruptive, as is packing up before class is over. Chronic tardiness will count against your final grade.
**Learning Centers:** Additional help with writing can be obtained at either the Brighton Learning Center (Bldg. 11 #106) or the Damon Learning Center (4-130), both of which are staffed with instructional personnel and computers. The writing center (rm 11-208, # 292-3360) staffs professional, free tutors available to assist you with your individual writing needs/concerns. They offer a walk-in service Monday-Friday. Call for hours.

**Emergency Closings:** If the college closes due to bad weather or other emergencies, all Rochester media will be notified by 5:30 a.m. You can also go to MCC’s homepage at [www.monroecc.edu](http://www.monroecc.edu) to find out more information.

**Plagiarism:**
Any student caught plagiarizing any part of any assignment will receive no credit for the assignment in question and I reserve the right to initiate proper university disciplinary action. See p. 201 in the *MCC 2003/2004 Catalogue and Student Handbook* to review the policy.

**Disability Statement:** “MCC recognizes the importance of encouraging and helping students with disabilities reach their full potential” (*MCC 2003/2004 Catalogue*). If you possess a [documented](http://www.monroecc.edu) physical or learning disability please speak to me after class so that we can make the appropriate accommodations. See your catalogue and handbook, p.213 for university guidelines.
Assignment Syllabus

Contents subject to change

(All Readings are from Elements of Argument unless otherwise specified. Readings are to be completed before you come to class)

Jan 24    Introduction to course.
Jan 26    “Intro to Argument” (3-17)
Jan 28    Claims of Fact" (57-61); "Claims of Value" (60-64); Family: Sheilds (498) and Smiley (503)
Jan 31    Read "Claims of Policy" (77-78) Reparations for Slavery: Horowitz(564); Robinson (567)
Feb 02    Proposal Due; Summary, Paraphrase Workshop
Feb 04    Trial By Jury: Dershowitz (455); Davies (457)
Feb 07    Support- Evidence (155-169)
Feb 09    Responding to Terror: Kmiec (592); Kuttner (594);
Feb 11    Summary Due (5 %); Privacy: Herbert (540); Hubbart (550); Imber-Black (542)
Feb 14    Library Day
Feb 16    In-class exercise on MLA documentation.
Feb 18    Film: Mickey Mouse Monopoly
Feb 28    Library Assignment Due (5 %); Workshop on Annotated Bibliography;
Mar 02 **Genetic Enhancement:** Bailey (269); D'Souza (271)

Mar 04 **Education:** Goodman (206); Nuesner (261)

Mar 07 “Common Fallacies” (291-301); In-Class exercise on Logical Fallacies

Mar 09 Conferences

Mar 11 **Annotated Bibliography Due (10 %) Analysis Workshop**

Mar 14 **Competition:** Kohn (35) **Materialism:** Kowinski (71)

Mar 16 **Sex and Violence in the Media:** Kristol (610); Rhodes (617)

Mar 18 “Definition” (111-123); Analysis Workshop

Mar 21 **Analysis Due (15%)**; Workshop Informational Essay

Mar 28 Workshop Informational Essay

Mar 30 Sorting Info for Argumentative Paper; Handout: Oral Presentations

**During the last weeks we will be doing oral presentations and working on our final papers. Make sure you have signed up to present on one of the following days and have contacted me ahead of time with any visual aids needs. Also note Workshop Days for your final paper and bring to class the required drafts.**

Apr 01 Oral Presentations

Apr 04 Oral Presentations

Apr 06 Workshop Informational Essay

Apr 08 Oral Presentations

Apr 11 **Informational Essay Due (20 %); Oral Presentations**

Apr 13 Optional Conferences

Apr 25 Oral Presentations

Apr 27 Oral Presentations

Apr 29 Draft Workshop
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<td>May 02</td>
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<td>May 20</td>
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