Writing 122 - Argumentation

Winter 2015

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Course Information:

CRN 30695 Class time: MWF, 12:00-12:50 Location: IA-201A on MW NSH-108 (computer lab) on F Prerequisite: passing WR 121with a C or better

Required texts and supplies:

- **Perspectives on Argument**, 7th edition, Nancy V. Wood/Pearson Publishing
- Photocopies of your essay drafts to share with your peer partners (the number may vary, but at least two)
- A folder for final draft submissions (paper folder is best)

Strongly recommended:

• A memory device (jump drive, etc.) on which to save your work (especially useful on computer lab days!)

Welcome to Writing 122!

We are going to start with the premise that argument is everywhere–at school, at home, in the workplace, in our local communities, in the world at large. The assignments in this course have been carefully crafted to get you thinking about argument beyond the classroom walls as well as learning to craft clear, coherent academic papers that make an argument. Since one of the goals of this course relates to understanding the nature of argument, not only will you be crafting your own written arguments, but you will also be analyzing arguments. Stretch the boundaries of what you have known and believed in the past, and be open to new ideas and perspectives. I look forward to working with you this term as we explore the area of persuasion.

A mind that is stretched to a new idea never returns to its original dimension. —Oliver Wendell Holmes

Here are the LBCC WR122 course outcomes:

- 1. Analyze the rhetorical needs (the needs of your audience in relationship to the assignment) for college-level persuasive writing assignments.
- 2. Apply appropriate levels of critical thinking strategies (knowledge, comprehension, application, analysis, synthesis, evaluation) in your written assignments, with an emphasis on analysis and evaluation/persuasion.
- 3. Implement appropriate rhetorical elements and organization (introduction, thesis, development and support, counter-argument, conclusion, etc.) in our written assignments, with an emphasis on standard argument models, particularly the Toulmin model.
- 4. Locate, evaluate, and integrate high-quality information and opinion appropriate for college-level analysis and argument assignments.
- 5. Craft sentences and paragraphs that communicate your ideas clearly and effectively using words, sentence patterns, and writing conventions at a high college level to make your writing clear, credible, and persuasive.

Course Requirements:

Essay #1: Narrative argument paper:

- First draft submitted on due date (10 points)
- Peer responses(10 points)
- Final draft (130 points)

Essay #2: Visual Analysis

- First draft submitted on due date (10 points)
- Peer responses (10 points)
- Final draft (140 points)

Essay #3: Rhetorical Analysis

- First draft submitted on due date (10 points)
- Final draft (160 points)

Essay #4: Researched Position paper

- Proposal (5 points)
- Outline (10 points)
- Annotated Bibliography (10 points)
- First draft submitted on due date (15 points)
- Peer response (10 points)
- Presentation of position paper (20 points)
- Final draft (200 points)

Collaborative group project: You will collaborate with 2 or 3 other classmates this term to research and present multiple perspectives on an issue of your choice. **(100 points)**

Daily grade: Homework and in-class activities (100 points)

Commitment grade (50 points): Basically just what it sounds like—participation in class activities, coming to class prepared, coming to class on time, and so on.

Total points = 1000 A = 900-1000 pts, B = 800-899 pts, C = 700-700 pts, D = 600-699 pts

Behavior and expectations:

Make the commitment to be **on time** and **attend regularly**. There are several sections of an online WR122 offered this term. If coming to class isn't a priority for you, sign up for the online class. If you can't make it to class, give me a call or e-mail so we can stay in contact. If you do miss a class, it is your responsibility to pick up any handouts or assignments you missed the day you were gone

You will be participating in many small group discussions throughout the term, and you will be working with other students on a group project. We may be discussing controversial issues at times—issues we won't all necessarily agree on. As a member of our WR122 community this term, you have a responsibility to your fellow students and to me to be civil and respectful—even if you don't agree with other students' viewpoints. I'll do my part to make the learning atmosphere as comfortable, interesting, and supportive as I can, and you do your part to support a good learning environment for the rest of us. If you experience an uncomfortable situation with any other student (in which you feel threatened or harassed, for example), please come see me as soon as possible.

SPECIAL NOTE ABOUT CELL PHONES: Please turn off or silence your phone during class. Using a cell phone during class is disrespectful to all of us. Don't do it.

LBCC Statement of Inclusion:

The LBCC community is enriched by diversity. Everyone has the right to think, learn, and work together in an environment of respect, tolerance, and goodwill. We will work toward creating a community without prejudice, intimidation, or discrimination. (related to Board Policy #1015)

If you feel you have been discriminated against in any interaction at LBCC or have been harassed by another person while at LBCC, please refer to the following website for contact information: http://www.linnbenton.edu/go/about-lbcc/policies/equal-opportunity

Deadlines and Revision:

Generally you must turn in all out-of-class work at the beginning of the class period that it is due. Major writing assignments (essays) will lose 10% in value each week they are late. Daily homework assignments must be turned in on time to earn credit in the gradebook. You may petition (that means you have to let me know that your assignment will be late) to turn in one "free" late essay and four "free" late homework assignments without penalty per quarter **as long as the assignment is no more than one week late**. In-class activities cannot be made up.

You may revise final drafts if they are turned in by the due date. **Revisions are due one week from the day I return final graded drafts.** Since Essay #4 is due the last week of the term, it may not be revised. You will, however, have ample time to get feedback on Essay #4 before you hand in the final draft.

Formats for essays:

Please type or word process all drafts of essays. Type your name, title of course (WR122), my name, the date, and the title of the essay (i.e. "Essay #2"), and a word count in the upper left-hand corner of your paper. Use double-spacing, 12 inch **Times New Roman font**, one-inch margins, and numbered pages. You are required to turn in first draft(s) along with your final draft. **I will not grade any essay without a first draft**. Any essay turned in without a first draft is then considered late and is subject to a reduction in points.

Academic Honesty:

Our class is part of a larger academic community. We will follow standard MLA guidelines for giving credit to outside sources in our journals and our papers. Using someone else's words or ideas in a quotation, paraphrase or summary means (1) beginning with a lead-in to show who said what, (2) including an in-text citation to show the source of the quotation, paraphrase, or summary, and (3) preparing a bibliography (called "Works Cited") that appears at the end of the assignment and lists all sources used, including internet sources. **Papers that do not properly cite outside sources risk earning an "F."**

Resources:

Plan to stretch your understanding with each assignment. I will look for thoughtful content, logical organization, a clear style, and appropriate format. If you need help:

- Visit me during office hours. If those hours don't work for you, make an appointment.
- Check Moodle for current assignments and calendar (You are expected to learn how to log in to Moodle and use it. Find the link on the LBCC webpage and on my instructor WR122 website. You will be uploading drafts of essays onto our Moodle site.)
- E-mail me or phone (see p. 1 of syllabus)
- Visit the Writing Center in the Learning Center.
- Visit the computer labs available in Forum, Learning Center, and library.
- Use LBCC's online writing lab (OWL) to submit writing online for feedback. You will find a link on my LBCC webpage.

Center for Accessibility Resources:

Tentative calendar for major assignments:

You should meet with your instructor during the first week of class if:

- You have a documented disability and need accommodations,
- Your instructor needs to know medical information about you, or
- You need special arrangements in the event of an emergency.

If you believe you may need accommodation services, please contact the Center for Accessibility Resources, 541-917-4789. If you have documented your disability, remember that you must make your request for accommodations through the Center for Accessibility Resources Online Services webpage every term in order to receive accommodations.

Dates due:

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Fri., Jan. 9 - Week 1
Mon., Jan. 12 - Week 2
Fri., Jan. 16 - Week 2
Wed., Jan. 28 - Week 4
Fri., Jan. 30 - Week 4
Wed., Feb. 4 - Week 5
Fri., Feb. 13 - Week 6
Fri., Feb. 20 - Week 7
Weeks 5 and 6
Weeks 6 and 7
Wed., Feb. 18 - Week 7
Mon., Feb. 23 - Week 8
Fri., Feb 27 - Week 8
Mon., Mar. 2 - Week 9
Mon., Mar. 2 - Week 9
Fri., Mar. 6 - Week 9
Fri., Mar13 - Week 10
Week 10 and during our final exam period

The vital habits of democracy: the ability to follow an argument, grasp the point of view of another, expand the boundaries of understanding, debate the alternative purposes that might be pursued. –John Dewey