

English 009: Basic English Composition II
Imperial Valley College
Summer 2013
CRN: 30080

Class Time: MTWTh 5:30p.m. - 8:20p.m.

Class Location: 2727

Instructor: Mr. Robert Baukholt

Campus Office: 2792

Campus Office Hours: By Appointment

Email: robert.baukholt@imperial.edu

Phone: (760) 355-6159

SLOs

Upon course completion, the successful student will have acquired new skills, knowledge, and or attitudes as demonstrated by being able to:

1. Compose a multi-paragraph essay that responds to an essay prompt with a clear controlling idea or thesis statement. (ILO1, ILO2, ILO4)
2. Compose a multi-paragraph essay with a clear organizational structure and adequate support. (ILO1, ILO2, ILO3, ILO4)
3. Compose a multi-paragraph essay that uses correctly formed sentences with virtually no sentence-level or grammar errors. (ILO1, ILO2, ILO4)
4. Develop a research paper that effectively synthesizes ideas and information from multiple sources and utilizes correct MLA formatting of citations. (ILO1, ILO2, ILO3, ILO4, ILO5)

Welcome to English 009: Basic Composition II.

This class prepares you for reading, writing, and critical thinking at the university level; it bears little resemblance to the literature and writing classes you may have taken in high school.

A college educated writer must acquire and develop the ability to create argumentative/persuasive compositions, supported by logical appeals and research. The skills involved in this are not just applicable to humanities majors; they are skills that all of you will use throughout your undergraduate years and beyond. This semester you will continue developing these skills by discussing ideas, by analyzing rhetorical modes (such as process analysis and compare & contrast), and by writing lots of essays. Ideas and the various means of communicating those ideas are the primary focus of this course, as they will be in the various content courses you take as you move forward in your college career. Although we will discuss grammatical issues, this is primarily an idea class, NOT a grammar class. Essays that showcase wonderful grammar in support of a poor argument or idea will not receive a good grade.

Class Atmosphere and Requirements

The majority of our class activities will involve discussions of assigned readings, issues related to reading topics, and other topics relevant to us. We may be discussing controversial issues; please remember to keep an open mind and be respectful of the diverse backgrounds, opinions, and ideas of your peers in your contributions to these discussions.

Attendance

Students are expected to attend every class session. Any student who misses the first class will be dropped. Students may be dropped at instructor discretion if they miss more than a week of class hours continuously. Please make arrangements with the instructor or a fellow student to keep up with all assignments in case you cannot attend a class session for any reason.

Students whose attendance record is exemplary will receive an extra credit bonus to their grade at the end of the semester:

No Absences = +10 pts

Late Assignments

Assignments that are turned in late will be marked down ten percent for each class period they are late. One of my students turned in an A quality essay a few semesters ago. He began with a base score of 97, minus ten for never turning in a first draft, minus forty for the four class sessions it was late. His total grade was 47 (F), and despite his other A quality assignments, his overall grade in the class ended up being a C. DON'T LET THIS HAPPEN TO YOU!

Required Texts

Most of the required texts for this class will be posted through online links. I recommend that you obtain a copy of the Pocket Wadsworth Handbook (fifth edition) or another recent grammar handbook. This will help you with grammatical issues that come up in your writing. You can order this book online to save some money, (it won't be at the bookstore).

Contact

You can email me at robert.baukholt@imperial.edu. I will respond to emails and messages within 24 hours during the work week. I will *try* to respond to emails and messages every day, even on weekends and holidays.

Grammar

This is a college level writing course. This means that you should be able to write at a professional level, with few errors in grammar or sentence structure. Therefore, if any submitted work demonstrates a lack of understanding of the fundamentals of English writing, its grade will suffer.

Office Hours

I have no official office hours for the summer, but I can always arrange to meet with you in my office or in our classroom if you have any questions. I want you to pass my class. If you are having trouble, **ARRANGE TO COME TO MY OFFICE, OR SEND ME AN EMAIL SO THAT WE CAN DISCUSS IT!!!**

Plagiarism

IVC expects honesty and integrity from all students. A student found to have cheated on any assignment or plagiarized will receive a zero for the assignment. A second occurrence of cheating or plagiarism may result in dismissal from class and expulsion from IVC as outlined in the General Catalog.

If you have any questions about how to quote or document sources, please feel free to ask me. In an average semester (six composition and literature classes) I usually fail between 5-10 students for plagiarizing. **DON'T LET THIS BE YOU!** If you aren't sure, **ASK!**

If I am not confident that a submitted work of writing is representative of your true capabilities, I may arrange an alternative, timed writing assignment to replace or supplement the original assignment.

Cell Phones

If your cell phone goes off, you lose ten points from your final grade. If I catch you texting, you lose ten points from your final grade. In one of my classes a few semesters ago, a woman lost 80 points through the course of the semester. This is almost an entire essay grade! She failed the class because of these points. **DON'T LET THIS BE YOU!**

Typed Assignments

All take-home essay assignments should be typed. This includes all drafts and outlines. Don't bother turning in handwritten essay drafts!

Discipline Policy

"Imperial Valley College is maintained for the purpose of providing students in the community with programs of instruction in higher education. The College is concerned with the fostering of knowledge, the search for truth and the dissemination of ideas. Students shall assume an obligation to conduct themselves in a manner compatible with the college's function as an educational institution. Misconduct while on the college campus, or at a College-sponsored function for which students and student organizations are subject to disciplinary action.

An instructor **MAY REMOVE** a student for the day of removal and the next class meeting. Such action must be immediately reported to the Superintendent/President. During the period of removal the student **MAY NOT** return without the consent of the instructor."

Show Me What You've Learned!

Because this class focuses on improving your writing skills, you will be learning a variety of writing strategies throughout the semester. You should always incorporate these strategies into your essays. A large portions of your grade depends on your ability to prove that you have learned something about the writing process. Show me what you have learned.

Special Needs

If you need course adaptations or accommodations because of a disability, or if you have information to share with me, please let me know as soon as possible.

“Any student with a documented disability who may need educational accommodations should notify the instructor or the Disabled Student Programs and Services (DSP&S) office as soon as possible. DSP&S is located in the Health, Room 2117. (760) 955-6312 Sciences Building

Assignments and Grading

Drafted Essays

The essays will be the main form of assessment for the class. There will be two assignments for each essay. One will be for the first draft, and the other will be for the final draft. I will provide ample feedback on your first drafts, but will only assign a grade to the final drafts. To receive credit on a final draft you must submit a hard copy of your paper directly to me in class and upload another copy of the same paper into Blackboard's SafeAssign essay submission system (accessed through our English 009 course site).

Workshops

Each student will be required to have one of his/her essays workshopped by the class. Students who are scheduled to have their essays workshopped will post their essays in a discussion forum located in a special content area marked "Workshops" on our Blackboard course site. Then, the rest of the class will read those essays, write full page (typed, double-spaced) hard copy responses to them, and take part in a whole-class workshop session designed to help the student writers to improve their work and to receive better grades. You will learn more about workshops during our first few weeks of class.

Common Final Practice Exams and Common Final

The common final practice examinations (referred to as Midterms in our schedule) and real common final will consist of timed essays. These are very important assignments that make up a large portion of your grade, and it is very rare for any student to pass the class if he or she does not do well on the real common final. We will spend a great deal of time discussing and planning for these assignments.

Participation

Because this is a college course, you will be expected to contribute to class activities and discussions on a regular basis. This factors into both your participation grade and your workshop grade.

Reading and Concepts Quizzes

Quizzes will be given along with each week's reading and module assignments. These are easy! They are basically free points given for having read the material, and I expect you all to do very well on them.

Here is the breakdown of the grading.

Quizzes: 100 points/10%

Essay 1: 100 points/10%

Essay 2: 150 points/15%

Essay 3: 200 points/20%

Workshops: 100 points/10%

Practice Common Finals/ Midterms (Best Out of Two): 100 points/ 10%

Common Final 200 points/20%

Participation 50 points/5%

TOTAL 1000 points/100%

A > 90% B > 80% C > 70% D > 60% F < 60%

Failing to complete assignments or not participating in required class activities will lower your grade significantly. If you are worried about your grade, I encourage you to contact me throughout the semester.

Summer Schedule for English 009

Week 1

Monday June 24th – Go over the Syllabus. Introduction Game. Discuss Process Analysis. Assign The Process Analysis Essay

Tuesday June 25th – Diagnostic Essay. Pre-Writing Strategies

Wednesday June 26th – Essay Organization. Topic Sentences. Writing Effective Essay Introductions. Workshop Sign-ups.

Thursday June 27th – Mock Workshops. Thesis Statements. 1st Draft of the Process-Analysis Essay is Due!

Week 2

Monday July 1st – Thesis Statements, cont. Workshops! Grammar Review.

Tuesday July 2nd – Workshops, cont. Writing Effective Essay Conclusions.

Wednesday July 3rd – Compare and Contrast. Compare and Contrast Group Work. Assign the Compare and Contrast Essay. Final Draft of the Process Analysis Essay is Due!

Thursday July 4th – Holiday!

Week 3

Monday July 8th – Considering the Audience. First Draft of the Compare and Contrast Essay is Due.

Tuesday July 9th – Workshops!

Wednesday July 10th – Strategies for effective timed writing. Responding to an article. In-text citations.

Thursday July 11th – Midterm 1 (Practice Common Final).

Week 4

Monday July 15th – Watch a Movie in Preparation for the Argumentative Essay. Discuss the Movie. Final Draft of the Compare and Contrast Essay is Due.

Tuesday July 16th – Argumentative Essay Brainstorming. Assign the Argumentative Essay. Create Essay Plans.

Wednesday July 17th – Five Ways of Using Source Material in an Argument. Logic vs. Emotion in Argument.

Thursday July 18th – Midterm 2 (Practice Common Final).

Week 5

Monday July 22nd – First Draft of the Argumentative Essay is Due. Finding Source Material. Library Visit.

Tuesday July 23rd – Workshops.

Wednesday July 24th – Workshops, cont. Effective Description.

Thursday July 25th – Timed Writing Review Session. Grammar Review.

Week 6

Monday July 29th – Common Final Exam!

Tuesday July 30th – Final Essay Group Peer Review

Wednesday July 31st – Final Draft of the Argumentative Essay is Due.

Thursday August 1st – Any Final Questions? Have a nice summer!