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BMGT 212.01: Critical Analysis for Business

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**MISSOULA COLLEGE
THE UNIVERSITY OF MONTANA
BUSINESS TECHNOLOGY DEPARTMENT**

COURSE NUMBER & TITLE:

BMGT 212- Autumn18 - Trigg - Critical Analysis

Faculty:	Thomas W. Trigg
Term:	Autumn 2018
Credits:	3
Office Hours:	As posted on office door or by appointment
Office:	MC 411
Phone:	None provided by Missoula College
E-Mail:	thomas.trigg@umontana.edu

PREREQUISITES:

ENEX 101 or equivalent, similar writing course as approved by instructor, or approval by instructor

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This is a course in analysis, critical thinking, and writing for students in the Business Technology fields. It calls for the preparation of four papers during the semester. It satisfies the University's intermediate writing requirement. Students will practice identifying elements of arguments, analyzing elements of arguments for logic, and developing coherent and comprehensive responses to arguments. This course will emphasize practical application.

Course Goals:

The course will help students develop critical thinking as expressed in written form.

Course Objectives:

1. Identify and research the elements of an argument
2. Test the elements of an argument for logic, truth, accuracy, coherence, completeness, and other bases.
3. Explain how the elements of an argument combine, or fail to combine, to establish a valid position.
4. Discuss alternative points of view regarding researched topics and provide arguments for and against conclusions drawn from researched topics.
5. Distinguish validity of arguments based on factors such as logic, emotion, faith, statistics, cost/benefit analysis, and other elements.

REQUIRED TEXT:

The Chicago Guide to Grammar, Usage, and Punctuation

Bryan A. Garner

ISBN-13:978-0-226-18885-0 (cloth)

ISBN-13:978-0-226-19129-4 (e-book)

Additional materials provided by the instructor electronically.

RECOMMENDED/OPTIONAL TEXT: None

SUPPLIES: None

EVALUATION:

Your final grade in the course will be determined by your written work on the papers you prepare for the class. Written work turned in on time will be graded shortly thereafter and returned to you. If you are unable to turn in your work on time, you should mark the first page of your assignment “Late” and give it to me in a later class. I will not give you a lower mark because your work is late, but I encourage you to keep up so you can benefit as much as possible from the course. If you wish to know your ongoing grade average, save your graded timely papers and use the grade scale below to get an idea of how you are doing. Please do not ask me to do your arithmetic for you.

If you attend classes, do the reading, and complete all your work on time, you are likely to learn the material thoroughly and to do well in the class. If you skimp, your learning and your grade are likely to suffer, perhaps severely. If you come across circumstances that make the class challenging, contact me to discuss how you can improve upon your situation.

Grade Scale:

94 - 100 A

87 - 93 B

80 - 86 C

73 - 79 D

Below 73 F

This course requires an electronic submission (via Moodle) of an assignment stripped of your personal information to be used for educational research and assessment of the university’s writing program. Your paper will be stored in a database. A random selection of papers will be assessed by a group of faculty and staff using a rubric developed from the following Writing Learning Outcomes:

- Compose written documents that are appropriate for a given audience or purpose
- Formulate and express opinions and ideas in writing
- Use writing to learn and synthesize new concepts
- Revise written work based on constructive feedback

- Find, evaluate, and use information effectively
- Begin to use discipline-specific writing conventions (largely style conventions like APA or MLA)
- Demonstrate standard English language usage

This assessment in no way affects either your course grade or your progression at the university. Here's the [rubric](#) that will be used to score the papers.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY:

Be honest, and never offer someone else's work as your own. Missoula College insists that all students practice academic honesty. Academic misconduct is subject to an academic penalty by the course instructor and a disciplinary sanction by the University. All students need to be familiar with the Student Conduct Code. You can download a copy of the Code at:

<http://www.umt.edu/student-affairs/documents/Student%20Conduct%20Code%20PDF-%20FINAL%208-27-13.pdf>

DISABILITY ACCOMMODATION:

Eligible students with disabilities will receive appropriate accommodations in this course when requested in a timely way. Please contact me after class or in my office. Please be prepared to provide a letter from your DSS Coordinator. For more information, visit the [Disability Services for Students website](#) at <http://www.umt.edu/dss/> or call 406.243.2243 (Voice/Text).

USE OF PERSONAL ELECTRONIC DEVICES: The University of Montana believes that cell phones are inappropriate during class times.

I have a different opinion. All businesses rely on computers, smartphones, and similar machines. I encourage you to bring them to class and to use them suitably. Whenever a machine can help you learn and contribute to the class, use it. Whenever the contemplated usage might prompt an irascible employer to fire you, don't use it. Treat this class -- and machines -- as an opportunity to learn how to practice your profession.

COURSE OUTLINE: As outlined in the class plan and in announcements in class.