Course Title: Critical Reading, Writing, & Thinking
Course Code: ENGL103
Professor: Anne V. Powell
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Format: Online
Course Length: 16 week

Introduction
You confront food issues every day, whether you choose to think of them or not, and these issues will impact your own health and society for your entire life. In this course, we use food issues (diet, GMOs, and biodiversity) as a frame to develop good reading, writing, and researching skills.

Prerequisite
Successful completion of English 101 or 101H.

Course Description
ENGL103 examines the principles of critical thinking as applied to writing and reading arguments on complex issues. Focuses on close textual analysis, argumentative writing, and logical reasoning.

Course Information
Student Learning Outcome:
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.

Course Objectives:
   a. Identify the issue of an argument.
   b. Recognize the conclusion/claim of an argument.
   c. Delineate the different types of evidence and evaluate their strengths and weaknesses.
   d. Explain the importance of assumptions, ambiguous language, and hidden premises in arguments in general and recognize them in specific arguments.
   e. List the most common logical fallacies (errors of thinking) and analyze them in specific arguments, including one's own.
   f. Differentiate different types of appeals, such as pathos, ethos, and logos.
g. Evaluate the soundness of assumptions in specific arguments.

h. Select reliable sources for the evidence in an argument.

i. Evaluate the strengths and weaknesses of a written argument, and a visual or multimedia argument (such as an ad, an image, or a film).

j. Analyze one's own thinking for various forms of bias, such as the mine-is-better perspective or similar types of ethnocentric/egocentric perspectives.

k. Support an opinion with adequate, valid and well organized reasoning and evidence.

l. 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.

Textbook information


Other relevant course information

Students who do not login and complete the Self-Introductory Discussion Board on the first day of class will be dropped from the course as “No Shows.” Students who miss four or more postings prior to the add/drop date will be dropped for excessive absences.

Additional Resources

Canvas
The course can be accessed via Canvas at [cv.canyons.edu](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
- 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.