**Checklist for revising an argument**

**Thesis**

* What is your thesis? Where is it stated?
* In what ways is your thesis statement an arguable claim?

**Reasoning**

* If your thesis derives from induction, where have you related the evidence to your generalization?
* If your thesis derives from deduction, is your syllogism both true and valid?
* Have you avoided fallacies in reasoning?

**Evidence**

* Where have you provided the evidence readers need?
* Where might your evidence not be accurate, relevant, representative, or adequate? (Answer this question from the point of view of a neutral or even skeptical reader.)

**Appeals**

* Where have you considered readers’ probable beliefs and values?
* How are your rational appeals and emotional appeals appropriate for your readers?
* What is your ethical appeal? How can you improve it?

**Opposing views**

* What opposing views have you answered?
* How successfully have you refuted opposing views? (Again, consider the neutral or skeptical reader.)

**Organization**

* How clearly does your argument move from one point to the next?
* How appropriate is your organization, given the likely views of your readers?