

**BOROUGH OF MANHATTAN COMMUNITY COLLEGE**  
City University of New York

**Academic Literacy & Linguistics Department**

**Spring 2024**

**CRT 100**

**Instructor:** Prof. Barnes

Email: ebarnes@bmcc.cuny.edu

Phone: 212-220-800 ext. 1415

Office Hours:

Tu 1:00PM – 3:00PM in N482 and via Zoom

We 9:00am – 10:00am via Zoom

**CRT 100- 053W**

Class Hours: 3

Credits: 3

Days/Times: Asynchronous

**This class is being hosted on the BMCC OpenLab.** Please either join the class or request membership, whichever option is available to you here:

<https://openlab.bmcc.cuny.edu/groups/critical-thinking-crt-100-053w-spring-2024-online/>

**Zoom Office Hours:** To attend office hours via Zoom, please click the following link on the days/times listed above. You can also copy and paste the link to your browser. The link to office hours is also posted on our course site on the OpenLab:

<https://bmcc-cuny.zoom.us/j/87409417579?pwd=QzNkUllxdzJrTi93UFUvZGI3TnZYdz09>

Meeting ID: 874 0941 7579

Passcode: 780576

**Course Description:**

This course is designed to develop the mind and help sharpen students' ability to think clearly, logically, thoroughly, critically, and effectively. Through substantive readings, structured writing assignments and ongoing discussions, students will learn to use analytical skills in reading, writing, oral presentations, researching, and listening. Students will examine concrete examples from their own experience and readings and contemporary issues in the media to learn how to analyze issues, solve problems, and make informed decisions in their academic, professional, and personal lives.

**What makes this course a Writing Intensive Course?**

This is a Writing Intensive course that fulfills the WI requirement for graduation. Writing intensive courses pay special attention to developing critical reading, writing, and analytic skills to prepare students for college-level coursework in general. Both informal and formal writing will be designed to maximize your understanding of the subject matter. Formal writing assignments, at least 10-12 pages total, account for a significant portion of your grade and will include opportunities for revision.

**Mode of Instruction:**

ASYNCHRONOUS

There are no live sessions. All course content will be completed ASYNCHRONOUSLY and there will not be any live sessions. All content, assignments, instruction, feedback, lectures, and exams will be posted online and completed on students' own schedule.

**Basic Skills:**

Proficiency index above 55, and/or ACR94/ESL 94

**Student Learning Outcomes:**

<b>CRT 100 Student Learning Outcomes</b>	<b>Samples of Measurements</b>
Demonstrate ability to think clearly, logically, thoroughly, critically, and effectively.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Short informal writing assignments</li> <li>• Formal essay graded with rubric</li> <li>• Group discussion</li> <li>• Final exam or project</li> </ul>
Use analytical skills in reading, writing, oral presentations, researching, and listening.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Oral presentations graded with rubric</li> <li>• Final exam or project</li> <li>• Class debates/discussion graded with rubric</li> <li>• Formal written projects (essays, min-research projects) graded with rubric</li> </ul>
Demonstrate ability to solve problems and make mindful decisions in academic, personal, and professional situations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Analysis of case studies graded with rubrics</li> <li>• Journal entries/written work focusing on problem-solving</li> </ul>
Analyze arguments critically and present a coherent, persuasive argument in writing and in oral presentations (as individuals and in groups).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Case studies</li> <li>• Quizzes</li> <li>• Final exam</li> </ul>
Recognize the credibility, appropriateness, and reliability of sources and biases, e.g., stereotypes and fallacies in thinking.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Critical analysis of media, graded per guidelines outlined in the assignment</li> </ul>
Read, summarize, and evaluate a variety of texts and media	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Critical analysis of media, graded per guidelines outlined in assignment</li> </ul>

<b>General Education Learning Outcomes</b>	<b>Samples of Measurements</b>
<b>Communication skills-</b> Students will be able to write, read, listen and speak critically and effectively.	Argumentative and reflective writing and speech
<b>Values-</b> Students will be able to make informed choices based on an understanding of personal values, human diversity, multicultural awareness and social responsibility.	Reading and analysis of critical thinking theory based on classical schools of thought

<b>WI Course Student Learning Outcomes</b>	<b>Measurements (means of assessment for student learning outcomes listed in first column)</b>
Upon successful completion of this course,	
1. Students will complete at least 10-12 pages of formal writing assignments that have gone through the revision process.	Argument Essay, Summary and Response, Final Reflection, Annotated Bibliography
2. Students will generate pieces of informal writing in response to a variety of prompts, concepts, situations or reading assignments.	Discussion board posts, quizzes, self-reflections

**Required Text(s):** There are no required textbooks for this course. Materials will be provided for students on the BMCC OpenLab and on Blackboard. This is an Open Educational Resource (OER) and Zero Textbook Cost (ZTC) course.

**Use of Technology:**

This is an online course, hosted on BMCC OpenLab. Instructions for joining the course on the OL will be emailed to you and posted on Blackboard. While the course site is on the OpenLab, we will use Blackboard for quizzes, essay submission, several course readings and the gradebook. Be sure to log into our course site on the OpenLab at least 3 times per week to check for updates and to keep up with the coursework. I also encourage you to visit me during my office hours on Zoom.

**Evaluation & Requirements of Students:**

Reflection 1	1%
Group projects	10%
Conversation (select 7 out of 8)	15%
Quizzes	10%
Summary and Response (1 page)	4%
Annotated Bibliography (1 page)	5%
Community Project	10%
Midterm Check-In	5%
Outline & Draft + Peer Review	10%
Argument Project	15%
Argument Project Presentation	5%
Final Reflection	10%
<b>Total:</b>	<b>100%</b>

Outline of Topics

All course assignments are due by 11:59pm at the end of each weekly unit. Most of our weeks end on a **Thursday**, with 1 exception (May 15).

<b>Week #</b>	<b>Topic and what to submit</b>	<b>Schedule</b>
Week 1	<b>Introductions</b> Intro on Flip, Conversation 1, Quiz 1, Reflection 1	Th Jan 25 – Th Feb 1
Week 2	<b>Language</b> Conversation 2, Quiz 2	Th Feb 1 – Th Feb 8
Week 3	<b>Bias</b> Conversation 3, Quiz 3	Th Feb 8 – Th Feb 15
Week 4	<b>Claims, Knowledge and Evidence</b> Conversation 4, Quiz 4	Th Feb 15 – Th Feb 22
Week 5	<b>Arguments</b> Conversation 5	Th Feb 22 – Th Feb 29
Week 6	<b>Problem-solving</b> Conversation 6 on Flip	Th Feb 29 – Th March 7
Week 7	<b>Midterm Time</b> Exam, Check-In	Th March 7 – Th March 14
Week 8	<b>Evaluating and Constructing Arguments</b> Quiz 5, Summary and Response	Th March 14 – Th March 21
Week 9	<b>Logical Fallacies</b> Conversation 7, Argument Essay Outline + Draft	Th March 21 – Th March 28
Week 10	<b>Peer Review</b> Peer review, annotated bibliography	Th March 28 – Th April 4
Week 11	<b>Breathe and Revise</b> Argument Essay	Th April 4 – Th April 11
Week 12	<b>Authority and Obedience</b> Quiz 6	Th April 11 – Th April 18 <i>April 22-28 Spring Recess</i>
Week 13	<b>Morality</b> Conversation 8	Th April 18 – Th May 2
Week 14	<b>Presentations</b> Presentation and feedback to classmates	Th May 2 – Th May 9
Week 15	<b>Reflections</b>	Th May 9 – <b>Wed May 15</b> <i>Final reflection: Th May 16</i>

### **Class Participation:**

Class participation is a key to your success in this course. This means submitting assignments on a weekly basis and by the due date, contributing to our Discussion Board, checking our course site at least 3 times per week for updates and announcements. If you miss more than two weekly units (equivalent to two weeks of instruction/ 6 class hours), you will be in danger of failing the course. Please reach out to Prof. Barnes if you are falling behind so that we can come up with a plan of action.

---

BMCC is committed to the health and well-being of all students. It is common for everyone to seek assistance at some point in their life, and there are free and confidential services on campus that can help.

**Advocacy and Resource Center (formerly Single Stop)** <https://www.bmcc.cuny.edu/student-affairs/arc/>, room S230, 212-220-8195, [arc@bmcc.cuny.edu](mailto:arc@bmcc.cuny.edu). If you are having problems with food or housing insecurity, finances, health insurance or anything else that might get in the way of your studies at BMCC, come by the ARC for advice and assistance. Assistance is also available through the Office of Student Affairs, S350, 212-220-8130, [studentaffairs@bmcc.cuny.edu](mailto:studentaffairs@bmcc.cuny.edu).

**Counseling Center** [www.bmcc.cuny.edu/counseling](http://www.bmcc.cuny.edu/counseling), room S343, 212-220-8140, [counselingcenter@bmcc.cuny.edu](mailto:counselingcenter@bmcc.cuny.edu). Counselors assist students in addressing psychological and adjustment issues (i.e., depression, anxiety, and relationships) and can help with stress, time management and more. Counselors are available for walk-in visits.

**Office of Compliance and Diversity** [www.bmcc.cuny.edu/aac](http://www.bmcc.cuny.edu/aac), room S701, 212-220-1236. BMCC is committed to promoting a diverse and inclusive learning environment free of unlawful discrimination/harassment, including sexual harassment, where all students are treated fairly. For information about BMCC's policies and resources, or to request additional assistance in this area, please visit or call the office, or email [olevy@bmcc.cuny.edu](mailto:olevy@bmcc.cuny.edu), or [twade@bmcc.cuny.edu](mailto:twade@bmcc.cuny.edu). If you need immediate assistance, please contact BMCC Public safety at 212-220-8080.

**Office of Accessibility** Students who need academic accommodations in connection with a disability must initiate the request with BMCC's Office of Accessibility (OA). Students need to register with the Office of Accessibility in order to officially disclose their disability status to the College and to determine eligibility for appropriate reasonable accommodations (including any prior IEPs or 504s). Please contact the OA at the start of the semester (or as soon as possible) to coordinate any accommodation request/s.  
Office of Accessibility, [www.bmcc.cuny.edu/accessibility](http://www.bmcc.cuny.edu/accessibility), Room N360 (accessible entrance: 77 Harrison Street), [212-220-8180](tel:212-220-8180), [accessibility@bmcc.cuny.edu](mailto:accessibility@bmcc.cuny.edu).

### **BMCC Policy on Plagiarism and Academic Integrity Statement**

Plagiarism is the presentation of someone else's ideas, words or artistic, scientific, or technical work as one's own creation. Using the idea or work of another is permissible only when the original author is identified. Paraphrasing and summarizing, as well as direct quotations, require citations to the original source. Plagiarism may be intentional or unintentional. Lack of dishonest intent does not necessarily absolve a student of responsibility for plagiarism. Students who are unsure how and when to provide documentation are advised to consult with their instructors. The library has guides designed to help students to appropriately identify a cited work. The full policy can be found on BMCC's Web site, [www.bmcc.cuny.edu](http://www.bmcc.cuny.edu). For further information on integrity and behavior, please consult the college bulletin (also available online).

**AI Policy for this class only:** Students should disclose to Prof. Barnes if they are using generative AI platforms, such as ChatGPT. The use of generative Artificial Intelligence (AI) tools to complete an assignment or exam is prohibited unless it is a part of a given course assignment. Unauthorized use of AI shall be treated similarly to unauthorized assistance and/or plagiarism and is subject to **BMCC Policy on Plagiarism and Academic Integrity Statement.**