Course Title: Critical Reading, Writing and Thinking  
Course Code: ENGL 103, Section 28123  
Professor: Chere Berman, Chere.Berman@canyons.edu  
Format: Online  
Course Length: 16 week - FALL 2017

WELCOME to ENGLISH 103!

Introduction
I have taught a variety of English classes at College of the Canyons for 12 years and also teach at CSUN in a program for international students. My lifelong passion has been to see students not only excel in communication skills, but find a love for research, writing, and reading. Learning is based upon relationships of mutual respect, so I seek to foster that creative and collaborative atmosphere in every class—whether traditional or online class.

PURPOSE OF THE CLASS: Eng 103 is a CSU and USC transferrable class which sharpens student critical thinking skills in the areas of reading, writing, and thinking so that students identify and practice logical reasoning, problem solving, analysis and evaluation of arguments for their efficacy and verity.

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES By the end of this course, students will be able to:

✓ Analyze the principles of logical reasoning  
✓ Evaluate the strength of written and visual arguments on a range of different issues and controversies  
✓ Compose logical, well-reasoned arguments on selected topics such as popular culture, politics, social issues, and moral and ethical issues

Course Information In this online class, your week by week assignments are due every Sat by midnight. This will include readings, journal responses, DB posts, and special group or individual challenges and activities based upon the critical thinking skills we are focusing upon. Essays, however, will have specific date ranges to submit, edit and finalize by a deadline date posted on Canvas for full credit. All requirements listed in syllabus (*) need to be completed and turned in on time to receive a passing grade for this class. Without submitting ALL required (* on syllabus) assignments, you will not pass this class.

For this course, you need to know how to logon to your Canyons email and check it at least 4 times a week to check ANNOUNCEMENTS, ASSIGNMENTS, and resources on various PAGES. As soon as you logon to the course website: 1) go to the “Discussions” tab and post a self-introduction in the Discussion Board (DB), telling the class two
unique things about yourself that most people may not know. See details on the DB. **Most students use the Canvas app on their phones to keep on track, and it is easy to message me through the Canvas app should you have questions.**

All your formal essays will need to be submitted on the Canvas site and essays will automatically be reviewed by turnitin.com. You will need to logon to the course Canvas page at least 4 times a week to check for course updates, announcements, and replies to your posting

**Reaching your Instructor:** During normal workdays (Monday through Friday, excluding holidays), you can expect a reply to, or an acknowledgement of, your email from me within 24 hours. I will answer general questions about course requirements and assignments through Announcements and through Discussion Board so the whole class can benefit from your questions and concerns. Post your questions on the Discussion Board at the Q&A Forum. So, before emailing me questions about requirements and assignments, please check the Q&A Forum on the discussion board. If there are no similar questions already posted, please post yours. I will answer them there accordingly. When you do have personal matters and concerns, please do email me about them.

▼**Attendance:** For an online course, you need to “show your presence” by logging in at least two times a week and actively participate in Discussion Board postings and class activities. Simply logging in will not keep you in the class, and you will be dropped from class if your participation falls behind. Keep in touch with me so that I can help if you are facing a daunting challenge.

**Textbook information (first two are required)**

![Image of textbook](image_url)

**Asking the Right Questions | Edition: 11**

Author:
M. Neil Browne, Stuart M. Keeley

ISBN:
9780321907950

Publication Date:
01/13/2014

Publisher:
Longman
**Signs of Life in the USA: Readings on Popular Culture for Writers | Edition: 8**
Author: Sonia Maasik, Jack Solomon
ISBN: 9781457670251
Publication Date: 01/09/2015
Publisher: Bedford/St. Martin's

**Recommended:**

**RULES FOR WRITERS, 2016 MLA UPDATED | Edition: 8TH 16**
Author: HACKER
ISBN: 9781319083496

**Other relevant course information**

**Additional Resources**

**Canvas**
The course can be accessed via the Canvas icon on the COC website or www.coc.instructure.com on the first day of the course. Follow the login instructions at the bottom of the screen to log in. Here, you can also access Canvas user guides and tours with helpful tips for navigating and using Canvas. For any Canvas related issues please call the Canvas Student Support line at (661)362-3344 during college business hours, or (877)889-9052 for 24/7 support. **Once you access our Canvas classroom, go to PAGES>Eng 103 General Resources for links to materials that will help you throughout the course. Each Essay will also have a Resource Page in PAGES.**

**Distance Learning**
Check out the Distance Learning website for more information on a variety of topics that can help you be a successful online student such as: exam proctoring, learning styles, computer skills, and tips for student success. If this is your first
online course, feel free to take our online learning readiness assessment to assess your skills.

LET'S TALK STUDENT SUCCESS

College of the Canyons, our faculty and staff are committed to creating services and an atmosphere that supports student success. Please let me know or access the COC website to locate services that may help you.

TLC Hours: Students are strongly encouraged to take advantage of the tutoring services and workshops available through the TLC. For additional TLC information, please visit: http://www.canyons.edu/offices/tlc/ or use the link on Canvas

Valencia Campus-- The Learning Center is located in LTLC-126 adjacent to the library.

We also have Supplemental Learning, Skills Labs, and many other workshops to help build your skills or assist you with learning strategies.

COC Library Databases for Research will be updated in our Canvas classroom:
User name: fish Password: chips

The Learning Center (TLC)

The TLC provides FREE tutoring resource to COC students including:
- Face-to-face & ONLINE tutoring
- Testing Center: offers test proctoring services for courses that have required proctored exams
- Study Jam Review Sessions
- Computers with over 300 software programs
For more information visit the TLC Website.

Disabled Students Program & Services (DSPS)

College of the Canyons DSPS provides educational services and access for eligible students with documented disabilities who intend to pursue coursework at COC. A variety of programs and services are available which afford eligible students with disabilities the opportunity to participate fully in all aspects of the college programs and activities through appropriate and reasonable accommodations. For more information on their services visit the Disabled Students Program & Services website.

Online Counseling

The Counseling Department offers appointments online. You can schedule an appointment by visiting the Online Counseling website. Counselors can help you map out a plan to reach your educational goals as well as advise you on course selection and registration.

MANAGEMENT OF STRESS AND MENTAL HEALTH:
Often the pressure on our students is very strong, involving academic commitments, relationships, outside jobs and family pressure to name a few. The staff and faculty of College of the Canyons are here to see you succeed academically and care about your emotional and physical health. You can learn more about the broad range of confidential student services, including counseling and mental health services available on campus by visiting the Student Health & Wellness Center in the Student Services Building (across from the bookstore) or by clicking on http://www.canyons.edu/offices/Health/Pages/default.aspx. The phone number is 661-362-3259. At the Canyon Country Campus the Health Center is in 1B adjacent to Administration, Admissions and Records.

Also, the National Suicide Hotline number is 1-800-273-8255 (TALK). All students at COC are encouraged to enter that phone number in their cells. You can it call when you, or someone you know, is having thoughts of suicide or is in severe distress.

Your syllabus will be posted separately on the Canvas website.