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| Instructor: Dr. Hall  Critical Thinking (CRIT 1101)  CRNs 29077/29933  Meeting Times:   * Section 1: T/TH 11:15 AM - 12:30 PM * Section 6: T/TH 3:35-4:50   Office: Arts & Sciences 105K  Office Hours:   * In-Person: T/TH 9:00-9:45, 12:45-2 * Online: Wednesday 9-11 * Call or text anytime via Teams | Course ID: CRIT 1101  Email: [AlexanderHall@Clayton.edu](mailto:AlexanderHall@Clayton.edu)  Web: <https://facultyprofiles.clayton.edu/faculty/ahall>  Telephone: (678) 466-4846  Class Mailing Lists:   * Section 1: [CRIT1101-1Spring25@groups.clayton.edu](mailto:CRIT1101-1Spring25@groups.clayton.edu) * Section 6: CRIT1101-6Spring25@groups.clayton.edu |

* **Materials/Texts:** All materials will be made available on D2L.
* **Health and Safety Statement:** Clayton State University is commi2ed to providing and promo6ng a healthy and safe learning environment. Anyone who is feeling ill should refrain from coming to campus and should determine if a visit to a physician or clinic is necessary. Individuals on campus who choose to wear a face mask are free to do so at any time.
* **Individuals with disabilities:** Individuals with disabilities who need to request accommodations should contact the Disability Resource Center, Edgewater Hall, Suite 255; 678-466-5445; [DisabilityResourceCenter@clayton.edu](mailto:DisabilityResourceCenter@clayton.edu)
* **Course Description:** A course focusing on skills essential to effective critical thinking in both academic and general use. The study of important common components (issue, method, evidence, conclusion) provides a basis for the construction, analysis, and evaluation of arguments in a variety of contexts. The course also addresses fundamental elements of informal logic (e.g., induction, deduction, fallacy-avoidance) and of elementary formal logic (e.g., tests for validity) as they inform good reasoning in any context, from everyday decision-making to academic argumentation.
* **Prerequisites and Co-requisites**: Learning Support students who are required to take ENGL 0099 and/or READ 0099 must exit the requirement(s) before they can enroll in this course.
* **This is a Core IMPACTS course that is part of the Institutional Priorities area:** Core IMPACTS refers to the core curriculum, which provides students with essential knowledge in foundational academic areas. This course will help master course content, and support students’ broad academic and career goals. This course should direct students toward a broad Orienting Question:
  + How does my institution help me to navigate the world?
  + Completion of this course should enable students to meet the following Learning Outcome: Students will demonstrate the ability to think critically and solve problems related to academic priorities at their institution.
  + Course content, activities and exercises in this course should help students develop the following Career-Ready Competencies:
    - Critical Thinking
    - Teamwork
    - Time Management
* **Computer Requirement:** Each CSU student is required to have “on demand access” throughout the semester to “an appropriate computing device” that meets faculty-approved hardware and software requirements for the student's academic program. Students will be required to sign a statement attesting to such access. For further information on CSU's Computer Devices Policy, see the [Academic Catalog and Student Handbook](https://catalog.clayton.edu/rules-regulations/computer-devices/).
* **Computer Skill Prerequisites:**
  + Able to use the WindowsTM operating system
  + Able to use Microsoft WordTM word processing
  + Able to send and receive email using OutlookTM
  + Use only your CSU email account or the email system included in D2L to communicate academic information to your instructor.
  + Able to access and use D2L
  + Able to attach and retrieve attached files via email
  + Able to use Web browser
* **Computer Use in This Course:** A computer with secure, reliable and preferably high-speed internet connections will be required to access course materials, submit assignments and take assessments in Brightspace Desire2Learn (D2L). Computers also will be required to communicate with your instructor via email and participate in discussions in Microsoft Teams.
* **Brightspace Desire2Learn (Online Classroom) and Microsoft Teams:**
  + On-line activity will take place in Brightspace Desire2Learn (D2L), the virtual classroom for the course, and in Microsoft Teams.
  + Posting of your work in D2L is a course requirement.
  + You can gain access to D2L, by signing on to the SWAN portal. New students, or those who would like a refresh on Brightspace
  + (D2L) features, can review the D2L Video Tutorials - For Students
  + For instructions on joining a Microsoft Teams meeting, see this brief introduction
  + If you experience any difficulties in Desire2Learn or Microsoft Teams, please email or call The HUB at TheHub@clayton.edu or(678) 466-HELP. You will need to provide the date and time of the problem, your SWAN username, the name of the course thatyou are attempting to access or Teams meeting, and your instructor's name.
* **Program Learning Outcomes:**
  + **General Education Outcomes:** The Clayton State University Core Curriculum outcomes (see Area B1) are located in theGraduation Requirements section of the Academic Catalog and Student Handbook.
  + **Course Learning Outcomes:**
    - To familiarize students with Critical Thinking
    - To enhance communication skills, oral and written
    - To teach analysis of complex concepts, ideas, definitions and arguments
* **Midterm Progress Report:** The mid-term grade in this course, which will be issued by March 4, reflects approximately 15% of the entire course grade. Based on this grade, students may choose to withdraw from the course and receive a grade of "W." Students pursuing this option must fill out an official withdrawal form, available in the Office of the Registrar, by October 4. Instructions for withdrawing are provided here: <https://www.clayton.edu/registrar/withdrawal>. The last day to withdraw without academic accountability is Friday March 7, 2025.
* **Last Day to Withdraw with WF:** May 5, 2025.
* **Plagiarism Detection Software:** Students agree that by taking this course all required papers may be subject to submission for textual similarity review to Turnitin.com for the detection of plagiarism. All submitted papers will be included as source documents in the Turnitin.com reference database solely for the purpose of detecting plagiarism of such papers. You should submit your papers in such a way that no identifying information about you is included.
* **Writing Assistance/Writers’ Studio:** The goal of the Writers’ Studio is to give rise to better writers, not just to better writing. People who love to write, people who strugglemightily with it, and people who fall anywhere else on the spectrum can find a place at The Writers’ Studio – a place for students tocome for writing guidance and feedback.
  + Contact Information:

Location: Room 224 in the Arts and Sciences Building

Phone: 678-466-4728

Email: [writers@clayton.edu](mailto:writers@clayton.edu)

Website: <https://www.clayton.edu/arts-sciences/departments/english/writers-studio/>

Booking: <https://outlook.office365.com/book/TheWritersStudio@ClaytonStateUniversity.onmicrosoft.com/?ae=true&login_hint>

* + *In-person consultations:* You will feel immediately welcome in this space. Gather around a table to discuss your writing issues; cozy up on a comfortable chair. A peer writing consultant who has been trained in writing response will talk with you one-on-one at any stage of your writing, about any aspect of it, regarding any subject you’re addressing. Sessions are available for either 30 or 60 minutes.
  + *Email consultations:* are two-hour sessions where writers submit their work for feedback from their CSU email account. Writers submit both a draft of their work and the assignment description. In turn, writing consultants provide revision-based comments in a feedback letter.
  + *Virtual consultations:* are virtual sessions where writers and consultants meet on Microsoft Teams. Writers share their work on Microsoft Teams and review the work together with consultants through Microsoft Word Online or another software that is appropriate for the assignment format. Sessions are available for either 30 or 60 minutes.
  + *In-person and virtual drop-ins:* are welcome. Scheduling is available through Microsoft Bookings: <https://csuloch.link/377CQS2>.
  + *How to Schedule a Writing Consultation:*

1. To schedule, you may email us at [writers@clayton.edu](mailto:writers@clayton.edu) or click on our Bookings page.

2. Choose the type of service you'd like (in-person or online).

3. Choose your preferred time.

4. You will be contacted to confirm your appointment.

* **Center for Academic Success:** The Center for Academic Success (CAS) provides personalized one-on-one peer and professional staff tutoring in over 100 core subjects. The Center is located in Edgewater Hall Suite 276. The CAS also offers moderated study groups, informal study sessions, a comfortable study environment, a student study lounge, and it’s all free! Use the CAS if you need help; become a tutor if you don’t. For more information you can e-mail the center at [thecas@clayton.edu](mailto:thecas@clayton.edu).
* **Personal/Emotional Concerns:** A range of issues can cause barriers to learning, such as stress, strained relationships, feeling down, difficulty concentrating, and lack of motivation. During the semester, if you find that life stressors are interfering with your academic or personal success, consider contacting Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS.) All students are eligible for counseling services at no charge. CAPS is located in Edgewater Hall, Room 245. You can reach them by phone at 678-466-5406 or email to request an appointment at [counseling@clayton.edu](mailto:counseling@clayton.edu). Students can reach the 24/7 Support Line by calling 833-855-0084.
* **Weapons on Campus:** Clayton State University is committed to providing a safe environment for our students, faculty, staff, and visitors. Information on laws and policies regulating weapons on campus are available at <https://www.clayton.edu/public-safety/safety-and-security/campus-carry>.
* **COVID-19 Course Delivery Impacts Statement:** Clayton State University reserves the right to move this course to remote instruction at any time during the semester due to potential impacts of COVID-19. If this occurs, students will be expected to access all course materials and submit their assignments using D2L (or other approved course delivery platform) and/or Microsoft Teams using their own internet and Wi-Fi services.

**Policies**

* **General Policy:** Students must abide by policies in:
  + The Clayton State University Student Handbook: <https://catalog.clayton.edu/student-handbook/student-policies/>
  + The Basic Student Responsibilities: <https://catalog.clayton.edu/rules-regulations/basic-student-responsibilities/>
  + The Code of Conduct: <https://catalog.clayton.edu/student-handbook/student-policies/code-conduct/>
* **University Attendance Policy:** Students are expected to attend and participate in every class meeting. Instructors establish specific policies relating to absences in their courses and communicate these policies to the students through the course syllabi. Individual instructors, based upon the nature of the course, determine what effect excused and unexcused absences have in determining grades and upon students’ ability to remain enrolled in their courses. The University reserves the right to determine that excessive absences, whether justified or not, are sufficient cause for institutional withdrawals or failing grades.
* **Course Attendance Policy:** Students are expected to attend class and are wholly responsible for anything covered on the day of their absence. If you miss a class, it is recommended that you contact the instructor who can go over with you what you missed. Missed groupwork cannot be made up and will be excused only on receipt of documentation of an emergency that prevented attendance.
* **Late Work:** Without documentation of the emergency that prevented on-time submission, there is a 20% penalty per day late and work submitted late on the day that it is due will receive a 10% penalty. Make-up exams and original exams may vary in content from the exam that was given on the date that is scheduled on the syllabus.
* **No Show Deadline:** It is imperative that students have a successful start of each semester by attending class during the first week and no later than the second week of the semester. A registered student who has not submitted an assignment, quiz, or discussion post in D2L (or textbook resource) or attended a face-to-face class on campus by 5 pm, January 23, 2025 will be reported a “no show.” The consequences of being reported as a no show are significant: the student will be dropped from the class and may suffer significant financial hardship.
* **Academic Honesty:** As members of the academic community, students are expected to recognize and uphold standards of

intellectual and academic integrity. The university assumes as a basic and minimum standard of conduct

in academic matters that students be honest and that they submit for credit only the products of their

own efforts. Both the ideals of scholarship and the need for fairness require that all dishonest work be

rejected as a basis for academic credit. They also require that students refrain from any and all forms of

dishonorable or unethical conduct related to their academic work. The policy represents a core value of the university and all members of the university community are responsible for abiding by its tenets. Lack of knowledge of this policy is not an acceptable defense to any charge of academic dishonesty. All members of the academic community — students, faculty, and staff — are expected to report violations of these standards of academic conduct to the appropriate authorities. The procedures for such reporting are on file in the offices of the deans of each college, the office of the Dean of Students, and the Office of the Provost. In an effort to foster an environment of academic integrity and to prevent academic dishonesty, students are expected to discuss with faculty the expectations regarding course assignments and standards of conduct. Students are encouraged to discuss freely with faculty, academic advisers, and other members of the university community any questions pertaining to the provisions of this policy. In addition, students are encouraged to avail themselves of programs in establishing personal standards and ethics offered through the University’s Counseling Center. <https://catalog.clayton.edu/student-handbook/student-policies/academic-honesty/>.

* **AI Generated Text:** Generative AI tools, such as ChatGPT and Grammarly, are designed to assist in creating and analyzing text, code, video, audio, and other multimedia. Use of these resources in your coursework comes with benefits and risks. In this course, the rules for AI usage are listed below. Any unapproved use within the course might be considered a breach of academic honesty. While exercising responsible and ethical engagement with AI is a skill you may hone over time, your unique human insights, critical thinking, and creative contributions remain pivotal to your learning experiences and success. You are not allowed to use generative AI tools like ChatGPT or Grammarly for any work in this course, including both graded and ungraded work. Prohibited AI usage includes idea or text generation, writing or revising your work, development of media assets, or data analysis and presentation.
* **Disruption of the Learning Environment:** Behavior which disrupts the teaching-learning process during class activities will not be tolerated. While a variety of behaviors can be disruptive in a classroom setting, more serious examples include belligerent, abusive, profane, and/or threatening behavior. A student who fails to respond to reasonable faculty direction regarding classroom behavior and/or behavior while participating in classroom activities may be dismissed from class. A student who is dismissed is entitled to due process and will be afforded such rights as soon as possible following dismissal. If found in violation, a student may be administratively withdrawn and may receive a grade of WF. More detailed descriptions of examples of disruptive behavior are provided in the Academic Conduct Regulations of the Academic Catalog and Student Handbook: <https://catalog.clayton.edu/student-handbook/student-policies/code-conduct/academic-conduct/>.

**Grading – Guidelines for each category of assignment are posted on D2L**

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| **Scale** |  | **Assignments** | **Value** | **Date Due** |
| A = 90-100 | Homework | 30% | Check D2L for dates. |
| B = 80-89 | Exam 1 | 10% |  |
| C = 70-79 | Exam 2 | 10% |  |
| D = 69-70 | Exam 3 | 10% |  |
| F = 0-59 | Exam 4 | 10% |  |
|  | Exam 5 | 10% | * Section 1: May 8 at 10:15 AM * Section 6: May 6 at 2:45 PM |
| Small Group Work | 10% | * See D2L for details. |
| Paper | 10% | * See D2L for details. |

**Reading Assignments and Important Dates**

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| **Meetings** | **Materials** | **Key Dates** |
| Jan 14/16 | * Chapter 1, Section I | * Drop/Add Ends (1/16) |
| Jan 21/23 | * Chapter 1, Section II | * No Show Deadline (1/23) |
| Jan 28/30 | * Chapter 1, Sections III-IV |  |
| Feb 4/6 | * Chapter 3, Section I | * Exam 1 (2/4) |
| Feb 11/13 | * Chapter 3, Section II |  |
| Feb 18/20 | * Chapter 3, Sections III-IV |  |
| Feb 25/27 | * Chapter 3, Sections V-VII |  |
| March 4/6 | * Chapter 4, Section I | * Exam 2 (3/4) * Midterm Grades Due (3/4) * Last Day to Withdraw with W (3/7) |
| March 11/13 |  | * Spring Break: No Class |
| March 18/20 | * Chapter 4, Sections II-III |  |
| March 25/27 | * Chapter 4, Section IV |  |
| April 1/3 | * Chapter 7, Sections I-II | * Exam 3 (4/1) |
| April 8/10 | * Chapter 7, Sections III-IV |  |
| April 15/17 | * Chapter 7, Section V | * Exam 4 (4/17) |
| April 22/24 | * Chapter 5, Sections I-II | * Paper Due (4/24) |
| April 29/May 1 | * Chapter 5, Section III |  |
| May 2-8 |  | * Exam 5   + Section 1: 11:15 AM (5/8)   + Section 6: 2:45 PM (5/6) |