ENGCMP152: Expository, Analytical, and Argumentative Writing

Course Syllabus

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Course & Instructor Information

Instructor: Yumei Li, Ph.D.   Credit Hours: 3
Email: yumei.li@scupi.cn   Classroom: N213, SCUPI Building
Office hours: Th 8:30-13:30
                       Fri 12:00-17:00
  (And other times by appointment)
Office: N424

Required Text
Hacker, D., & Sommers, N. (2018). *A writer's reference.* Bedford/St. Martin's (9th ed.).

Course Description
ENGCMP 152 provides students with preparation for academic and professional writing, including a foundation in rhetoric, argumentation, composition, and style. Students will become familiar with planning, drafting, editing, and revising their academic writing with attention to audience, purpose, and genre. Students will also receive training in critical reading for academic purposes. Students will use creative and critical thinking skills such that their writing will serve as a mode of communication, persuasion, and problem solving that will in turn develop students' analytical and argumentative skills to achieve academic, professional, and personal goals. The course will allow students to identify their individual writing processes, to work collaboratively, and to use multi-modal forms of academic expression. To this end, students will write essays, feedback reports, self-reflections, and routine communications that may include written, oral, visual, and electronic components.

Student Learning Outcomes
With successful completion of this course, students will:
   • produce argumentative, analytical, expository, and reflective writing with appropriate
       tone, style, content, organization, format, and diction that match the necessary
       purpose, audience, and genre
   • understand and employ strategies for writing as a process, including planning, drafting,
       revising, and editing
   • work collaboratively on writing projects, using writing to organize, plan, report, and
       give feedback
   • employ critical reading and listening strategies in academic situations and provide
       appropriate responses through oral, written, visual, and electronic communication
   • understand and employ rhetorical concepts necessary for sound academic reasoning and
       argumentation

Assignments and Evaluation

Below is a breakdown of the course's assignments and grading scale. There will be a detailed prompt for each essay and writing assignment with instructions about content, format, and submission procedures. Unless discussed with the instructor previously, late assignments will **not** be accepted, and the failure to complete your work will result in a failing grade.

Each **unexcused** absence will bear a penalty of half a letter grade (e.g., from a B to a B- or from a B- to a C+). For each part of a class period missed, a student will receive a deduction of half the point value of a full absence. More than three absences will result in a failing grade for the semester. If you are feeling unwell or need to miss a class, inform the instructor ahead of time by email.

ASSIGNMENT 1 Proposal	A proposal for an argument essay that outlines the main claim, demonstrates the topic's relevance, and highlights its significance	10%
ASSIGNMENT 2 Formal Outline	A full-sentence outline for the argument essay, including an introduction with a clear thesis statement that is supported by three levels of information (main points, subpoints, and specific evidence) per body paragraph	20%
ASSIGNMENT 3 Final Essay	A 1500-word argument essay	40%
ASSIGNMENT 4 Presentation	Each student will give one in-class presentation, incorporating written, oral, and visual components as part of their presentation	10%
ASSIGNMENT 5 Participation in class activities and routine writing	This will include in-class activities, discussions, Blackboard forums, and any other assignments both inside and outside of class, all of which will be assessed holistically.	20%
Total		100%

Schedule

Note**:** This schedule is subject to change based on the needs of the class at the instructor's discretion.

	Topic(s)	Prereading Materials from Textbook	Assignments Due
Lesson 1 (2/24)	Introduction Syllabus reviewing	A4-h*: Sample student writing: argument	
Lesson 2 (3/3)	Basic conventions of academic writing	A1: Reading and writing critically A3: Reading arguments	BB Forum 1

Lesson 3 (3/10)	Explore your subject	C1-b: Exploring your subject A4: Writing arguments	BB Forum 2
Lesson 4 (3/17)	Introduction and thesis statement Methods of development	C1-c: Drafting and revising your thesis statement C2-a: Drafting an introduction C5-c: Choosing a suitable pattern of organization	BB Forum 3
Lesson 5 (3/24)	Peer review APA formatting	APA-5: Manuscript format	BB forum 4
Lesson 6 (3/31)	Writing mechanics	P: Punctuation and mechanics G: Grammatical sentences	**Proposal Due**
Lesson 7 (4/7)	Outline and organize paragraphs	C1-d: Draft a plan	BB forum 5
Lesson 8 (4/14)	Using sources to support the argument	A4-e: Support your claims with specific evidence	BB forum 6
Lesson 9 (4/21)	Evaluating sources	APA-2: Citing sources; avoiding plagiarism	BB forum 7
Lesson 10 (4/28)	Address the opposition/Labor Day	Materials on writing a refutation	BB forum 8
Lesson 11 (5/5)	Peer review Documenting sources	APA-4: Documenting sources S: Sentence style	Forum 9
Lesson 12 (5/12)	Enhance your argument	A5: Speaking confidently	**Formal Outline Due**
Lesson 13 (5/19)	Final Presentation		**Presentation PPT Due**
Lesson 14 (5/26)	Final presentation		
Lesson 15 (6/2)	Workshop argument essay	C3: Reviewing, revising, and editing	BB forum 10
Lesson 16 (6/9)	Wrap up the course	C4: Reflecting on your writing	**Final Essay Due**

*All materials listed for each week are drawn from the Hacker & Sommers (2018) textbook.

Student Use of Electronic Technology Policy:
Students must use electronic technology (including cell phones, laptops, tablets, and iPads) in appropriate ways during classes. Out of respect, cell phones should generally be turned off or on silent and stored out of sight. They should not be used during classroom activities unless the instructor has given permission. Electronic devices are forbidden during quizzes, tests or other in-class graded assignments, unless the instructor has given permission.
Technology use in this class is meant to improve the learning environment for all students. Please be respectful of your instructor and classmates and use the technology appropriately.

If you have questions about what this means, please talk to your instructor.

Recording
To ensure the free and open discussion of ideas, students may NOT record classroom lectures, discussions, and/or activities without the advance permission of the instructor, and any such recording properly recorded in advance can be used solely for the student's own private study.

Make-Up Policy for Missed Assignments
Students are responsible for the assignments in their classes. Assignments include in-class activities, homework, and any other work related to classes.

- If you are absent from class, you should try to contact one of the students in your class to find out what work was missed.
- If you cannot find out from another student about what work you have missed, when you return to class you must talk to your instructors about the missed work and if/when you can make up the work. You are responsible for talking to your teacher; your teacher is not responsible for reminding you about missed work.
- If you are absent from class on the due date of an assignment, you must hand in the assignment on a date decided with your teacher.
- If you know you will be absent, talk to your teacher before you leave or email your teacher to find out about the work that you will miss while you are away.
- If you have not been absent from class and you want to hand in an assignment late, you must first discuss the reason with your teacher before or on the due date. Do not assume that your teacher will accept late assignments. Also, you may lose points for late work based on teacher discretion.
- If you and your teacher arrange to meet so that you can make up an assignment and you miss that meeting, you may receive a "0" for that assignment.

Use of Machine Translation and Other Online Writing and Language Tools

 While students are encouraged to use dictionaries and other language resources, they should not rely on machine translators or other AI tools for large sections of text. Papers must be written in English. Any paper that is written in Chinese and then processed through an online translator will be considered unacceptable.

If an instructor believes that a paper was written using machine translation, the instructor reserves the right to ask the student to re-write (potentially with a different topic), or give an alternative assignment, which may include a timed-writing essay assignment. Until the re-write is submitted the student will have an F for the assignment.

SCUPI Honor Code
Students in this course must follow the SCUPI Honor Code. This includes:
- must not get help from anyone to do his/her work without the teacher's permission.
- must not get help from any outside sources to do his/her work without the teacher's permission.
- must not copy the words of another and present those words as his/her own work.

Note: **Using AI tools to generate an essay or large sections of text will result in an F**.

Participating in these activities can result in an F and referral to university officials for academic integrity violations.

Participation

Active participation is crucial for language learning. Participating in class makes you an engaged learner of English. In this class, participation means:

- arriving to class on time
- staying on task (including appropriate use of technology)
- actively listening to your classmates and teacher when they speak in class
- asking questions
- bringing all class materials
- attending class regularly
- completing all homework on time
- actively and constructively participating in class activities
- being prepared to answer questions
- using only English in class

Communication With Your Professor

All students are encouraged to communicate with the instructor both inside and outside of class. If you have questions or wish to schedule an appointment, email me at yumei.li@scupi.cn. Be sure to **include your purpose in the subject line** and always **provide your name** in the email. Please note that responses may not be immediate, and allow at least one business day for your professor to reply. You are also welcome to visit my office **(N424)** to share your thoughts, concerns, or reflections about your learning experiences.

Student Responsibility

This syllabus is a contract between you and the instructor. It is the first place you should look for answers to your questions about course requirements, expectations, and policies. By enrolling in this course, you are agreeing to adhere to the requirements, expectations and policies outlined in this syllabus, including sections on the SCUPI Honor Code. Students who fail to submit their work on time or miss more than 3 classes could receive a failing grade and may not graduate.