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ENG 1002G-600: College Composition II: Argument & Critical Inquiry

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ENGLISH 1002G

College Composition 2: Argument & Critical Inquiry

Course Description

English 1002G, College Composition 2, is the second part of EIU's required two-semester sequence of freshman composition. This course focuses on argumentation, critical inquiry, and use of sources. Coursework entails analyzing arguments and writing a variety of well-researched and ethically responsible essays. Students gain further practice in locating and assessing information and as well as in evaluating, synthesizing, and presenting that information in a variety of formats.

Course Goals

Students will demonstrate the ability to:

- Apply the principles of argument-claims, reasons, evidence, assumptions, counter-arguments, and counter-argumentationin written documents.
- Produce cogent written arguments that consider ideas, issues, problems, and evidence from multiple perspectives.
- Evaluate primary and secondary source evidence, including quantitative data, to determine its credibility, appropriateness, and relevance.
- Integrate sources ethically, appropriately, and consistently in written documents.
- Use data and create graphical elements in their writing.
- Recognize how to transfer their writing processes, understanding of rhetorical principles, genre awareness, understanding of argumentative principles, and the research process to other writing situations.

Writing Assignments & Grading

Students will complete four writing projects over the course of this six-week course, comprising 65% of the final grade. The remaining 35% comes from informal writing and discussion posts.

You will receive an assignment sheet for each project, indicating due dates, activities, and expectations.

While I will set guidelines for each project, in most cases I allow you some flexibility in both the topics you choose and the manner in which you explore the topic; however, if you want to deviate from the primary topic, you must discuss this with me prior to submitting your final draft.



Conferences

I strongly encourage that you meet with me to discuss any questions you have about a given assignment or writing issue. An important part of learning to write well is learning how to seek assistance and to get informed feedback.

Set up a conference using this Calendly link:

https://calendly.com/rlbeebe

Course Schedule & Due Dates

When we begin each major writing project, I will hand out a detailed writing assignment that will include a schedule of daily activities, reading and brief writing assignments, quizzes, or informal presentations you might be asked to give.

So you can plan ahead: the approximate due dates for the major papers are listed in the right-hand column.

Electronic Writing Portfolio

This course is a writing-centered course and, as such, your papers satisfy the requirements for the Electronic Writing Portfolio. EWP guidelines insist that you complete your submission prior to the last day of class. Talk to me if you have any questions about this or consult the EWP website.

Students with Disabilities

If you have a documented disability and wish to receive academic accommodations, please contact the Coordinator of the Office of Disability Services (581-6583) as soon as possible.

Plagiarism

Since the university is a place of ideas, discussion, and reflection, it views plagiarism—the taking of others' ideas as one's own—very harshly. The penalty for plagiarizing is swift and severe. You will receive an immediate F for the course and notice will be given to the Office of Student Standards.

If you have any questions about plagiarism—however small—please talk to me before you turn in your work.

Approximate Due Dates

Paper 1	10%	June 19
Paper 2	20%	June 26; July 1
Paper 3	20%	July 10; July 15
Revision	15%	July 21
Discussion Posts	15%	weekly
Informal Writing	20%	weekly

EIU Policy for Etiquette in Online Discourse

Eastern Illinois University (EIU) is committed to open, frank, and insightful dialogue in all of its courses. Diversity has many manifestations, including diversity of thought, opinion, and values. We encourage all learners to be respectful of that diversity and to refrain from inappropriate commentary. Should such inappropriate comments occur, the instructor will intervene, removing inappropriate content. The instructor may also recommend university disciplinary action. Learners as well as faculty should be guided by common sense and basic etiquette. The following are good guidelines to follow:

Never post, transmit, promote, or distribute content that is known to be illegal. Never post harassing, threatening, or embarrassing comments. If you disagree with someone, respond to the subject, not the person. Conflicts of ideas are encouraged, while conflicts of feelings are discouraged.

Never post content that is harmful, abusive; racially or culturally insensitive, or religiously offensive, vulgar; sexually explicit, or otherwise potentially offensive.

Remember you are communicating with real people.

Students and instructors in your course have feelings, lives, jobs, families and a myriad of other issues that you may know little about. Once you have finished writing something, and before you send it, reread it looking at your words from someone else's perspective. How would they see it? Could it be misinterpreted? Could you rephrase to make it clearer or more on topic?

Write clearly & professionally.

In any course-related communication (emails, chats, discussions), use standard proper English with correct grammar. Using slang, errors in mechanics, and shortcuts maybe difficult for others to understand. Avoid ALL CAPS, bolding and underlining. It could be misinterpreted. Avoid offensive language. Also make sure to sign your name to any post.

Be kind and ethical.

Do not belittle other students or the instructor. You may disagree with what someone says, but focus on the issue, not the person. Behave online as you would in person. Be forgiving of the mistakes of others.

Help others.

If someone asks a question, answer it if you are sure of the correct answer or if you have insight that could be helpful.

What you will be doing each week . . .

Each week you will complete three writing tasks:

- One discussion post and response (usually due on Wednesday with response due on Friday);
- An short informal writing assignment (usually due on Thursday);
- A formal writing assignment (due on Sunday). Note that in Weeks 2 and 4, this formal writing assignment is a first draft of a writing project).

You will also be doing some assigned reading (connected with the writing tasks) and will likely need to do additional research as you develop your papers.

Evaluation . . .

If you follow assignment guidelines carefully, make a good faith effort to do your best work, and submit your work on time, you should easily pass this course. Here are some other items on how your work will be evaluated:

- Discussion posts and responses will be assessed on a scale of 1-3
 - 3 = post is on time, follows directions, and is proofread
 - 2 = post is on time but is either incomplete, undeveloped, or hasn't followed guidelines
 - 1 = post is late
- Providing you talk to me before a paper is due, I tend to allow 24 hours extension on major writing projects. Otherwise all late work will be subject to a penalty.
- The informal writing projects are just that—informal. Similar to the discussion post, if they're on time and within the guidelines, you will get full credit.
- Follow directions carefully. I usually allow students a lot of leeway in topic selection and in how
 they develop a topic. In fact, I encourage you to take intellectual risks. However, you need to
 make sure you meet the basic guidelines of each writing assignment.
- In your final grade, I will take into consideration your development over the course. In other
 words, if you don't do well on an early assignment, but do really well later in the course, your
 final grade will reflect that improvement.

Not sure about something? Ask . . .

Contact me at any time with any question you have. I will respond—often very quickly.

You're welcome to set up an online conference with me as often as you want or need. Sometimes just a 5-minute conference about a writing issue or assignment can really help.

Course Schedule . . .

Course schedule is available in a separate D2L file.