

Phil 2100: Critical Thinking, Spring 2013
Dr. Janzen

Course Schedule:

(Changes may be made to this schedule during the semester. I will announce changes in class and post changes in Announcements on D2L.)

- Jan 16 **Topic:** Introduction to class,
- Go over important documents (Syllabus, Course Schedule, Problem-Solving Project handout, Notes)
 - Why study Critical Thinking?
 - Introductions
- Session 1 (1/23) **Topic:** Intellectual virtues
Read: *The Inquiring Mind* by John Baehr (found under Content)
- Learning Activity 1: We will complete all LA's together in class (10 points)
 - **Due in class: Introduction of you:** What intellectual virtue is important to you? Why? Explain why you are taking this class. What do you hope to learn. Also, explain how best you learn. Please write at least 1 page, double spaced (20 points)
- Session 2 (1/30) **Topic:** Creative thinking
Read: Lecture notes only (no book reading)
- **Take Quiz 1 on D2L before class** (20 points). This quiz will test you on your knowledge of the syllabus as well as the notes and reading we have completed so far (including the creative thinking notes).
 - Learning Activity 2. (10 points)
- Session 3 (2/6) **Topic:** What is an **argument** and How do I find one?
Read: Workbook Ch 1 and "Famine, Affluence, and Morality," by Peter Singer
- Learning Activity 3. (10 points)
 - Writing 1: This will be a directed writing assignment. I will ask you questions and you will write your answers. You will investigate a famous argument: "Famine, Affluence, and Morality." **We will do this in class**—but you must read the article before hand. (15 points)
- Session 4 (2/13) **Topic:** Generalizations
Read: Workbook Ch 2
- LA 4. (10 points)
 - **Due Before Class: Writing 2:** What are you going to do for your project? Here, you are going to write a draft of the Introduction of your project. Consult the Project Handout to read the description of what the Introduction should look like. Submit your completed paper to Dropbox in the correct folder or bring to class. This paper must be at least 1 page, double spaced. (15 points)

- **Take Quiz 2 before class on D2L (20 points)**

Session 5 (2/20)

Topic: Arguments from Analogy

Read: Workbook Ch 3 (Analogies) and *A Defense of Abortion* by Judith Jarvis Thomson (under Content)

- Learning Activity 5. (10 points)
- **Due before class: Writing 3:** See handout in class and under Content. Complete and submit to Dropbox or bring to class (15 points).

Session 6 (2/27)

Topic: Evaluating and Finding Reliable Sources

Read: Workbook Ch 4 (Sources)

- Learning Activity 6 (10 points)
- **Take Quiz 3 on D2L before class (20 points)**
- **Due before class: Writing 4:** Write a draft of your Creative Thinking and Analogies for your Project. Consult the Project Handout for directions. Submit your completed paper to the Dropbox in the correct folder or in class. (15 points)

Session 7 (3/6)

Topic: Arguments about Causes and Reviewing Inductive Arguments

Read: Workbook Ch 5 (Causes) and Review Ch 1-5

- Learning Activity 7 (10 points)

March 13

Spring Break—No Class

Session 8 (3/20)

Topic: Deductive Arguments

Read: Workbook Ch 6 (Deductive Logic)

- Learning Activity 8 (10 points)
- **Take Quiz 4 before class on D2L (20 points)**

Session 9 (3/27)

No new reading: Continue to work on Workbook Ch 6

- Learning Activity 9 (10 points)
- **Due before class: Writing 5:** Write a draft of your Project Research. Consult the Project Handout for directions. Submit your completed paper to the Dropbox in the correct folder or in class. (15 points)

Session 10 (4/3) **Topic:** Fallacious Arguments

Read: Workbook Appendix I (Fallacies)

- Learning Activity 10 (10 points)
- **Take Quiz 5 before class on D2L (20 points)**

- Session 11 (4/10) **Topic:** Analyzing Fallacies and how they affect civic life
Read: Article: Rhetoric of Hate
- Learning Activity 11 (10 points)
 - **Due before class: Writing 6:** Using your knowledge of arguments, construct an argument about whether you would or would not defend a hate group's right to free speech. Remember to support your answer. Submit your completed paper to the Dropbox in the correct folder or in class. (15 points)
- April 17 No Class—College Workshop Day
- Session 12 (4/24) **Topic:** Analyzing Definitions and their Usage
Read: Article: Where's the beef? And Articles pertaining to Pornography case
- Learning Activity 12.
 - **Take Quiz 6 Before class on D2L** (20 points)
- Session 13 (5/1) **Topic:** Critical Thinking and Public Life
Read: To Be Announced
- Learning Activity 13. I'll include directions for this in our course announcements.
 - **Due: Post your efolio URL on the discussion board.**
- Session 14 (5/8) **Topic:** Problem-Solving Project Portfolio and efolio Due
No new reading
- Submit your completed Portfolio in the Dropbox in the correct folder or bring a copy to class. (100 points)
 - Complete efolio (20 points)
 - Extra Credit: Create a video for your efolio of what you did for your project. (5 points)
 - LA 14
- Session 15 (5/15) **Topic:** Review for the Final Exam
- We will use this class to review for the final exam and finish up any other activities.
- Session 16 (5/22) **You must complete the Final Exam by 11:59pm**