



Critical Thinking

CRIT 1101

Fall 2016

Classroom: U262

Individuals with disabilities who need to request accommodations should contact the Disability Services Coordinator, Student Center 255, 678-466-5445, disabilityservices@mail.clayton.edu.

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Office: A&S 105 I

Office Hours: Monday and Wednesday, 3.30 to 6.30

Course Websites:

Desire2Learn: <https://clayton2.view.usg.edu/>

Faculty Webpage: <http://faculty.clayton.edu/tjanke>

Credit Hours: 3.0 semester credit hours (3-0-3)

Catalog Description: A course focusing on skills essential to effective critical thinking in both academic and general use. The study of important common components (issue, method, evidence, conclusion) provides a basis for the construction, analysis, and evaluation of arguments in a variety of contexts. The course also addresses fundamental elements of informal logic (e.g., induction, deduction, fallacy-avoidance) and of elementary formal logic (e.g., tests for validity) as they inform good reasoning in any context, from everyday decision-making to academic argumentation.

D2L: On [D2L](#) you will find this course syllabus and lesson modules containing notes, quizzes, and PowerPoint lectures.. You can gain access to [D2L](#) by following this link or signing on to the [SWAN](#) portal and selecting 'GaVIEW' on the top right side. If you experience any difficulties with [D2L](#), please email or call The HUB at TheHub@mail.clayton.edu or (678) 466-HELP. You will need to provide the date and time of the problem, your [SWAN](#) username, the name of the course that you are attempting to access, and your instructor's name.

Program Learning Outcomes:

General education outcomes: The following link provides the Clayton State University Core Curriculum outcomes (see Area C): http://www.clayton.edu/Portals/5/core_curriculum_outcomes_clayton.pdf

Course Learning Outcomes: To familiarize students with Critical Thinking; to enhance communication skills, oral and written; to teach analysis of complex concepts, ideas, definitions, and arguments

Course Prerequisites and Co-requisites: Learning Support students who are required to take ENGL 0099 and/or READ 0099 must exit the requirements before they can enroll in this course

Computer Requirement: Each CSU student is required to have ready access throughout the semester to a notebook computer that meets faculty-approved hardware and software requirements for the student's academic program. Students will sign a statement attesting to such access. For further information on CSU's Official Notebook Computer Policy, please go to <http://itpchoice.clayton.edu/policy.htm>.

Computer Skill Prerequisites: Able to use the Windows™ operating system; Able to use Microsoft Word™ word processing, and Microsoft PowerPoint; Able to send and receive e-mail using Outlook™ or Outlook Express™; Able to attach and retrieve attached files via email; Able to use a Web browser; Able to use D2L.

Texts: Our text is available in the campus bookstore: <http://www.clayton.edu/auxiliaries/thelochshop>. Alternately, you may purchase your book online. You will not succeed in this course without the textbook.

Textbook: *A Concise Introduction to Logic*, 12th ed., by Patrick Hurley

Text Coverage: Selected Readings (see below)

Evaluation:

First Exam	20%
Second Exam	20%
Third (Final) Exam	20%
Online Quizzes	30%
Argument Paper	10%

Grading:

A	90 - 100%
B	80 - 89%
C	70 - 79%
D	60 - 69%
F	below 60%

I DO NOT OFFER EXTRA CREDIT UNDER ANY CIRCUMSTANCES.

NOTE: This course requires consistent study and practice with assigned exercises. If you do not want to take the time to do this, drop the course. Students who do not study and practice with the exercises will not do well in this course.

Requirements Explained:

A. Weekly Practice Quizzes: Practice quizzes will be posted in D2L each week. You will not be graded on your actual score on these quizzes, but will get credit for accessing and completing them by the deadline. This will give you a very good idea of your progress with the assigned sections from the textbook and a sense for what you need to work on. Quizzes must be completed no later than Thursday evening of the week they are assigned (see syllabus), by 11.59 pm, at which point the quizzes will be locked and you will no longer be able to access them and will receive a 0.

B. Argument Papers: You will write a one page Argument Paper. This paper must be turned in at the beginning of class on the day it is due. Emailed papers and late papers will not be accepted. Topics for arguments can be drawn from 1.2.III, or you may choose any topic you like. In writing your papers you will state an issue, pick a position, and then state, in one sentence each, three premises in support of that position. Once you have written the skeletal form of the argument, you will then provide a paragraph length discussion/explanation (a few sentences) of each of your premises and how they support your position/conclusion. The stated premises may be used as the topic sentences for each individual paragraph. ***Each paper will adhere to the following format precisely (example for illustration only):***

Issue: Whether the 1965 Minnesota Twins could have beaten the 2010 New York Yankees in a 7 Game Series.

Position: 1965 Minnesota Twins could have beaten the 2010 New York Yankees in a 7 Game Series.

Premise 1: The Twins 4 man pitching rotation, led by Jim Kaat, stacks up better in a seven game series.

Premise 2: The Twins defense was stronger at every position.

Premise 3: The Twins had better all-around hitting, including sluggers like Harmon Killebrew.

(Paragraphs with each of your premises as topic sentences go here)

These argument papers must be developed based on your own ideas and thinking, and should not be considered research papers. Don Not Do Research for These! In that light, argument papers which report information from outside sources will not be accepted.

Argument papers are due in the Argument Paper module dropbox on the dates indicated on the syllabus

C. Exams: multiple choice; non-cumulative. Exam questions will be exactly like the exercises from the book and the practice quizzes posted on D2L.

Schedule of Readings and Assignments

The exercises for each chapter/section are assigned in the following way: for each section of the text listed in the middle column, there is a corresponding set of exercises that go with it in the column on the right. These exercises are indicated by a Roman numeral, followed by the number for the exercises you should work. In the first box below on the right it has “I, 1-15; IV, all” That means you work numbers 1-15 under Roman numeral I of the exercises at the end of Chapter 1.1, as well as all the exercises under Roman numeral IV.

Week of	Reading	Assignment	Online Quiz
8.15	Introduction 1.1 Arguments, Premises, Conclusions	I, 1-20, write out the conclusion; IV, all	
8.22	1.3 Deduction and Induction 1.4 Validity, Truth, Soundness, Strength, Cogency	I, all; III, all I, 1-10; II, 1-10; III, 1-20; V, all	Quiz 1
8.29	1.4 continued		Quiz 2
9.5	No Class 9.5 Labor Day 1.5 Argument Forms: Proving Invalidity	I, all	Quiz 3
9.12	1.5 Continued		Exam 1 Review Quiz
9.19	Review First Exam 9.21	First Exam 9.21	
9.26	2.1 Varieties of Meaning 2.2 Intension and Extension	IV, all I.4, all; II, all	Quiz 4
10.3	2.3 Definitions and Their Purposes	I, all; III, all Last Day to Withdraw with a ‘W’—10/7	
10.10	Fall Break—No Class 10.10 2.4 Definitional Techniques	No Class 10.10 I, all; III, all	Quiz 5
10.17	2.4 Continued		
10.24	9.1 Argument from Analogy	9.1.II, 1-8	Quiz 6
10.31	Review Second Exam 11.4	Review Second Exam 11.4	Exam 2 Review Quiz
11.7	3.1 Fallacies in General 3.2 Fallacies of Relevance	I, all I, all; II, all	Quiz 7
11.14	3.3 Fallacies of Weak Induction 3.4 Fallacies of All Kinds of Stuff Argument Paper Due 11.16	I, all; II, all; III, 1-20 I, all; II, all; III, 1-20 Argument Paper Due 11.16	Quiz 8
11.21	No Class Thanksgiving	No Class Thanksgiving	Quiz 9
11.28	Review		Exam 3 Review Quiz
Final Exam	Final: Dec 12 (Mon), 7:15 PM - 9:15 PM	Final: Dec 12 (Mon), 7:15 PM - 9:15 PM	

Course Policies

General Policy: Students must abide by policies in the [Clayton State University Student Handbook](#), and the [Student Code of Conduct](#).

University Attendance Policy: Students are expected to log in and participate as part of their learning in the course. Instructors establish specific policies relating to absences in their courses and communicate these policies to the students through the course syllabi. Individual instructors, based upon the nature of the course, determine what effect excused and unexcused absences have in determining grades and upon students' ability to remain enrolled in their courses. The university reserves the right to determine that excessive absences, whether justified or not, are sufficient cause for institutional withdrawals or failing grades.

Course Attendance Policy: Attendance is expected for all class periods. Attendance is required for examination periods. More than five late (unexcused) arrivals to class will result in a 5% reduction of your course grade. An excused late arrival or absence is one due to: (1) official Clayton State University functions (such as athletic events), (2) required official military duty, or (3) accompanied by documentation from a doctor or other competent authority.

Disabilities: Students with disabilities who require reasonable accommodations need to register with Disability Services in order to obtain their accommodations. You can contact them at 678-466-5445 or disabilityservices@clayton.edu. If you are already registered with Disability Services and are seeking accommodations for this course, please make an appointment with me to discuss your specific accommodation needs and give me your accommodations letter.

Academic Dishonesty: Any type of activity that is considered dishonest by reasonable standards may constitute academic misconduct. The most common forms of academic misconduct are cheating and plagiarism. Plagiarism occurs when you use someone else's words or ideas in your presentation or writing without giving that person credit. Even paraphrase is plagiarism, if you do not properly credit your source. All instances of academic dishonesty will result in a grade of zero for the work involved. All instances of academic dishonesty will be reported to the Office of Student Life/Judicial Affairs. If you have questions about copyright or fair use, please contact the [Center For Instructional Development](#), or refer to [The Board of Regents site for copyright information](#).

Student Code of Conduct: Behavior that disrupts the teaching-learning process during class activities will not be tolerated. While a variety of behaviors can be disruptive in a classroom setting, more serious examples include belligerent, abusive, profane, and/or threatening behavior. A student who fails to respond to reasonable faculty direction regarding online behavior and/or behavior while participating in online course activities may be dismissed from class. A more detailed description the Student Code of Conduct can be found at <http://adminservices.clayton.edu/studentconduct/>

Operation Study: At Clayton State University, we expect and support high motivation and academic achievement. Look for Operation Study activities and programs this semester that are designed to enhance your academic success such as study sessions, study breaks, workshops, and opportunities to earn Study Bucks (for use in the University Bookstore) and other items.

Grading Policy: Missed Work: Unless otherwise stated, all quizzes are to be submitted no later than 11.59 pm on the day that they are due, and the Argument Paper must be turned in at the beginning of class on the day it is due. I will not accept emailed Argument Papers. You must turn in a hard copy. **Late work will not be accepted** unless a student can provide documentation of an emergency that rendered the student unable to submit or complete his or her work on time. **Take special note:** last minute computer problems do not constitute an excuse for missed work. It is recommended that you submit your assignments well in advance of the deadline, so that, in case of computer difficulties, you can use another computer (for example those at Clayton or your local library) to submit your work.

Mid-term Progress Report: The mid-term grade in this course, which will be issued by 10/4, reflects approximately 30% of the entire course grade. Based on this grade, students may choose to withdraw from the course and receive a grade of "W." Students pursuing this option must fill out an official withdrawal form, available in the Office of the Registrar, by mid-term, which occurs on 10/4. The last day to withdraw without academic accountability is Friday, 10/7.

Computer and Technology Requirements

You are required to have ready access throughout the semester to a notebook computer that meets faculty-approved hardware and software requirements for your academic program. For further information on CSU's Official Notebook Computer Policy, please go to <http://itpchoice.clayton.edu/policy.htm>.

In addition, participation in the course requires you are able:

- to access information on the internet
- to use the Windows operating system, Microsoft Word, and Microsoft PowerPoint
- to send and receive e-mail using Outlook or Outlook Express
- to attach and retrieve attached files via email
- to use the online services offered through Clayton's [library](#), including Galileo and Interlibrary loan
- to use a Web browser and WebEx
- to use Desire2Learn and associated tools, including discussion boards, chat rooms, online testing and assignment submission features
- to demonstrate [netiquette](#) (appropriate online conduct, see below for more details)

Supplemental: Additional online resources and tutorials may be found on my [Faculty Webpage](#) and our [D2L](#) course site.

Software: The following software is required in order to view course content and to participate in planned course activities. Hyperlinked text will take you to download sites: Microsoft Office Suite (available via Clayton State University Library or the [HUB](#)); [Internet Explorer](#); [WebEx](#); [Adobe Reader](#).

Technical Support: Clayton State offers technical support as well as free downloads of the Microsoft Office Suite to students through the [HUB](#). You can arrange an appointment, stop by for a walk-in visit, or contact them via telephone (678) 466-4357 or email: <http://www.clayton.edu/hub/contactus>.

Email Etiquette: You are expected to write as you would in any professional correspondence. Email communication should be courteous and respectful in manner and tone. Also, formal, grammatically correct English should be employed in all emails; do not write in the form of "text messaging."

Do not expect an immediate response via email (normally, a response will be sent as soon as possible). Generally, allow a response within 24 hours during the week and 48 hours on the weekends/holidays. If your email question is sent at the last minute it may not be possible to send you a response before an assignment is due or a test is given.

Emails that are not written in a professional, formal manner, using standard, grammatically correct English will not receive a response. A professional email will include: a) a subject heading with our class listed; b) complete sentences using punctuation; and c) academic English.

Office Hours: Office hours are held for the purpose of further clarification and discussion, and under no circumstances to be used as a fill-in for missing class.