

***EN305 Argumentative Writing***

**www.ajarng.weebly.com**

The above is the URL to the course website. You can find course information, exam information and other related information on the course website.

[garethfinch@hotmail.com](mailto:garethfinch@hotmail.com)

PLEASE DO NOT USE FACEBOOK TO COMMUNICATE ABOUT THIS COURSE. E-MAIL IS PREFERABLE.

Period Times

Sign in is required for each day. If you are caught signing in your friends you will lose your attendance for the course.

If you have any problems attending any classes then you need to tell me about the problem *as soon as possible* otherwise you may lose a key part of your score or fail the entire course.

If you do not attend classes you will not score anything for class activities and will lack necessary knowledge for the final exam. There will be no make-up scores on the exam unless a valid medical note is produced or another official form of proof.

Course Evaluation

**Class** 50%

-Group presentation 30%

*-Attendance 20%*

**Final Exam** 50%

Plagiarism

I have come across differing levels of plagiarism in my previous courses. During the last course too many people used the internet to copy work for take-home assignments and a number of students were observed cheating in the exam.

Cheating is a serious offence and is unfair on the students who genuinely work hard in order to get a good grade.

I have recorded the names of the people from my previous courses caught plagiarising, cheating or talking during exams and I have kept these on record. If any of these names come up again with regard to plagiarism or cheating,then the student in question will be given an instant fail.

If anyone is caught plagiarising or cheating who has not done so before then they will be given a 30% penalty deducted from their overall grade for this courseand their name will be recorded for future reference.

Also, anyone who is caught cheating will have their name highlighted on the class register so that every other student will know it was.

The Director will also have access to this information during and after the course.

Acceptable forms of proof of absence

I am well aware that many of the students have a busy life and are sometimes unable to attend the class. I have made the attendance grade very small in order to accommodate people who may have to work during the day or who are unable to attend every class. However it is still compulsory to attend all classes and you will lose large parts of the overall score if you are absent for the quizzes, the final presentation or the final exam.

If you are absent for any of the days you will lose a part of your attendance score (up to 5% for class attendance, 10% for every quiz you miss and 15% for the final presentation). You will be able to recover any of these grades with a valid absence note which can be one of the following;

*1. A medical note signed from a medical institution such as a hospital*

*2. A note of essential work (e.g. if you had to work in a school). You must get a signed letter from the employer to prove that you were working there.*

*3. Proof of travel (e.g. if you had to fly out of the country for a visa, business etc.). You must bring a copy of the travel document.*

I will not accept word of mouth; proof must be brought to class. If you bring fake proof then I will assume you are trying to cheat, which could result in an instant fail.

If I feel a student is missing too many classes then I may recommend switching them to a take home assignment instead or repeating the course at a later date.

*Please be respectful if you have a disagreement regarding the course.*

EN305 Argumentative Writing

**Course Description/Objectives**:

Argumentative Writing is a planning and writing based-intensive skills course. Through the study of argumentative writing, students will develop and utilize skills in analysis, apply strategies to address different kinds of audiences in original student work and construct persuasive, well written arguments.

Class sessions will focus on the writing process, which involves planning, writing and revising assignments for instructor and peer review. Finally, class activities and discussions will enable students to acquire an appreciation of argumentative writing skills as they relate to their own academic and life experiences.

Some elements of the course will also focus on the correct usage of English Language although the emphasis will be on argumentative writing.

**Student Outcomes**:

For successful completion of this course the student will be expected to:

1. Understand the difference between argumentative essays and discursive essays.
2. Identify and analyse elements of argumentative writing: thesis sentences, claims, warrants, and supporting evidence. Identify and understand ways to support your arguments.
3. Distinguish types of argumentative writing
4. Understand the process about how to write both introductions and conclusions of argumentative essays.
5. Be able to identify the audience of an essay.
6. Be able to use mind maps to plan an argumentative essay
7. Use strategies to improve reading comprehension (for example, dictionary usage, translating difficult passages).
8. Participate, through small and large group written and oral activities, as a productive, engaged member of a writing community.
9. Use techniques (for example, free writing, brainstorming, and clustering activities) to generate ideas in writing.
10. Demonstrate the development of an idea using the drafting sequence: form an initial topic to an informed analysis of the data and opinion through to a drafting process and end product.
11. Show signs of improvement and understanding in the basic usage of English language.