

Dr. Julianne Newmark
English 112, Section 06
Fall 2011
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College Writing II

“American Argument: Positioning Environment, Self, and Nation”

Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays: 10:00 to 10:50 a.m.

Classroom: Jones 104

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Office hours: Mondays and Wednesdays from 3:20 to 4:20 p.m. and by appointment in 211 Fitch.

ABOUT OUR COURSE:

Welcome to English 112. In this course, you will read public arguments and use written reasoning to respond persuasively to these arguments. You will grapple with texts of various kinds and will create your own written texts, of varying lengths. As a student in 112, you will conduct research, taking into account issues related to our course topic that you find interesting or that concern you. Your course papers will take into consideration the broad aims and objectives of 112 as well as the specific focal issues of our class.

All ENGL 112 courses at NMT share the following objectives, regardless of the particular course section's thematic focus. By the end of the 112 course, students must demonstrate an ability to:

- **Evaluate and then effectively respond in writing** to specific audiences and rhetorical situations.
- **Recognize writing as a process rather than a product**; the writing process includes invention, drafting, peer review, and revision.
- **Demonstrate mastery of the conventions of academic English** on sentence, essay, and paragraph levels.
- **Evaluate various online and library research sources** and use sources efficiently, ethically, and in conformance with accepted documentation styles (particularly MLA).
- **Synthesize information into effective written (and sometimes verbal) arguments**, grounded in persuasive thesis statements. Such written arguments will include incorporation of opposing viewpoints in a respectful and critical fashion.

In this course, you will write two short assignments (of two pages each), two four- to five-page papers, and one ten-page formal research paper. You will be expected to complete many in-class writing assignments and you will be expected to contribute to our class blog. You will also be required to meet with me in a one-on-one conference two times during the term.

*This course counts for Humanities required credit, Part 1A in 2007-2009 catalog (General Degree Requirements) and Communications required credit Area 1 (General Education Core Curriculum) in the new catalog. **Prerequisite:** ENGL 111 or equivalent course passed with a C or better*

POLICIES:

Required texts:

- *Argument in America*. Jack Selzer ISBN: 0-321-17278-7. All readings noted as **AiA** in course calendar.
- *The Everyday Writer*. Fourth Edition. Lunsford, Andrea A. ISBN: 978-0-312-48859-8
- The “Tom Outland’s Story” section from Willa Cather’s *The Professor’s House*, on reserve at Skeen, or buy your own copy used online.

Required work and grading scale:

Your grade will be based on various factors, including attendance, participation, and completion and quality of

written work. You will be expected to participate in daily class discussions and occasional group work in class; you will be expected to regularly provide comments/entries on our class blog.

Response paper one (two pages)	30	Grading scale:	A	465 and above
Response paper two (two pages)	30		A-	450-464
Essay one (four to five pages)	60		B+	435-449
Essay two (four to five pages)	60		B	415-434
Conference attendance/preparedness (3)	30		B-	400-414
Quizzes	50		C+	385-399
Participation and attendance	55		C	365-384
Final research paper (ten pages)	120		C-	350-364
<u>Blog participation/posting</u>	<u>65</u>			
TOTAL	500			

Class Participation:

You will be evaluated on your ability and willingness to participate in classroom discussions and other activities. Keep this in mind and be sure to be alert in class, prepared for class work, and engaged in our subject matter.

Attendance and Tardiness:

If you miss more than four classes, you will be asked to drop the course or you will receive a failing grade. There are, of course, extraordinary situations in which absences might be excused. A stay in the hospital, for example, is what I would call "extraordinary." I do take attendance into consideration in the calculation of your final grade, along with the above-mentioned factor of participation. Be sure to attend all class meetings and to be on time. Every three days that you are tardy (more than five minutes) count as one "absent" day. I consider this syllabus, incidentally, as your contract with me, and mine with you. If you choose to continue in this class, after reading this syllabus, I expect that you will abide by the requirements of this course. If you call or email me PRIOR to class time with a legitimate excuse for an absence, I will excuse you for that day. If, however, you will be missing more than three "excused" days because of illness, you will need to work with Academic Affairs to ensure that you have properly documented your illness. I will not continue to excuse absences after three emails or calls without the proper involvement of Academic Affairs.

Late Papers:

Papers must be turned in at the beginning of our class time on the day the assignment is due. After this time, for each day an assignment is late, I will deduct one letter grade (meaning, if the paper begins at an "A" and is one day late, I will begin grading it from an "A-" -- etcetera). Again, extraordinary circumstances might excuse a late assignment, but these are rare. I will not accept emailed versions of papers; you must come to class, or arrange to see me in my office, to turn in your paper-copy of your assignment. *I reserve the right not to accept late writing assignments or group projects. Even if you miss class on a paper due-date because of a documented illness, you must submit your paper to me on the due-date (by receiving authorization from me to submit an initial copy by email) or receive an extension due to a documented illness. An excused absence does not automatically mean you can turn your paper in late with no penalty.*

Courteousness and Cell Phones:

I expect all students to behave appropriately and respectfully in class. You are expected to be courteous to me and your classmates. One sign of courteousness is that you turn off your cell phone before entering class. If there are repeated problems with your cell phone, I will ask you to leave the classroom for the day. You will take an absence that day.

Equal Access:

Qualified students with disabilities needing appropriate academic adjustments should contact me as soon as possible to ensure your needs are met in a timely manner. Handouts are available in alternative accessible formats upon request.

Plagiarism:

In our course, we will spend ample time covering what is required of you in terms of correct citation, academic honesty, and intellectual property. After this information has been presented to you in class, you are responsible

for it and cannot claim ignorance as a defense against an accusation of academic dishonesty.

Plagiarism, in very general terms, is the use of someone else's words or ideas without proper citation. Your style guide, *Everyday Writer*, includes information about plagiarism. I suggest that you become familiar with pages 168 and 173-175 and commit to memory the information regarding plagiarism that I provide for you in class. Also, the NMT library offers a handy website addressing many plagiarism issues and provides advice on avoiding plagiarism:

<http://infohost.nmt.edu/~nmtlib/INFO/ORef/plagiarism.html>

Essay Format

All work that is to be handed in must be typed, double-spaced, printed on white paper in black ink, and must use twelve-point font (preferably Times New Roman); in essence, your paper must follow MLA guidelines. If your paper does not conform to these stylistic requirements, I will hand it back to you without a grade and you will be required to reformat it and will suffer a late-paper penalty.

Conferences

On the course calendar, you will notice that several class sessions have been cancelled in order to accommodate individual student conferences with me. These conferences are mandatory, and your failure to show up will affect your grade: not only will you not receive any of the participation points for the conference, your failure to show up will count as an absence.

COURSE CALENDAR

****Please note that all readings in *Argument in America* are listed by author name, preceded by "AiA"****

	DATE	ITEMS DUE	IN-CLASS ACTIVITY/OUTCOME
1	Wednesday, August 24		Course introduction. Differences between summarizing and analyzing.
	Friday, August 26	EW 183-192, EW 3-11 AiA, Burke, 482	Introductions continued. "Diagnostic" writing exercise. Common grammar errors. Our class blog introduced.
2	Monday, August 29	AiA, Tannen, 486	Creating arguments, i.e. <i>thesis statements</i> .
	Wednesday, August 31	EW 119-123, Fallacies Tannen continued	Response One assigned. Logical fallacies introduced.
	Friday, September 2		Evaluation and Definition arguments. Handout and worksheet online.
3	Monday, September 5	LABOR DAY, no classes	
	Wednesday, September 7	Evaluation and Definition worksheet due. AiA, Muir, 19 (Evaluation) AiA, Cooper, 8	Conceptions of "nature"; conceptions of "civilization."
	Friday, September 9	AiA, Leopold, 29	Thesis construction and discussion. Response paper questions.
4	Monday, September 12	Response One due. AiA, Carson, 74	Essay One assigned. Finding intersections between our class readings and personal interest.
	Wednesday, September 14	AiA, Momaday, 88	Discuss class blog. View sample essay; model essay. What kinds of arguments have we read?
	Friday, September 16	Mandatory blog postings: summary comments and essay questions.	Sign IRB release forms.

OUTCOMES FOR THIS SEQUENCE:

Invention, peer critique, purpose and thesis, active reading and analysis, summarizing/paraphrasing, and responsible use of sources

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5	Monday, September 19	Draft of Essay One due for in-class <i>peer review</i> . Bring two copies of your essay to class.	Peer review.
	Wednesday, September 21	**Mandatory conferences** We will not meet in the classroom on Wednesday or Friday. Please attend your conference at your designated time <i>in my office</i> . Please come with your draft paper from your peer review, your peer review sheet <i>filled out by your peer</i> , and a <i>newly revised version (a new "clean copy") of your paper</i> .	
	Friday, September 23		
6	Monday, September 26	ESSAY ONE DUE Cumulative Reading Quiz	
	Wednesday, September 28	EW 170-183 AiA, Jefferson, 220 (Causal)	Doing research; incorporating sources. Scholarly versus popular sources.
	Friday, September 30	AiA, Douglas 229	Assign Response Two
7	Monday, October 3	AiA, Anthony, 270 (Rebuttal)	Rebuttal arguments. Read handout.
	Wednesday, October 5	AiA, Friedan, 292	Appeals to pathos, logos, ethos.
	Friday, October 7		Assign Essay Two. Causal arguments. Read handout.
8	Monday, October 10	AiA, Allen 302	Continue with authorial appeals.
	Wednesday, October 12	AiA, Milk, 310	
	Friday, October 14	Response Two Due MEET IN LIBRARY	Library research day.
9	Monday, October 17	Mandatory blog postings: summary comments and essay questions.	Identifying logical fallacies. Discussing essay theses relative to arguments read.
	Wednesday, October 19	Draft of Essay Two due for in-class <i>peer review</i> . Bring two copies of your essay to class.	Peer review.
	Friday, October 21	NO CLASSES	NO CLASSES
10	Monday, October 24	**Conferences OR Writing Center Visit** We will not meet in the classroom on Monday or Wednesday. You have a choice this time: you can either come to a scheduled conference with me or you can attend a session with a writing center tutor. In either case, I will need to assess your peer review, so I will need the sheet you completed for your peer. If you attend the writing center, I will need to the tutor to mark your meeting time and duration on your paper draft.	
	Wednesday, October 26		
	Friday, October 28	Essay Two Due	Assign Final Research Paper
11	Monday, October 31	EW 193-197 AiA, de Crevecoeur, 404 Cather, "Outland's" Part I	Proposal arguments. In-class handout. Revisit pathos, logos, ethos.
	Wednesday, November 2	AiA, Lazarus, 409, Aldrich, 410 Cather, "Outland's," II & III	
	Friday, November 4	AiA, Visual Arguments, 411, Walker, 414. Cather's, "Outland's," IV	Thesis development. Academic genres. "Creative" genres. Cross-genre argumentation and evidence.
12	Monday, November 7	AiA, Tan, 468 Cather, "Outland's," V	
	Wednesday, November 9	Cather, "Outland's," VI to end	
	Friday, November 11	AiA, Silko, 474	Sign up for conferences.
13	Monday, November 14	EW 57-82 Meet in computer classroom	Drafting and paragraphing Sign up for presentations
	Wednesday, November 16	First draft of Research Paper due. In-class <i>peer review</i> day. Bring one copy to class.	Peer review

OUTCOMES FOR THIS SEQUENCE:

Essay organization and unity, sentence-level grammar and mechanics, responsible use of sources, research, use of rhetorical strategies, revision,

	Friday, November 18	T	
14	Monday, November 21	**Mandatory conferences** Likely, Monday or TUESDAY We will not meet in the classroom on Monday or Wednesday. Please attend your conference at your designated time <i>in my office</i> . Please come with your draft paper from your peer review, your peer review sheet <i>filled out by your peer</i> , and a <i>newly revised version (a new "clean copy") of your paper</i> .	
	Wednesday, November 23		
	Friday, November 25	NO CLASSES	NO CLASSES
15	Monday, November 28	EW sections 30-37: skim Mandatory blog postings: summary comments and questions.	
	Wednesday, November 30	**Final Paper Presentations**	
	Friday, December 2		
16	Monday, December 5	FINAL PAPER DUE	IRB-approved survey. Course evaluations.
	Wednesday, December 7	Mandatory blog postings: course conclusions.	What's next in ENGL 341?
	Friday, December 9	LAST DAY OF CLASSES Cumulative Reading Quiz	(We have no final exam!)