

## **Argumentation and Advocacy**

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**Course description:** This course is designed to improve students' critical thinking skills. Students will be challenged to improve their listening skills, their research abilities, and their understanding of reasoning and logic. We will discuss a wide variety of topics in class. The aim of the course is not to promote a specific idea or agenda, but to analyze controversial topics facing the world today. The instructor will often serve as "devil's advocate" to enhance the discussion of these topics. It is understood that the students' work may not express their own beliefs. **A great deal of key information will be transmitted in class - - - attendance will be important.**

**The text:** Herrick, James *Argumentation Understanding and Shaping Arguments* 5th Ed.

\* The text is an aid for the students. A good deal of the information for exams/assignments will come from the lectures.

### **Synchronous Meeting Times**

We will "meet" as a group Zoom, a videoconferencing tool available to Sakai. You will need a working a web camera and audio to use Zoom. Meetings will be Tuesdays and Thursdays from 3:00 p.m. – 4:15 p.m. CST. Zoom is available on Sakai under "tools" on the left hand side of the page. Simply click on Zoom a few minutes before our class session.

I will be available for Zoom offices hours. You may email to request a time.

This class will be held live and virtually through Sakai, using a variety of tools.

For this class, you will be required to:

- Read the chapters in advance and complete brief assignments
- Watch debates and other videos
- Participate in Zoom debates
- Complete quizzes on the readings
- Contribute to class discussions on an online forum
- Attend class meetings via Zoom.
- Write an affirmative and negative case
- Take exams

### **Syllabus Statement**

In this class software may be used to record live class discussions. As a student in this class, your participation in live class discussions will be recorded. These recordings will be made

available only to students enrolled in the class, to assist those who cannot attend the live session or to serve as a resource for those who would like to review content that was presented. All recordings will become unavailable to students in the class when the Sakai course is unpublished (i.e. shortly after the course ends, per the Sakai administrative schedule). Students who prefer to participate via audio only will be allowed to disable their video camera so only audio will be captured. Please discuss this option with your instructor.

The use of all video recordings will be in keeping with the University Privacy Statement shown below:

### **Privacy Statement**

Assuring privacy among faculty and students engaged in online and face-to-face instructional activities helps promote open and robust conversations and mitigates concerns that comments made within the context of the class will be shared beyond the classroom. As such, recordings of instructional activities occurring in online or face-to-face classes may be used solely for internal class purposes by the faculty member and students registered for the course, and only during the period in which the course is offered. Students will be informed of such recordings by a statement in the syllabus for the course in which they will be recorded. Instructors who wish to make subsequent use of recordings that include student activity may do so only with informed written consent of the students involved or if all student activity is removed from the recording. Recordings including student activity that have been initiated by the instructor may be retained by the instructor only for individual use.

***Intellectual Property:*** All lectures, notes, PowerPoints and other instructional materials in this course are the intellectual property of the professor. As a result, they may not be distributed or shared in any manner, either on paper or virtually without my written permission. Lectures may not be recorded without my written consent; when consent is given, those recordings may be used for review only and may not be distributed. Recognizing that your work, too, is your intellectual property, I will not share or distribute your work in any form without your written permission.

### **Academic dishonesty:**

#### ***Academic Dishonesty:***

School of Communication Statement on Academic Integrity A basic mission of a university is to search for and to communicate truth as it is honestly perceived. A genuine learning community cannot exist unless this demanding standard is a fundamental tenet of the intellectual life of the community. Students of Loyola University Chicago are expected to know, to respect, and to practice this standard of personal honesty. Academic dishonesty can take several forms, including, but not limited to cheating, plagiarism, copying another student's work, and submitting false documents. Academic cheating is a serious act that violates academic integrity. Cheating includes, but is not limited to, such acts as: • Obtaining, distributing, or communicating examination materials prior to the scheduled examination without the consent of the teacher; • Providing information to another student during an examination; • Obtaining information from another student or any other person during an examination; • Using any material or equipment during an examination without consent of the instructor, or in a manner which is not authorized by the instructor; • Attempting to change answers after the examination has been submitted; • Unauthorized collaboration, or the use in whole or part of another student's work, on homework, lab reports, programming assignments, and any other course work which is completed outside of

the classroom; • Falsifying medical or other documents to petition for excused absences or extensions of deadlines; or • Any other action that, by omission or commission, compromises the integrity of the academic evaluation process. Plagiarism is a serious violation of the standards of academic honesty. Plagiarism is the appropriation of ideas, language, work, or intellectual property of another, either by intent or by negligence, without sufficient public acknowledgement and appropriate citation that the material is not one's own. It is true that every thought probably has been influenced to some degree by the thoughts and actions of others. Such influences can be thought of as affecting the ways we see things and express all thoughts.

Plagiarism, however, involves the taking and use of specific words and ideas of others without proper acknowledgement of the sources, and includes, but is not limited to, the following: •

Submitting as one's own material copied from a published source, such as Internet, print, CD-ROM, audio, video, etc.;

Submitting as one's own another person's unpublished work or examination material; • Allowing another or paying another to write or research a paper for one's own benefit; or • Purchasing, acquiring, and using for course credit a pre-written paper. The above list is in no way intended to be exhaustive. Students should be guided by the principle that it is of utmost importance to give proper recognition to all sources. To do so is both an act of personal, professional courtesy and of intellectual honesty. Any failure to do so, whether by intent or by neglect, whether by omission or commission, is an act of plagiarism. A more detailed description of this issue can be found at <http://luc.edu/english/writing.shtml#source> . In addition, a student may not submit the same paper or other work for credit in two or more classes. A student who submits the same work for credit in two or more classes will be judged guilty of academic dishonesty, and will be subject to sanctions described below. This applies even if the student is enrolled in the classes during different semesters. If a student plans to submit work with similar or overlapping content for credit in two or more classes, the student should consult with all instructors prior to submission of the work to make certain that such submission will not violate this standard.

Plagiarism or any other act of academic dishonesty will result minimally in the instructor's assigning the grade of "F" for the assignment or examination. The instructor may impose a more severe sanction, including a grade of "F" in the course. All instances of academic dishonesty must be reported by the instructor to the appropriate area head and to the office of the Dean of the School of Communication. The office of the Dean of the School of Communication may constitute a hearing board to consider the imposition of sanctions in addition to those imposed by the instructor, including a recommendation of expulsion, depending on the seriousness of the misconduct. In the case of multiple instances of academic dishonesty, the Dean's office may convene a separate hearing board to review these instances. The student has the right to appeal the decision of the hearing board to the Dean of SOC. If the student is not a member of the SOC, the dean of the college in which the student is enrolled shall be part of the process. Students have the right to appeal the decision of any hearing board and the deans of the two schools will review the appeal together. Their decision is final in all cases except expulsion. The sanction of expulsion for academic dishonesty may be imposed only by the Provost upon recommendation of the dean or deans.

Students have a right to appeal any finding of academic dishonesty against them. The procedure for such an appeal can be found at:

[http://www.luc.edu/academics/catalog/undergrad/reg\\_academicgrievance.shtml](http://www.luc.edu/academics/catalog/undergrad/reg_academicgrievance.shtml) . The School of Communication maintains a permanent record of all instances of academic dishonesty. The information in that record is confidential. However, students may be asked to sign a waiver

which releases that student's record of dishonesty as a part of the student's application to a graduate or professional school, to a potential employer, to a bar association, or to similar organizations. (The School of Communication policy is based entirely on and is consistent with the Academic Integrity Policy of the College of Arts & Sciences.)

Additional possible causes of a failing grade:

- Turn in the same work for two classes;
- Turn in a paper you have not written yourself; or
- Copy from another student or use a "cheat sheet" during an exam.
- [This one is from me] Lie about an absence.
- [This one is from me] Having a cell phone or other electronic devices accessible during a quiz/exam.

**Students with Disabilities:** Students who need special accommodations for exams or class meetings because of a learning disability will provide you with a letter documenting the type of accommodations needed. If they claim to have a physical or psychological condition that hinders their ability to perform in class, medical documentation must be provided to the Office for Students with Disabilities and that office will assess whether or not your collaboration is required. These matters are confidential.

**Late work:** All work is due at the start of class on the dates listed below. Late work will be accepted only at the instructor's discretion in the case of extreme circumstances with documentation. The instructor reserves the right to reject late work on face, make a significant reduction in points, or reduce one letter grade per day.

**Problems:** Please come see me. I can't help if I don't know there is a problem.

**Important dates:**

- The second exam 12/03 (70pts)
- Library hunt 9/22 (10 pts)
- Quizzes: There will be ten quizzes worth ten points each. The first seven are mandatory; the next three can count for extra-credit. All questions will be randomly generated. Questions will be true/false, multiple choice, and provide the correct term. **Students approved for accommodations should contact the instructor a.s.a.p. as the exams cannot be altered after the instructor uploads them.** (70pts)
- Midterm exam 10/08 (70pts)
- Affirmative case due 10/22 by 3:00 p.m. (100pts) Sakai word doc
- Negative case due 12/8 no later than 4:15 p.m. (You must deposit a **word** document deposited on Sakai. You are responsible if the file cannot be read.) (100pts)
- In class debates. 5 points per debate. You must participate in two debates. (10 pts) Dates vary.

**General behavior:** Turn off your cell phones during class. No recordings of class are permitted. Laptops may not be used. Be engaged during class. Key information about assignments will be shared during class.

**Grading:**

Grades will be posted on Sakai. Students are responsible for ensuring their work is on time and is accessible.

Scale: 100-92A 91-90A- 89-88B+ 87-82B 81-80B- 79-78C+ 77-72C 71-70C 69-68D+ 67-60D 59-0F

**Listed below is the order in which we will tackle things. I may make changes in class so keep in touch. This also serves as a ROUGH outline for class.**

- 8/25 Appendix A
- 8/27 Affirmative case discussion
- 9/1 Affirmative case discussion
- 9/3 Chapter 7
- 9/8 Chapter 6/ (Test of Source Credibility ppt)
- 9/10 Quiz 1 on Chapter 6 due/In class debate
- 9/15 Chapter 1
- 9/17 Quiz 2 on Chapter 1 due/ Chapter 2
- 9/22 Library hut due/ Quiz 3 on Chapter 2 due / Chapter 3
- 9/24 Quiz 4 on Chapter 3 due/ More chapter 3
- 9/29 More chapter 3/ In class debate
- 10/1 In class debate
- 10/6 Affirmative case discussion
- 10/8 Midterm exam
- 10/13 Chapter 8
- 10/15 Quiz 5 on Chapter 8 due/ Affirmative case discussion
- 10/20 Chapter 9
- 10/22 Affirmative case due/ Negative case discussion
- 10/27 Quiz 6 on Chapter 9 due/ Negative case discussion
- 10/29 Negative case discussion/ In class debate
- 11/3 Chapter 12

11/5 Chapter 13

11/10 Quiz 7 on Chapter 13 due/ Chapter 14

11/12 Quiz 8 on Chapter 14 due/ Negative case discussion

11/17 Negative case discussion

11/19 Chapter 15

11/24 Quiz 9 on Chapter 15 due/ Chapter 18

12/1 Quiz 10 on Chapter 18 due/ Negative case discussion

12/3 2nd Exam/Negative case discussion (I will be on Zoom if you finish early.)

12/8 Negative case due on Sakai by 3:00 p.m. CST as a word document.

I will add material and assignments during class. You will be able to find information online and via the text.

Add attachments