

**University of Arkansas - Fort Smith
5210 Grand Avenue
P. O. Box 3649
Fort Smith, AR 72913-3649
479-788-7000**

General Syllabus

ENGL 45043 Arguing Public Issues

Credit Hours: 3

Lecture Hours: 3

Laboratory or other types of Hours:

Prerequisite(s): Prerequisites: ENGL 10203 Composition II, or ENGL 14343 Honors Composition, or consent of instructor.

Effective Catalog: 2023-2024

I. Course Information

A. Catalog Description

Provides intensive instruction in persuasion and written argument. Emphasis is public-policy, civics, law, and/or corporate issues. Due to its focus on argument and logic, this course may be especially beneficial for students who wish to attend law school after obtaining their degree.

II. Student Learning Outcomes

A. Subject Matter

Upon successful completion of this course, the student will be able to:

1. Find, identify, and use legal resources in the university library, public library, archives, or online.
2. Produce and present an argument in a public or court setting.
3. Conduct research on public-policy, civic/advocacy, or corporate issues.
4. Write effective papers or reports related to public-policy, civic/advocacy, or corporate issues.
5. Write effective correspondence in a wide variety of public, civic, legal, or corporate settings.

B. University Learning Outcomes (ULO)

This course enhances student abilities in the following areas:

Analytical Skills

Critical Thinking Skills Goal: Students will identify problems/issues and develop solutions/analysis. Students will analyze a variety of texts for their Rhetorical and/or literary features, as well as analyze the Rhetorical situation to which the texts they produce respond.

Communication Skills (written and oral)

Students will communicate proficiently. Students will practice communication skills through discussions, presentations, and a variety of required written assignments.

Ethical Decision Making

Students will model ethical decision-making processes. Students will practice critical response to the writing of others, responsible use of research materials and intellectual property, and the ethical use of persuasion.

Global & Cultural Perspectives

Students will reflect upon cultural differences and their implications for interacting with people from cultures other than their own. Students will analyze the Rhetorical situation, produce texts for a variety of audiences, and avoid the use of biased language.

III. Major Course Topics

- A. History of civic Rhetoric
- B. Legal discourse and resources
- B. Argumentation and logic
- C. Audience awareness and theories of persuasion
- D. Conducting research
- E. Public-policy, civic/advocacy, and corporate issues