

University of Florida
College of Liberal Arts and Sciences
Dial Center for Written and Oral Communication

Spring 2020
SPC3513 - Argumentation

Class #: 23242 Sec: AJ20 MWF Period 6 (12:50-1:40 PM)

ROL 207

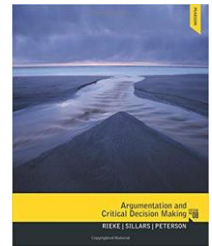
Instructor: AJ Jung, PhD ajung@ufl.edu
Office: 414 Rolfs Hall
Office hours: MWF 10:30-11:30am
Website: <http://lss.at.ufl.edu> (Canvas)

Note : This is a tentative syllabus—assignments and schedule may be altered as necessary.
This syllabus and any changes will be posted on Canvas.

Required Text:

Rieke, R. D., Sillars, M. O. and Peterson, T. R. (2012). *Argumentation & Critical Decision Making 8th Edition*. Pearson.

Other materials may be distributed or assigned in class.



Course Description: Implementation of principles and methods advocating factual claims and policy proposals. Also discusses propositional analysis, evidence as demonstration, effecting reasoning processes to become experimental for listeners and ethics in controversy. Prereq: SPC 2608 or instructor permission.

The study of argumentation and debate theory is focused primarily on critical thinking, research skills and orally expressing arguments with rhetorical and presentational power. This class will teach you to formulate those thoughts and construct arguments in favor or against a position.

Student Learning Outcomes: This course will provide you with both a theoretical understanding of and practical experience with argumentation and debate. At the completion of this class, you will have demonstrated the following:

1. An understanding of how ideas are both informed by and expressed through communication.
2. Utilize ethical principles as a communicator.
3. Utilize effective research to support or refute arguments.
4. An ability to support arguments through good reasoning and evidence.
5. Analysis of the arguments of others.

Technology: Technology should better, not worsen, both your class interactions and the experiences of your peers. You are encouraged to bring your laptop to class to take notes. You may not view/respond to emails during class. Laptops are to be used only for purposes directly related to the class content and information. If you are discovered to be using your laptop for purposes other than listed here, you will be asked to immediately leave the class and will not receive credit for the session or any activities conducted during that session.

Cell phones should be turned off when students are presenting. NO TEXTING. No phone calls should be accepted while in class except in the case of an emergency. If you *need* to be contacted, Campus Safety can locate you in this class and will come for you. If there is an unusual reason why you need your phone to be on, please speak with me before class.

Academic Integrity:

Use of someone else's ideas, words, or organization without giving them due credit is defined as plagiarism. To avoid any appearance of ethical misconduct, use follow APA style for documentation and give due credit in any written or presented work you submit. When in doubt, cite your source or ask me for clarification.

All submitted work during the course, written or oral, will be the student's personal, original work, with credit given to sources used. If a student violates this understanding, evaluations of work must be affected accordingly and if necessary, adjudication will be processed by procedures approved by the University of Florida Honor Court. Please note the full UF Honor Code and conduct policies here: <https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/1617/advising/info/student-honor-code.aspx>.

Accommodations:

Students with disabilities requesting accommodations should first register with the Disability Resource Center (352-392-8565, www.dso.ufl.edu/drc/) by providing appropriate documentation. Once registered, students will receive an accommodation letter which must be presented to the instructor when requesting accommodations. Students with disabilities should follow this procedure as early as possible in the semester in order to allow us to provide the most effective support.

Students with any accommodations should arrange a meeting with the instructor during the first week of class (and ideally before the end of drop/add) to discuss how we can work together to meet the students' needs and still adhere to the essential elements/functions of the course in regards to attendance and class participation.

Attendance Policy:

The Roll Sheet will be circulated at the beginning of each class. If you are late and miss signing in, you must come to me after class to change your absence to a tardy. Three tardies or early departures are equal to one absence. If you ask permission to leave early to study for an exam or other reason, I will always say yes, but you will still be considered 'leaving early' and receive a 1/3 absence (unless you leave a full period/hour early and in that class, it counts as one absence).

You are allowed 3 absences (3 hours) for whatever reason, so it is not necessary to explain why you missed class. However, you do not get extra sick days excused if you used the 3 hours for visiting people, vacation, studying for an exam, etc. There is no excused and unexcused. Therefore, use your 3 hours wisely. If you have university business, or are hospitalized and expect that to exceed your 3 hours of class, you must provide documentation that shows you had to use up your 3 absences and then some. Here is the point deduction for absences over 3 hours:

4th hour = automatic minus 20 points from participation grade

5th hour = minus 40 points

...and so on, with each additional absent hour worth a reduction of 20 more points

*Once all participation points are used up, points will be deducted off of the final grade.

If you are not present you are not able to participate, which will impact your participation and intellectual development.

Assignments:

All assignments must be submitted before the end of the day on dates indicated in the syllabus or in class. If you are absent it is your responsibility to get and complete the assignments by the due date to receive credit. Papers will be penalized 10% for each calendar day late. If you are late or absent on a debate day, you cannot be moved to another day. Keep a record of all your grades in order to calculate your overall grade. Use the scale provided to assess your course performance. Be certain to keep all materials for the class until your final grade has been issued, in case any questions come up.

Assignments:**Possible Points**

<i>Attendance and Participation</i>	200
<i>Current Event Responses:</i> 1-2 paragraphs. 10 responses with a max of 30 pts each. Written responses to a current event using assigned readings and class content. No due dates but a max of 1 per class meeting. Submit on Canvas	300
<i>Campus Issue Essay:</i> 3-5 pages. Argument in essay form regarding a campus issue. Typed, essay format. Submit on Canvas.	200
<i>Research for debates:</i> Typed research in preparation for debates. Submit on Canvas.	100
<i>Debates:</i> Team debates on assigned motions.	100
<i>Final Exam:</i> Cumulative. Covers material from the entire course.	100
Total points possible	1000

	B+ = 87-89 %	C+ = 77-79 %	D+ = 67-69 %
A = 93-100%	B = 83-86	C = 73-76	D = 60-66
A- = 90-92	B- = 80-82	C- = 70-72	F = under 60

A = Excellence and consistency. Mastery of subject matter and application.

B = Solid mastery of subject matter and application but some lack of excellence or consistency.

C = Adequate understanding of subject matter and application. Minimum requirements met.

D = Inadequate understanding or application of subject matter or application. Lack of consistency.

F = Failure to demonstrate comprehension or application of subject matter.

Social Contract:

Wrestling with different approaches to ideas and arguments can be challenging intellectually, socially and emotionally. Discussions during this class should allow and encourage participants to engage in the issues honestly and competently. Part of the task of this course is to equip you with the skills and confidence to respectfully dis/agree with others while maintaining an ethic of respect. This will require everyone to be prepared for discussions and to consider various perspectives with respect and concerned engagement. In class we will enact a “feminist ethic of listening” and “conscientious turn taking.” If you have not done the reading, please be selective in saying anything. If you have completed the reading, please speak – even if you are only explaining what you didn’t understand.

You voluntarily enter this contract by maintaining your enrollment in this class.

If you remain enrolled in this course you acknowledge that you have read the syllabus and have been offered an opportunity to ask questions about it. If you remain enrolled, you indicate that you understand and agree to the requirements of this course.

Tentative Schedule (may change as needed) A minimum of 40 contact hours will fulfill the requirements of this 3-hour course.

Week	Date	Reading Due	Assignments Due
1	1/6	Orientation to the course	
	1/8	Praxis: Current issue	
	1/10	Defining Argumentation - Chapter 1	
2	1/13	Praxis: Current issue	
	1/15	Appraising Argumentation - Chapter 2	
	1/17	Praxis: Current issue	
3	1/20	NO CLASS - MLK day	
	1/22	Making Sense of Argumentation - Chapter 3	Choose Campus Issues
	1/24	Praxis: Current issue	

4	1/27	The Nature of Arguments - Chapter 4	
	1/29	Praxis: Current issue	
	1/31	Analysis in Argumentation - Chapter 5	
5	2/3	Discuss Debate topics	Choose Debate Topics
	2/5	Praxis: Current issue	
	2/7	Discuss Debates	Assign Debate Dates
6	2/10	Case Building - Chapter 6	
	2/12	Praxis: Current issue	
	2/14	Support: Evidence - Chapter 7	
7	2/17	Praxis: Current issue	
	2/19	Support: Values - Chapter 8	
	2/21	Praxis: Current issue	
8	2/24	Support: Credibility - Chapter 9	
	2/26	Praxis: Current issue	
	2/28	Discuss Campus Issue Essay	Campus Issue Essay
9	3/2	Spring Break	
	3/4	Spring Break	
	3/6	Spring Break	
10	3/9	Discussion of Spring Break argumentation	
	3/11	Refutation - Chapter 10	
	3/13	Praxis: Current issue	
11	3/16	Refutation by Fallacy Claims - Chapter 11	Research check
	3/18	Fallacies continued	
	3/20	Praxis: Current issue	
12	3/23	Argumentation in Gov't & Politics - Chapter 16	
	3/25	Praxis: Current issue	
	3/27	Prep for Debates	Research due
13	3/30	Argumentation in Science - Chapter 13	
	4/1	Debates	Debates
	4/3	Argumentation in Religion - Chapter 14	
14	4/6	Debates	Debates
	4/8	Argumentation in Business - Chapter 15	
	4/10	Debates	Debates
15	4/13	Argumentation in Law - Chapter 12	
	4/15	Debates	Debates
	4/17	Wrap-up	
16	4/20	Debates	Debates
	4/22	Prep for Final Exam and Debrief	
	4/24	Reading Day	