CPSC 430
Computers & Society

Class 2 !!

Dr. Firas Moosvi | 2024_S1

Slides courtesy of Dr. Kevin Leyton-Brown

Class Outline

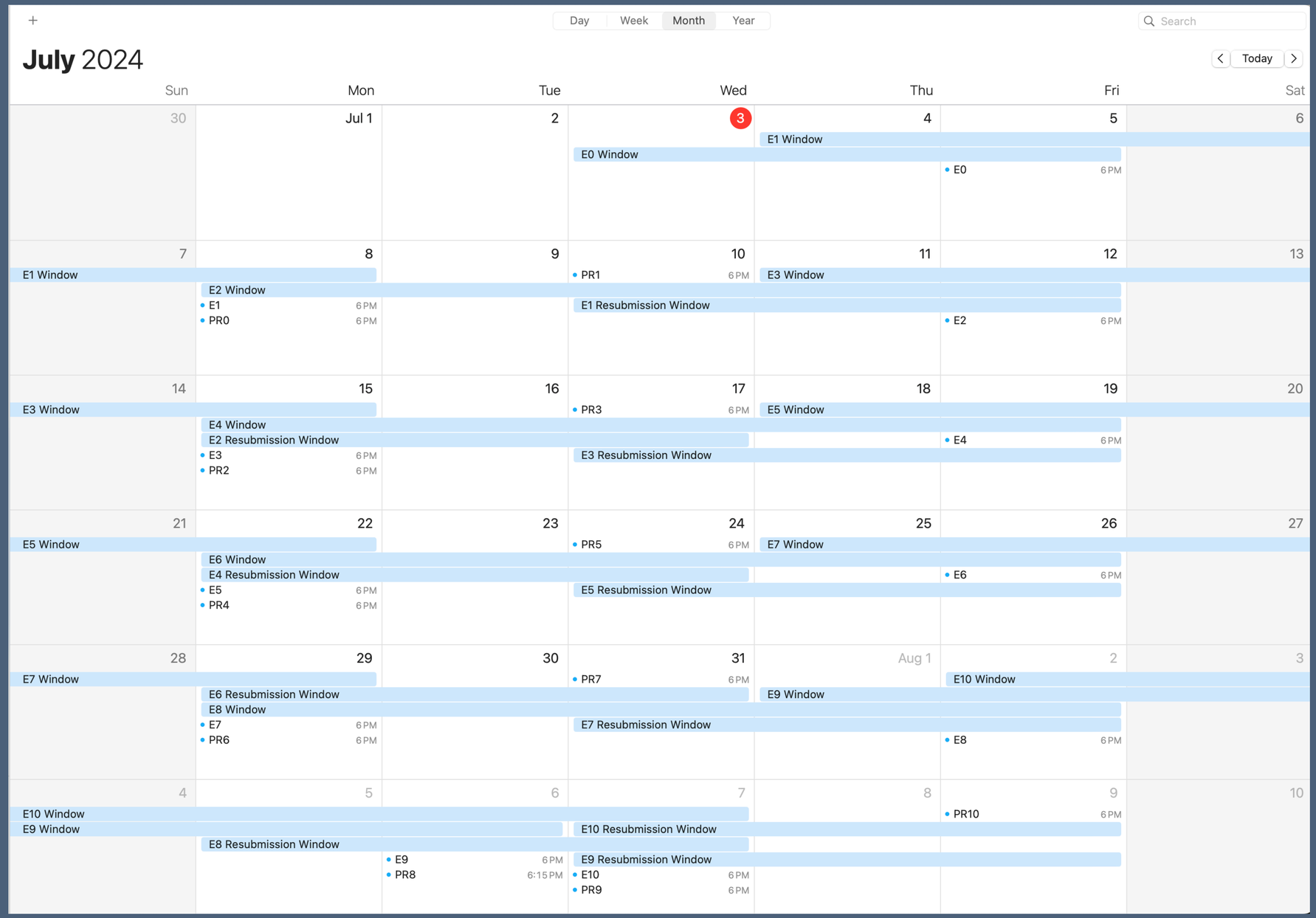
1. Announcements (5 mins)
2. Rhetoric (10 mins)
3. Course Topics Activity (30 mins)
4. Break (10 mins)
5. Essay Writing (20 mins)
6. Break (10 mins)
7. Course Topics Activity (50 mins)
8. Reminders before next class (5 mins)

Announcements

Calendar

Task	Due Date	CBTF	Window
Essay 1	Monday at 6 PM	Yes!	Thurs-Mon
Peer Review 1	Wednesday at 6 PM	No	Approximately Monday evening to Wednesday evening
Resubmission of Essay 1	Friday at 6 PM	Yes!	Wed-Fri
Essay 2	Friday at 6 PM	Yes!	Mon-Fri

Calendar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E9 Resubmission Window
E10 6 PM
PR9 6 PM

Schedule for the next 2 weeks

Search ⌘ + K

Unsyllabus

About this course

Course Schedule

Waitlist Policies

Course Schedule

This is the tentative plan for CPSC 430 this term. Things may change depending on many factors so this is subject to change.

Class	Date	Topic	Essay and Reading Due	Peer Review Due
1	May 13	Introduction and Course Overview	0	-
2	May 15	Writing, argumentation, ethical theories	-	0
3	May 17	Introduction to Ethics	1	-
		End of Week 1		
4	May 20	**Stat Holiday - No Class**	2	1
5	May 22	Networked Communications (NC)	-	2
6	May 24	NC, Intellectual Property	3	-
		End of Week 2		

Calibration Assignment (do min 6!)

Tasks to be completed

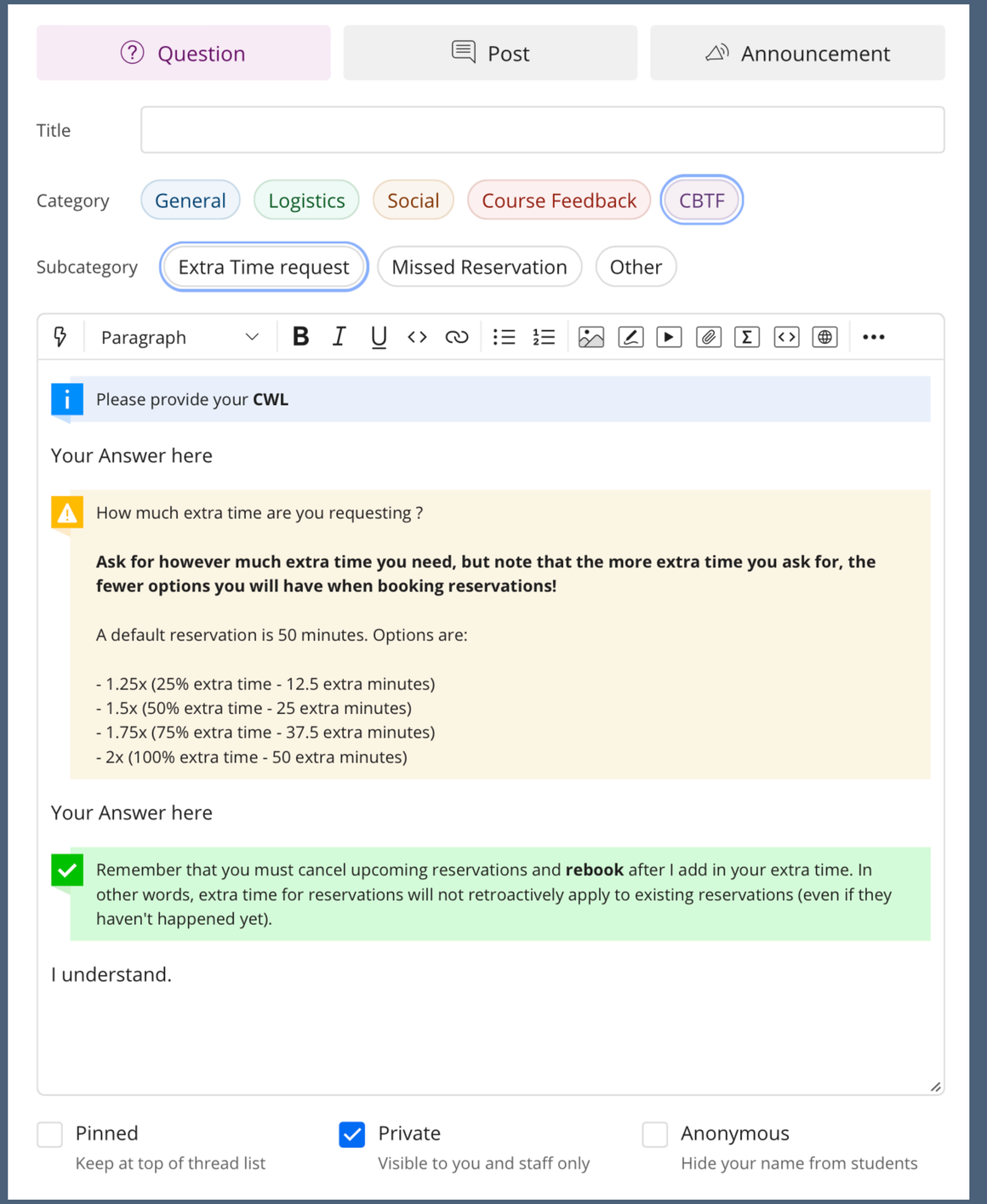
Task	Deadline	Link	Extra
Quiz 1	July 8, 2024, 6 p.m. (Remaining time: 3 days, 6:54:11)	Create my submission	---
Essay 1	July 8, 2024, 6 p.m. (Remaining time: 3 days, 6:54:11)	Create my submission	---
Calibration review for Calibrations (everyone do 6)	---	Start my calibration review	---
Calibration review for Calibrations (everyone do 6)	---	Start my calibration review	---

Request calibration for Week 1

CBTF: 50-minute bookings

- **The Essays are not meant to pressure you with a timer**...but, CBTF bookings are done in 50-min slots so there is natural turnover once each slot is finished
- **You can request for Extra time** to be added so you can make longer reservations, but note that this will limit the number of sessions you can make reservations in!
- If you have extended time through the CfA (particularly for reduced distraction) - **send me the letter on Ed Discussion**

CBTF - Extra Time



Rhetoric

HOW TO ARGUE

The Hierarchy Of Disagreement

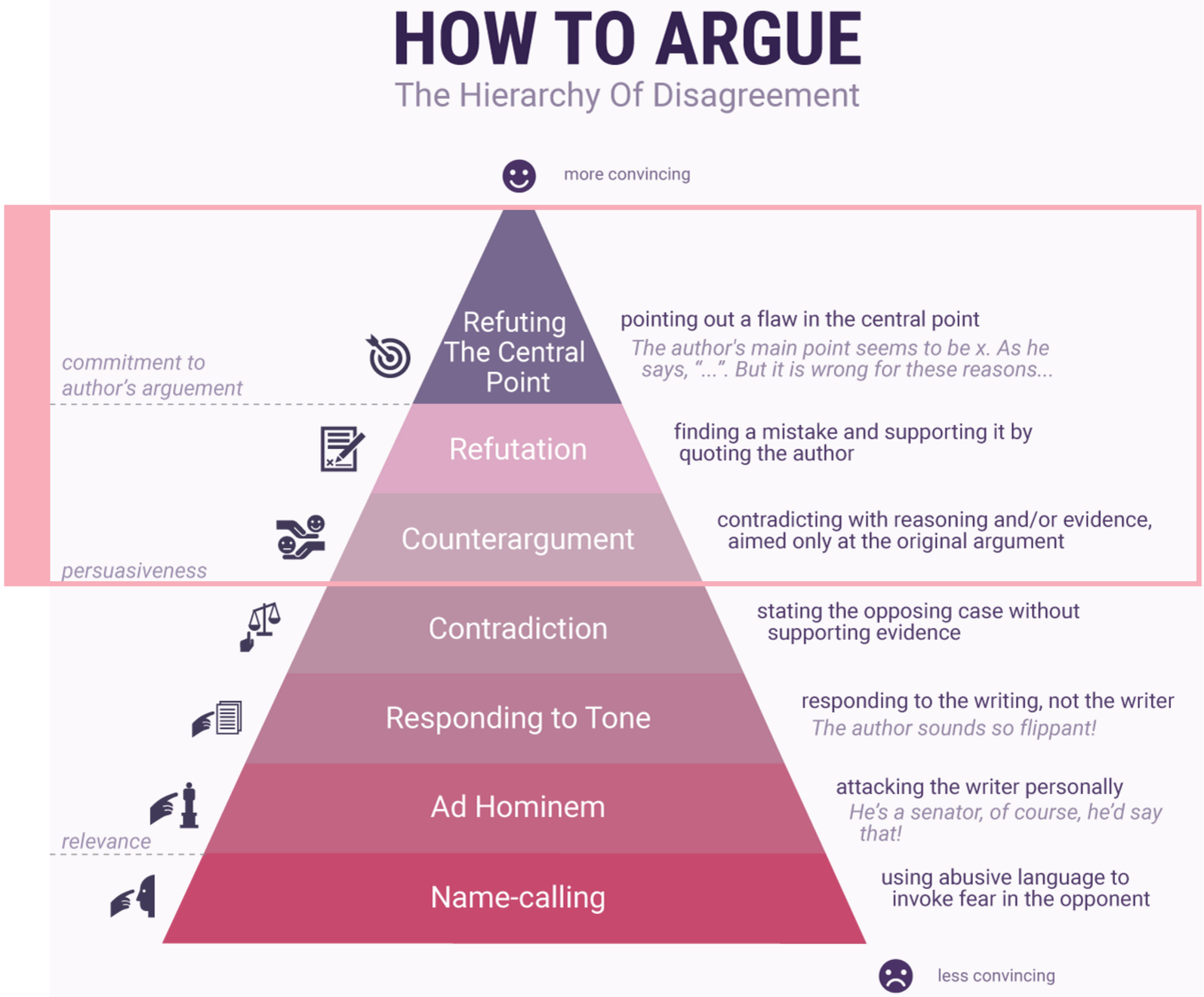
from essay "How to Disagree"
by **Paul Graham,** *j.mp/PG-12*

© Adioma

visualized by **Anna Vital**

Paul Graham, "How to Disagree"

Aim here !



Paul Graham, "How to Disagree"

Persuasive Communication - 7 elements

Dr. Zack Hassan, YouTube Channel

1. **Arguments:** What To Say
2. **Evidence**: How to Back Things Up
3. **Rhetorical Devices**: How to Say Words Well
4. **Ethos**: Boost Your Credibility
5. **Pathos**: How to Appeal to Emotions
6. **Body Language**: How to Master Delivery
7. **Adaptability**: Think On Your Feet

Rhetoric

- Be conversational; use simple, accessible language
- Be open to alternate points of view
- Be interesting!
  - But not irrationally provocative…
  - But not a troll…
- Ideal number of points to make in a short speech/statement: One!
  - Making too many points just muddies the waters
  - Other arguments should be sub-points of this point

Rhetoric

- Pay attention to the verb tense you are using:
  - Past and present tense can sound more judgmental or accusatory
  - Future tense sounds more exhortative and less confrontational

- When speaking:
  - Be loud enough
  - Convey emotion and excitement
  - Refer to notes if you need to, but don’t read
  - Pausing is better than “um”
  - Don’t ramble; know when to stop!

Course Topics Activity

Small Groups

Networked Communications "Any social network that employs moderators should be required to make it impossible to share posts flagged as false." **1: for; 10: against**	**Intellectual Property** "The government should aggressively prosecute intellectual property infringement, particularly including peer-to-peer file sharing." **2: for; 11: against**	**Information Privacy** "It should be illegal for shopping malls to install cameras for tracking customer behavior." **3: for; 12: against**
Privacy and the Government "It should be illegal to sell a mobile phone that cannot be decrypted by the police if so ordered by a court." **4: for; 13: against**	**Computer and Network Security** "Canadians should be able to vote online in federal, provincial and municipal elections." **5: for; 14: against**	**Computer Reliability** "Self-driving cars should be allowed to operate on public roads once they have been shown to be at least slightly safer than the average human driver." **6: for; 15: against**
Professional Ethics "Computer scientists and data scientists should not aid in the development of autonomous weapon systems." **7: for; 16: against**	**Work and Wealth** "The activity of a company's employees on their computers, such as what applications they have opened and for how long, is private and should never be tracked." **8: for; 17: against**	**Artificial Intelligence** "Images generated by artificial intelligence systems (e.g., DALL-E 2) that require minimal human input should not receive copyright protection." **9: for; 18: against**

Networked Communications

“Any social network that employs moderators should be required to make it impossible to share posts flagged as false.”

https://www.students.cs.ubc.ca/~cs-430/2024_S2/

Intellectual Property

“The government should aggressively prosecute intellectual property infringement,
particularly including peer-to-peer file sharing.”

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“It should be illegal for shopping malls to install cameras for tracking customer behavior.”

Essay Writing

Our focus today:
speaking, writing & argumentation

“In an Age of Information, what most professionals do is research, think, and make arguments.

(And part of the value of doing your own thinking and writing is that it makes you much better at evaluating the thinking and writing of others.)”

*from “*Writing in College,”
Williams and McEnerney,
University of Chicago Writing Program

https://www.students.cs.ubc.ca/~cs-430/2024_S2/

Mostly, making good arguments is something you
learn by doing.

That's why we'll focus all term on
essays, review and class discussions.

However, this week we'll focus on some of the basics,
to help you get as much as possible
from the rest of the course.

https://www.students.cs.ubc.ca/~cs-430/2024_S2/

Determining a thesis: generating ideas

- Easiest to generate ideas when you let them flow uncritically
  - freewriting
    - write without pausing, ignore grammar, set time limit
  - brainstorming
    - point form version of freewriting; again, don't be critical
  - clustering
    - organize ideas visually
- Consider more than one candidate topic to make sure you pick a good one

Finalizing your thesis

- easy to state in one sentence
- something you're passionate about and want to argue for
- In your essays:
  - make sure your thesis is narrow enough
  - make sure it's non-obvious
  - make sure it makes a claim rather than just stating a topic
- In an in-class discussion:
  - make sure you don't miss a better topic
  - make sure you pick something you're interested in and have arguments about

Outline your argument

- a simple point-form summary of what you want to say
  - this is the place to wrestle with how your argument will go, before you start getting caught up in sentences/details
- high level:
  - start by stating your thesis/main claim
  - two or three arguments in favor
  - some kind of conclusion; can be just a sentence or two
- Once high level is settled, work out arguments in favor in more detail
- Someone who read your outline wouldn't be surprised by anything in the essay

Anticipate & react to other arguments

- It doesn’t weaken an argument to acknowledge that others will disagree
  - instead, it’s better to anticipate arguments others will make
- In an essay, this is something you’ll have to do explicitly
- In a class discussion, you actually hear other arguments
  - you’ll need to adapt to what you hear
  - refute arguments made by others
  - claim that others’ arguments actually support your point
  - add new evidence or arguments to reinforce your thesis

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that cannot be decrypted by the police
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