Introduction

Welcome to English 103! I am Kim Haglund, and I will be your instructor for this course. I am looking forward to working with all of you. This class will be conducted in person and online (a hybrid course), though you are required to attend class in both mediums. On the first day of class, we will go through the Canvas requirements as well.

Please read the entire welcome letter on the pages below before proceeding with the course. These pages will provide you with important information about required materials and required technology, the "virtual" and in-person attendance policy, and an overview of the course. Understanding more about how this particular online course is designed and of its requirements will help you get off to a strong start.

Course Description

English 103 is a 3-unit course which examines the principles of critical thinking as applied to writing and reading arguments on complex issues. This class focuses on close textual analysis, argumentative/persuasive writing, and logical reasoning. We will be examining difficult topics, exploring varying viewpoints and ideas, and reading and writing about them. This is a hybrid course, so assignments and work will be required both in person during class time and online via Canvas. For an overview on hybrid courses, please check the Distance Learning website.

Textbook Information

3. You will also need: Access to Microsoft Word • Knowledge of how to save your documents as .doc, .docx, or .pdf • To check your mycanyons.edu email at least once a day • Reliable access to the Internet
**Course Information**

**Student Learning Outcomes:**

1. Evaluate the strength of written, visual, and multimedia arguments on a range of different issues and controversies.

2. Compose logical, well-reasoned arguments on selected topics such as popular culture, politics, social issues, and moral and ethical issues.

**Specific Objectives:**

1. Identify the issue of an argument.
2. Recognize the conclusion/claim of an argument.
3. Delineate the different types of evidence and evaluate their strengths and weaknesses.
4. Explain the importance of assumptions, ambiguous language, and hidden premises in arguments in general and recognize them in specific arguments.
5. List the most common logical fallacies (errors of thinking) and analyze them in specific arguments, including one's own.
6. Differentiate different types of appeals, such as pathos, ethos, and logos.
7. Evaluate the soundness of assumptions in specific arguments.
8. Select reliable sources for the evidence in an argument.
9. Evaluate the strengths and weaknesses of a written argument, and a visual or multimedia argument (such as an ad, an image, or a film).
10. Analyze one's own thinking for various forms of bias, such as the mine-is-better perspective or similar types of ethnocentric/egocentric perspectives.
11. Support an opinion with adequate, valid and well organized reasoning and evidence.
12. Demonstrate good writing skills, including control of sentence structure, minimal subject-verb and noun-pronoun agreement errors, consistent point of view, proper punctuation, correct spelling, and correct MLA documentation style for material from external sources.

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**Textbook Information**


2. *Rules for Writers (Updated for MLA 8th Edition).* ISBN 9781319083496. Earlier editions of this text are no longer relevant; you do need to be using the updated for MLA 8th edition, with this ISBN number.

You will also need: Access to Microsoft Word • Knowledge of how to save your documents as .doc, .docx, or .pdf • To check your mycanyons.edu email at least once a day • Reliable access to the Internet
**Prerequisite**

Successful completion of English 101 or English 101 Honors. English 103 meets UC and CSU transfer requirements. Also, if you have been placed into this course pending a decision on a prerequisite challenge petition, please be aware that if your petition is denied, the Admissions and Records office will drop you from the course. Even if you continue to attend the class, you cannot receive credit for the course if your prerequisite challenge petition has been denied.

**Exams/Quizzes/Assignments**

Exams, quizzes, and other assignments will be in person during class time and online with due dates. If you have accommodations you need met, please let me know on the first day of the course so that I can make arrangements for you.

**Office Hours**

Office hours will be held online, so it is important that you make sure you have the appropriate technology. We will be utilizing WebEx for online office hours, and access information will be made available to you when you log in to the course on Canvas. Office hours will also be available in person TBA after our first class meeting.

**Other relevant course information**

**Basic Skills Required**

You will need to have ready access to current word document software (MS Word is preferred), and you will need an up-to-date version of an internet browser. They have strong time management skills

1. They enjoy active, cooperative learning experiences
2. They have reliable access to the Internet
3. They have basic computer skills

For more information on becoming a successful online student, visit the Distance Learning website: [http://www.canyons.edu/Offices/DistanceLearning/Pages/GettingStarted.aspx](http://www.canyons.edu/Offices/DistanceLearning/Pages/GettingStarted.aspx)

**Important Registration Information**: You may be dropped from the class if you do not log into this course in Canvas by 11:59p.m. (Pacific Time) on the first day of class. Please note: You are responsible, though, for dropping the class by the official college deadlines if you choose not to complete the course.

**WAITLISTS**: If this course is full and has gone to a wait list, please do not email me before the course begins to try to add. The best way to add the course is to be on the waitlist, as the college will automatically add you if a spot opens up. They will notify you via email so that you can pay your fees and remain enrolled in the course. In the event that there is room for
additional students (other than those on the waitlist) to add the class, I will know by Wednesday, of the first week of class, so please contact me via email before noon on that day, or speak to me after class, but not before, so that I can give you an add code. If you add the class, your name will be sent directly to Computer Support Services via computer by Admissions and Records, and it may take one business day before your account is created in Canvas, though I will do my best to expedite that process.

Finally, I want to welcome you once again to English 103, and I look forward to meeting all of you.

Additional Resources

Canvas
The course can be accessed via Canvas at cv.canyons.edu 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 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.

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.

The Learning Center (TLC)
The TLC provides FREE tutoring resource to COC students including:

- Face-to-face & ONLINE tutoring (you will be required to submit two papers/projects to the tutor online in person or via Canvas for review and suggestions) are available to you via The Learning Center (TLC) on either campus at no cost to you.
- 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.