Practical Argument: A Text and Anthology

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Get to heart of argumentative writing with the accessible, step-by-step introduction to the process found in Practical Argument.

During their long collaboration, Laurie Kirszner and Stephen Mandell have written a number of best-selling college texts for Bedford/St. Martin's, including Patterns for College Writing, Foundations First, Writing First, Focus on Writing, and, most recently, Practical Argument. Laurie Kirszner is a Professor of English, Emeritus at the University of the Sciences, where she has taught composition, literature, creative writing, and scientific writing, and served as coordinator of the first-year writing program. Stephen Mandell is a Professor of English at Drexel University, where he founded and directed the basic writing program and has taught composition, literature, speech, and technical and business writing."

Everyday Arguments, Everyday Arguments combines a practical, student-oriented argument rhetoric with an anthology of illustrative readings drawn from arguments of everyday life. The rhetoric portion of the text contains a four-part taxonomy and guides students through the process of generating, drafting, composing, and revising written arguments. The anthology of readings is closely tied to the principles and practices introduced in the rhetoric section. Throughout the text, the author emphasizes that much can be learned about written argument and its practice from the texts we encounter on a daily basis. Writing-intensive exercises in each chapter encourage students to practice new skills as they learn them, while refreshing their knowledge of previously mastered skills. These exercises emphasize the value of collaboration, revision, and responsible research. Helpful student samples encourage students in their own writing.

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