It is essential in a democratic society that young people and adults learn how to think, learn how to make up their minds. They must learn how to think independently, and they must learn how to think together. They must come to conclusions, but at the same time they must recognize the right of other [people] to come to opposite conclusions. So far as individuals are concerned, the art of democracy is the art of thinking and discussing independently together."
--Institute for Propaganda Analysis, *The Fine Art of Propaganda*

Critical Thinking, Philosophy 2100
Spring, 2013
(January 14- May 22, 2013)
Wednesdays 6:00-8:50, BPC

Instructor and Contact Information:
Monica Greenwell Janzen (Ph.D. Philosophy, University of Minnesota)

Please feel free to contact me if you would like to make an appointment or you have any questions or concerns about the course:
mojanzen@gmail.com
Monica.Janzen@hennepintech.edu

Office Hours: Mondays, 4:30-5:30 at EPC in room G209, and by appointment.
Wednesdays, 5:30-6:00 at BPC in room D 156, and by appointment.

Communication Expectations: I try to always respond to email messages within 24 hours. If I am going to be away from email for longer than that, I will post a message on D2L letting you know when you can expect me to be back online.

Email Etiquette: Please be sure to use the correct email address when sending me a message. If it's been more than 24 hours and there is no D2L message and you have not received a response from me, you should assume that I did not receive your message. Also, please indicate in the message subject that you are enrolled in PHIL 2100

Course Description:
People do not always present the best arguments for their positions nor do they reason well. If we don't reason well, it can be difficult or impossible to solve problems that come up in our daily lives. In this class, we will focus on techniques to discriminate between good and bad arguments and good and bad reasoning. We will gain a general introduction to both inductive and deductive arguments, learn about fallacies, and become familiar with different techniques to creatively solve problems.

As noted in the quote above from the Institute for Propaganda Analysis, critical thinking and careful discernment of information is crucial for democracy and for living good lives, and ultimately, that should be our objective.

Course Objectives
- Understand the logical notion of "argument"
- Understand and explain the difference between inductive and deductive arguments
- Reliably solve lateral thinking problems
- Distinguish between good and bad arguments

- Correctly formalize inductive and deductive arguments from passages of text
- Reliably solve analogy problems
- Reliably solve deductive logic problems
- Analyze inductive and deductive arguments
- Develop skills to creatively solve problems

Linkages to HTC Learner Outcomes and Values

As a college, HTC has adopted four outcomes that every graduate will demonstrate proficiency in prior to graduation as well as six learner values that students will develop in their time at HTC. Below is a list of the HTC Learner Outcomes and Values. The ones in **bold** will specifically be addressed in this course.

HTC Learner Outcomes:

- **Oral and Written Communication**
- **Critical Thinking and Problem Solving**
- Technological Literacy
- Mathematical and Scientific Reasoning

HTC Learner Values:

- Professionalism
- Cultural and Global Awareness
- Safety and Environmental Responsibility
- Leadership and Self-Direction
- **Creativity and Innovation**
- Ethical and Social Responsibility

Course Instruction Schedule
- This course will meet each Wednesday from 6:00-8:50 at BPC in room **XXXX**.
- **D2L Website**: https://hennepintech.ims.mnscu.edu/
- This link will allow you access to the login page of D2L, Hennepin Technical College's tool for online resources for classes. You will then select Critical Thinking.
- Class officially begins on January 14th and ends on May 22, 2012

Texts:
A Workbook for Arguments by David R. Morrow and Anthony Weston. 2011, Hackett Publishing. (ISBN: 978-1-60384-549-6)
This book is available at the HTC bookstore at both campuses. If you buy it elsewhere, be sure to purchase the correct edition. Also, you can check out this book at the HTC libraries for 4 hours at a time.

Grading and Course Requirements
Grading Summary:

1. Learning Activities: 120 points
   > (14 Learning Activities at 10 points/ activity, drop your 2 lowest LAs)
2. Quizzes: 100 points
   > (6 quizzes at 20 points/ quiz, drop your lowest quiz)
3. Short Writing: 90 points
   > (6 writing assignments at 15 points/ short paper)

4. Project: 100 points
5. Project efolio: 20 points
6. Exam: 100 points
7. Intro. of yourself: 15 points

        Total Points: 545

A   545-490 points   100- 90%
B   489-436 points   89- 80%
C   435-381 points   79-70%
D   380-327points   69-60%
F   326 points and less 59% and below

**I do not round up. Therefore, if you earn 489 points, you will receive a B.
Letter grades of A, B, C, D or F will be used in this course as an evaluation of student performance.
A - performance greatly exceeds course requirements
 B - performance surpasses course requirements
C - performance meets course requirements
D - performance is somewhat below course requirements
F - performance is unsatisfactory

Further Explanation of Class Requirements:

1. **Learning Activities**: Learning Activities (LA's) will give you a chance to practice what we have learned and they will be completed in class. I will grade LA's based on completeness not correctness. This means you will NOT be penalized for getting something wrong. But, you will be penalized for leaving a part of the assignment undone. **You will be given an opportunity to do 14 LA's, but I will only grade 12 of them. This means you may miss two assignments, or, if you turn in LA's each week, I will drop your 2 lowest grades.** Use your dropped LA's wisely. LA's account for about 20% of your final grade. These points are easily made if you put effort into the course and come to class.

2. **Quizzes**: We will have timed quizzes nearly every two weeks (6 total). However, I will drop your lowest quiz grade. **This means, you may miss one quiz for whatever reason with no penalty. Or, you can complete all 6 quizzes and I will drop your lowest grade.** Use your one dropped quiz wisely. Generally, quizzes will consist of 10 questions and you will have 15 minutes to complete each quiz. Quizzes will mainly be multiple choice or true/false questions. Quizzes will cover material from the previous weeks and any material due that week. Quizzes will be worth approximately 20% of your final grade. Please see your Course Schedule below for exact due dates. You will find these under the Quiz section on D2L.

3. **Writing**: Short writing assignments are a chance to think more deeply about topics we are covering in class and for you to draft your portfolio for your project. The topics and due dates are in your Course Schedule. Writing should be approximately one page double spaced (12 point font, 1 inch margins) and submitted in the Dropbox in the correct folder in D2L**.**

4. **Problem-Solving Project**: In this class, we will learn how to creatively solve problems. You will be asked to identify a problem in your own life or community and work to find and implement a solution to this problem. You will need to pick a very concrete, short, doable project to complete it over the semester. At the end of the course, you will turn in a 5 page portfolio. You will have a chance to write drafts of some of the portfolio for your short writing assignments. You will find more detailed instructions on a separate handout under Content in D2L.

5. **Exam**: You will have a timed final exam that will cover all the material we have learned in class throughout the semester. We will have a review week to prepare for the exam. At that time, I will give you more details about the exam. The Exam will be in the Quiz section of D2L. It will be mainly multiple choice and true/false questions.

6. **Lectures and Attendance:** Each class, we will meet to discuss the topics we are learning about. I expect you to attend class each week. Of course, I recognize that things happen in our lives and sometimes we may have to miss class. Because of this, I have built in allowances for you to miss one or two classes without penalty. However, if you can't attend class regularly, your grade will suffer

7. **Late Assignments:** Late work is generally not accepted without prior approval of the instructor and only in rare circumstances. If you have a late paper, you must present me with an extremely good argument explaining why I should accept your paper late. An extremely good argument will be one that uses the material from the course to demonstrate that late assignments, papers or make-up exams should be offered and the instructor will determine if said argument is sufficient for this purpose. You are responsible for all activities of this course per the syllabus located in the Content area of D2L.

8. **My Role as Instructor:** My role as an instructor is still to provide you an opportunity to learn the material. If you do not understand something or are confused, please let me know. I will do my best to explain things clearly and let you know what is expected of you. I want you to succeed in this course and I am available to help you! We will work together to help you master the material. Be sure to advocate for yourself. In my experience, students who put in effort, turn in assignments, and ask questions when they are confused can succeed in this class.

Other Important Items

Writing
When you write anything for this class, be sure to use correct grammar and write in complete sentences. Please do not use "texting" language in an academic setting. When you write a paper, be sure that it is double spaced and 12 point font with 1 inch margins. Also, write your name and the class on the top of the paper, but no other information is necessary.

Class Expectations of Students
Student responsibilities include:
- Regular communication with instructor about concerns about the class

- Regularly checking e-mail (2-3 times a week) and the class D2L site
- Working cooperatively with other students
- Positive attitude with students, faculty and staff

Last Day of Attendance (LDA) Reporting
From the HTC Catalog: "Attendance is required for students receiving financial aid. Financial aid recipients who do not attend their courses will have an adjustment made to their aid. The aid adjustment could result in a balance due to the college and a late charge. In some cases, there may not be a change in the aid because the student's new credit level is still within the award's credit range. Students who have received an award letter and do not plan on attending must drop their courses before the fifth (5th) day of the term."
- As an instructor, I am required to report if a student never attends class or stops attending class.
- If at any point in the semester you have not contacted me or participated in a class in **two weeks**, I will enter an LDA which permanently drops you from the class for the semester.

Last Date to withdraw from a course
There is a 5 day free add/drop period (first 5 days of the semester, NOT 5 days from the course start date). In order to receive a full tuition refund you must drop during this 5 day period. Students may drop a course at any time during the semester except during the last ten school days of the semester, excluding Saturdays. If a course has concluded, a drop is no longer possible.
Incomplete Policy Hennepin Technical College offers an "Incomplete" grade at the discretion of the instructor. However, if you are considering this option, you must discuss it with your instructor first; otherwise, a student will receive the grade they have earned up to the point they stopped doing the work.

Student Handbook and Calendar
The Student Handbook is available at the front reception areas or in front of the bookstore. It contains information you need to know about HTC, such as transferring credits, test –outs, tuition and fees, refunds, determining your GPA, emergency closing information and the school calendar.

Academic Integrity
Academic dishonesty is regarded as a serious offense by all members of our academic community. It tarnishes the reputation of HTC we well as discredits the accomplishments of students. HTC is committed to providing its students every possible opportunity to develop their skills, but learning can only take place in an environment of trust, honesty, and fairness. All faculty, staff, and students are expected to participate in maintaining the highest level of academic integrity. To this end,
1. Students are expected to do their own work unless advised that collaboration is acceptable.
2. Anytime you quote directly from another source or paraphrase substantially, you must cite the source you used. Failure to use proper citation procedure is considered plagiarism. Plagiarism will result in a grade of "0" if it is flagrant and/or deliberate. Copying from another person's paper or test is academic dishonesty and will result in a grade of "0".
3. Plagiarism and cheating are both serious offenses and may be punished by failure on exam, paper or project; reduction in final grade, and/or failure in course. Disciplinary sanctions may be forthcoming in accordance with the college misconduct policy. For more information refer to the "Student Conduct" policy in the Student Handbook (pp. 68-9).
4. For information about how to cite sources correctly, please check these resources:
http://www2.liu.edu/cwis/cwp/library/workshop/citapa.htm or
http://www2.liu.edu/cwis/cwp/library/workshop/citmla.htm

Professionalism

An expectation for this class is that each student will promote and exhibit personal, professional and academic ethics. Faculty has the authority to remove disruptive students from the classroom with re-admittance at the discretion of the instructor. The following characteristics will be assessed:

- Demonstrate respect for others
- Accept responsibility for your own actions
- Display honesty and integrity
- Understand and apply the ethical standards consistent with professional work environment

Respect

Everyone in class should show respect for fellow classmates, the instructor and the facilities. If a student is disrespectful, s/he will be asked to leave the classroom, and only the instructor can readmit the student. Maintaining a respectful environment includes:

1. Avoiding put downs, insults or public displays of hostility to anyone in the classroom.

2. Adhering to the College's policy on Harassment/Discrimination/Violence.

3. Contributing to a comfortable, supportive learning environment for faculty, students, staff and administrators.

4. Respecting the equipment and facilities of HTC by picking up or removing trash.

5. Respecting furniture by straightening chairs, putting paper in the recycling bin, and turning off all equipment in the room.

Academic Misconduct - other academically dishonest acts such as tampering with grades, taking part in obtaining or distributing any part of an assessment, or selling or buying products such as papers, research, projects or other artifacts that document achievement of learning outcomes.

Academic Difficulty

If you need assistance with your coursework, you have several options:

1. Make an appointment to meet with me. I have office hours each week from 4-5:00 in room E152 at EP. Also, I would be happy to make an appointment to meet with you.
2. Look for help from tutors in the LRC (Learning Resource Center).
3. If you are a student with a major in another area, find out who your faculty advisor is and speak with them about your situation. The faculty advisors are the content and award experts and will help guide you to graduation.

Special Accommodations

Hennepin Technical College values diversity in our college community and is committed to ensuring equal access and opportunity to qualified students with physical, learning, or psychological disabilities. The Disability Services Office assists students, and HTC faculty and staff, to provide access to our programs, services and activities.

ADA Statement

I wish to fully include persons with disabilities in this course. Please let me know if you need any special accommodations in the curriculum, instruction, or assessments of this course to enable you to fully participate. I will maintain the confidentiality of the information you share with me. Please access the HTC Support Services Office for assistance.

Support Services
If you have academic concerns, talk to an advisor or your instructor. For personal concerns, contact a counselor.

> ***Counseling services*** include career information, determination of major, selection of first semester courses, Career Development Services, referral to the Disability Services Coordinator, and personal counseling. For more information, contact the Counseling Office in Brooklyn Park at 763.488.2579 or in Eden Prairie at 952.995.1450.

> ***The Learning Resources Center*** offers students of Hennepin Technical College a positive learning environment for all students in technical college programs. If you wish free assistance, make an appointment with a tutor in the Learning Resource Center; telephone 763.488.2451.

Technology/Internet
E-Mail

Students are encouraged to activate their e-mail account through Microsoft Live.   This is the official college communication tool. You are expected to check e-mail every few days and D2L NEWS. The new e-mail format is flastname00X@My.HennepinTech.edu and you will have access to 25 GB of free online storage with Live SkyDrive plus Web Apps as companions to Word, Excel, Powerpoint and One Note.

To activate your **myHennepinTech** email account, click on the **myHennepinTech** tab in the upper right hand corner of the HTC website and follow the instructions. If you have questions about your **myHennepinTech** account, please visit the Student Computer Lab at either campus.

Basic computer knowledge is required to use the computer competently for this class. Here are some guidelines for use of HTC computers.
Appropriate use of the computer includes:
- Use for academic applications and support
- Educational enrichment

If the guidelines are not followed, the student will be warned the first time. If inappropriate use continues, the student must relinquish his/her computer privileges for the year and is subject to the provisions of the HTC Student Code of Conduct.

Inappropriate use of the computer includes, but is not limited to,
- Using the computer for other than academic applications
- Sending or displaying offensive messages or pictures
- Using the network for commercial purposes
- Intentionally trying to damage databases or networks
- Violating copyright or license agreements

Computer Lab Restrictions
Only registered students are allowed in the labs (no friends, family members, etc.)

Star Alert

- Hennepin Technical College has established an Emergency Notification system as part of our All Hazards planning.
- This College system is called **Star Alert™** and transmits emergency notification messages to the subscriber's cell phone and/or email system.
- This system uses real-time communications, and has optional enrollment.

http://www.hennepintech.edu/current/star-alert.htm

Library/IMC
Check out the HTC library online at http://www.hennepintech.edu/current/library/index.asp
Libraries with staff are available on both campuses. Take the HTC Library Tour (video)

Netiquette

Each member of our cyber community should expect courtesy and respect from all other members. Because it's a new and different kind of class for some, we may not realize it when we are rude or inconsiderate. There are some dos and don'ts of courteous online behavior, called "netiquette."

1. Remember the human.
2. Adhere to the same standards of behavior online that you follow in real life.
3. Know where you are in cyberspace. (Adjust your behavior to "lurk before you leap.")
4. Respect other people's time and bandwidth.
5. Make yourself look good online.
6. Share expert knowledge.
7. Help keep flame wars under control.
8. Respect other people's privacy.
9. Don't abuse your power.
10. Be forgiving of other people's mistakes.

The "Core Rules of Netiquette" quoted from NETIQUETTE by Virginia Shea as presented at
http://www.albion.com/netiquette . Test your knowledge by completing the 10 questions.