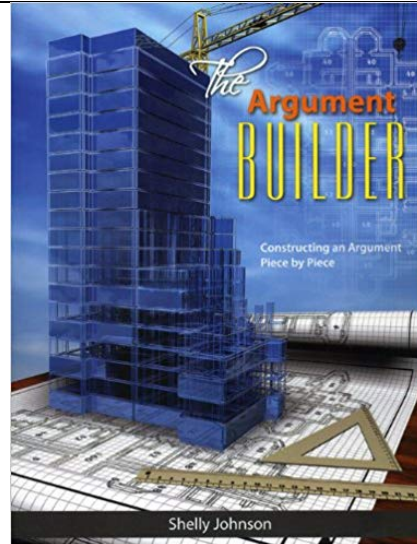


Persuasive Writing:
**A Course on How to Build an Persuasive
Argument**



Instructor: Mrs. Morgan

Meeting Time: MW 9:30 -10:45a.m. ET

Meeting Place: Zoom Classroom--
273 429 467

Email: amorgan@scholeacademy.org

Office Hours: W 9:00-9:30a.m. ET
(also available by appointment)

Persuasive Writing

The goal of *The Argument Builder*, Persuasive Writing course is to teach you how to plan and build a persuasive argument for writing or for debate. This class examines examples from masters such as Greek and Roman Orators, Biblical Writers, Aquinas, Bacon, Montaigne, Susan B. Anthony, Martin Luther King and more. Making use of Aristotle's common topics of invention, students be able to discover many lines of argument about a given subject. Along the way, students will increase their awareness and avoidance of fallacious reasoning.

Required Texts

1. *The Argument Builder*, Shelly Johnson, Ph.D. (Available with Classical Academic Press and on Amazon)
2. Supplemental videos and texts provided by Mrs. Morgan on Schoology

Attendance and Assignment Completion Policies

- Please make sure that you attend class regularly and are on time. While recordings of live sessions are a helpful tool for occasional absences, they are not a sufficient replacement for class participation. With that in mind, Schole Academy allows a maximum of 3 absences for a one-semester course that meets 2x/week.

- If you are absent from class, your written work will still be due the same day unless an extension has been prearranged. Without a prearranged extension, late assignments receive 25% less credit per day.
- Since this is a class of debate and discussion, please understand that absences will affect your grade. Most spoken work cannot be made up, so oral work during absences may result in a “0”.
- Please complete and submit your assignments by the day and time they are due through our class’s Schoology page.

Contacting Me

Please feel free to email me with any questions or concerns you may have. I will **usually** respond within the 24-hour period but may not be able to respond before then. Out of courtesy to me, please begin your letters by addressing me “Mrs. Morgan” or “Amy” or some similar form of greeting. Please also sign your name at the bottom. I will certainly show the same courtesy to you.

Classroom Etiquette

In 2019-2020, Schole Academy will be focusing together on fostering the virtue of Prudence. Prudence has to do with self-examination, growing in wisdom about what is right and wrong to form our conscience and then making practical judgements toward what is right and good in accordance with a well-developed conscience. Consider behavioral guidelines or habits that are likely to emerge from a student’s practice of prudence in our classroom setting. Some examples are:

- Be on time to class and avoid leaving class unless it is an emergency.
- Give your full attention to whomever is talking.
- If you must leave early, let the teacher know ahead of time and
- Do not read or work on the computer or other materials during class
- Have your video on at all time so we can see you, but please mute your mic unless you are talking (this cuts down on background noise).

Grade Policy

Your final grade will consist of the following point delineation:

10 Reading Notes/Review Exercises	200 points (20/ea)
4-5 Quizzes	100 points (20-25/ea)
4 Essay (Pre-writing, Draft & Editing)	100 points (25/ea)
4 Essays (Final Drafts)	120 points (30/ea)
8 Participation scores (on time attendance, preparation, memorization of quotes, discussion)	40 points (5/ea)
8 Debate Preparation Assignments	40 points (5/ea)
Final Debate (Graded similar to Essays + Elocution)	40 points
	<hr/>
	640 Points Total

Grading Scales

A=100% to 90%
B=89% to 80%
C=79% to 70%
D=69% to 60%
F=59% or below

Magna Cum Laude: 95%-100%
Cum Laude: 85%-94%
Satis: 75-84%
Non Satis: 74% and below

Homework: Writing time can vary widely from student to student, but I find that students spend an average of 3 to 3.5 hours per week outside of class time reading, researching, replying to classmates' posts and writing for this Persuasive Writing class.

Office Hours:

If you are struggling with an assignment or have a question that was not sufficiently addressed in class, please feel free to stay in office hours with me on Wednesdays. I will be happy to help you! The goal of office hours is to answer specific questions you have or develop strategies for particular assignments you are struggling with.

Plagiarism and Cheating

Do not plagiarize or cheat. All papers and assignments must be your own work. While you may get help from parents or tutors with brainstorming, organizing, and proofreading your papers, the writing and rewriting of your paper should be your own work.

Schoology

I will be posting our class syllabus, assignments, class recordings, occasional other links and PowerPoint slides to Schoology, so please check Schoology for updates regularly throughout the week. Class recordings will be posted within 24 hours after class. Please make sure you can access Schoology or that you get help from your parents if you are having problems accessing it.