

Imperial Valley College
English 008: Basic English Composition
Fall 2013-4 Units
CRN #: 10345

Instructor: Sacha Sykora
Class time: Monday 5:30-9:45 p.m.
E-mail:sacha.sykora@imperial.edu
Location: 2900

Required texts/materials:

- *Sentences, Paragraphs, and Beyond with Integrated Readings 6th Ed.* By Brandon & Brandon ISBN-10:1133591922
- Of Mice and Men John Steinbeck
- College dictionary
- Spiral notebook (for use in this class only)

Course Description: This class is designed to help students acquire and develop basic writing skills, including construction and organization of paragraphs. This course is non-transferable and non-degree applicable.

The focus of this course will be to improve your writing skills; as a result you will be doing a lot of writing.

Instructional Methods:

The course is taught using a variety of instructional methods including: Group discussion, lectures, and student collaboration.

Course Objectives:

1. Students will write descriptive, narrative, and exemplificative paragraphs that develop supporting details from a topic sentence, using appropriate transitions and a concluding sentence.
2. Students will understand the principles of the writing process in its basic form: generating ideas, organizing ideas, drafting, revising and editing.
3. Students will demonstrate use of critical thinking by identifying support for the main idea in a text.
4. Students will generate supporting sentences using varied sentence patterns; locate errors in sentence structure, such as fragments, fused sentences, comma splices, and word order; and reconstruct sentences that contain these types of errors.
5. Students will participate in a number of in-class activities.

Student Learning Outcomes:

1. Generate essays with a clear thesis statement or controlling idea.
2. Write essays showing support for a thesis statement or controlling idea.
3. Construct complete sentences with few errors in sentence structure such as fragments, comma splices, run-on sentences.
4. Compose a multi-paragraph essay response to a reading.

Class Policies/Rules:

1. **Be polite and respectful**
2. Missing more than two class meetings may result in the student being dropped from course.
3. Please turn off cell phones before coming to class. I am serious about this. If your cell phone rings I will take 10 participation points away.
4. Tardiness is not acceptable, being more than 15 minutes late is considered a tardy. Three tardies will equal one absence. Please take care of your personal business before class.
5. If you come in late to class please come in quietly. Do not disrupt the class.

6. Absolutely no cheating. If you are caught cheating you will get a zero for the assignment; this includes plagiarism.
7. Please no food or drink. I will allow bottled water.

Attendance Policy:

“Students who do not attend the first class meeting **WILL** be dropped by the instructor immediately following that class.”

*Attendance is very important in this course, as you will be doing a majority of the work in class, as each class meeting will help promote and build your writing skills. You will become a better writer upon completion of this course. Since most writing is done in class it may not be made up. I understand that life happens, should you have an emergency please e-mail me beforehand so arrangements can be made.

Late Work:

If you miss a deadline it will be marked late and there will be points deducted from your score. I will not accept assignments more than a week after the deadline. **No exceptions.**

Midterm and Final:

There will be a midterm exam based on your reading(s). You will be expected to write a five paragraph essay for the final exam.

Blackboard:

Blackboard is a new learning program recently implemented by IVC, it is relatively new to me and probably to several students. I don't expect you to be the expert, because I am still learning myself, but it is a program that should be mastered as soon as possible. Discussion assignments (10) will be posted regularly on Blackboard (BB). It is also important that you check your e-mail and the Blackboard home page as I often send messages through BB. For certain assignments, not including the discussions, you may also be required to submit your work through BB.

Cheating and Plagiarism:

“Dishonesty in the classroom is considered a very serious offense. Any form of cheating, turning in work which is not one's own (plagiarism), is grounds for disciplinary action. The consequences of these actions are severe and may include the possibility of expulsion.”

Academic misconduct includes misconduct associated with the classroom, laboratory or clinical learning process. Some examples of academic misconduct are cheating and plagiarism.

Cheating includes, but is not limited to (a) use of any unauthorized assistance in taking quizzes, tests, assessment tests or examinations; (b) dependence upon the aid of sources beyond those authorized by the faculty member in writing papers, preparing reports, solving problems, or carrying out other assignments; or (c) the acquisition, without permission, of tests or other academic material belonging to a member of the college faculty or staff.

Plagiarism includes, but is not limited to, the use of paraphrased or directly quoted published or unpublished work of another person without full and clear acknowledgement. It also includes the

unacknowledged use of materials prepared by another person or agency engaged in the selling of term papers or other academic materials. Information

Any student found by a faculty member to have committed academic misconduct may be subject to sanctions as determined by the faculty member. Sanctions MAY include a warning, grade adjustment and course failure. Consequences for plagiarism include a zero on the assignment and a referral to Sergio Lopez, Dean of Student Development and Campus Events.

Disabled Student Services

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 and Sciences Building, Room 2117: (760) 355-6312.

Assignments and grading

Participation 100	900-1000=A
Homework 100	800-899=B
Journals 100	700-799=C
In class writing and grammar assignments 400	600-699=D
Quizzes 100	599-below=F
Midterm 100	
Final 100	
Essays 300	
Blackboard 100	

1,400 points total

Participation includes student preparedness and responses to given questions asked during class time. There may be some controversial subjects discussed in class, so I ask you to please be respectful of other students' opinions. All homework (with the exception of journal entries) must be typed. No exceptions. If you do not have access to a computer at home, there are computers available to you on campus. Journals refer to any writing in the spiral notebook, they can be assigned during class and for homework. Quizzes will be based on class readings and concepts discussed in class. Quizzes will be announced and they will be given at the beginning of class. Midterm and final exams will be explained before their test dates.

Important Dates to Remember

Fall semester 8/19/13-12/7/2013

Midterm -October 21, 2013 Final-December 4, 2013

Tentative Schedule

<p>Week 1-Aug. 19th Class Introduction Syllabus Paragraph writing Group Discussion</p> <hr/> <p>Homework Self introduction on BB due 8/26 <u>Of Mice and Men</u> pgs. 1-15</p>	<p>Week 9-Oct. 21 Midterm 100 pts. Chapter 6 Correcting fragments, comma splices, & run-ons pgs. 94-119</p> <hr/> <p>Homework Journal pg. 94 BB discussion #7 due 10/28 Descriptive Essay (rough draft) due 10/28, final draft 11/4 (2-3 pages)</p>
<p>Week 2- Aug. 26th Reading techniques <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Underlining 2. Annotating 3. Taking Notes Practice reading techniques Summarize essay</p> <hr/> <p>Homework Journal (summarize article) BB discussion #1 due 9/9. <u>Of Mice and Men</u> pgs. 16-40</p>	<p>Week 10-Oct. 28th Chap.7 Verbs pgs. 121-150 pg. Chapter 19- Exemplification pg. 335-358 Peer Review</p> <hr/> <p>Homework Journal pg. 121 BB discussion #8 due 11/4</p>
<p>Week 3-Sept. 9th Chap. 1 Reading based writing pgs. 9-30 Chapter 14-The Writing Process-stage 1 pgs. 265-274 Freewriting Discussion & Critical Thinking Writing a reaction/2 part response Quiz-Summarize reading pg. 27</p> <hr/> <p>Homework Journal-Tell about a time when someone has been kind to you Narrative essay (rough draft) due 9/23. Final draft due 9/30 (2-3 pages) BB discussion #2 due 9/16 <u>Of Mice and Men</u> pgs. 41-65</p>	<p>Week 11-11/4 Chap. 8 pgs. 151-175 Pronouns Chapter 20-Analysis by Division: Examining parts pg. 359-387</p> <hr/> <p>Quiz Verb tense & verb agreement Journal pg. 151</p> <hr/> <p>Homework Persuasive essay (rough draft) due 11/18, final draft due 25 BB discussion #9 due 11/18</p>
<p>Week 4-Sept. 16th Chap. 2 Parts of Speech pg. 33-42 Chapter 15-The Writing Process stage 2 pgs. 276-284 Topic Sentences Identifying parts of speech</p> <hr/> <p>Homework <u>Of Mice and Men</u> pgs. 66-90 BB discussion #3 due 9/23</p>	<p>Week 12- 11/18 Chapter 21-Process Analysis pgs. 388-414 Chap. 9 Adjectives & Adverbs pgs. 176-193 Peer review Journal pg. 176 2</p> <hr/> <p>Homework BB discussion #10 due 11/25</p>
<p>Week 5-Sept. 23th Chap. 3 Subjects & Verbs pg. 43-55 Chapter 16-Writing Process stage 3 285-294 Finding subjects & verbs Writing/Revising/Editing Peer review</p> <hr/> <p>Homework BB discussion #4 due 9/30</p>	<p>Week 13-11/25 Chapter 10 Balancing Sentence Parts pg. 194-207 Chapter 22 & 23 Cause/Effect & Compare & Contrast pgs. 415-460</p> <hr/> <p>Journal pg. 194 20 pts. Quiz-Write short paragraph containing adj. & adv. 25pts.</p>

<p>Journal "What courage means to me" <u>Of Mice and Men</u> pgs. 91-101</p> <p>Week 6- 9/30 Chapter 11- Punctuation & Capitalization pg. 208-242 Chapter 12 Spelling & Phrasing 243-262 Chapter 24 -Writing to persuade pgs. 461-490</p> <hr/> <p>Homework</p> <p>Journal 243 .</p> <p>Chapter 24 -Writing to persuade pgs. 461-490 45 pts.</p>	<p>Week 14- 12/2 Final</p>
<p>Week 7-10/7 Chap. 4 Kinds of sentences pgs. 56-70 Chapter 17-Paragraphs & essays pg. 295-301 Quiz Subjects & Verbs Journal pg. 56</p> <hr/> <p>Homework BB discussion #5 due 10/14</p> <hr/>	
<p>Week 8-10/14 Chap. 5 Combining sentences pg. 71-93 Chapter 18-Description Narration pgs. 305-334 30 pts. total</p> <hr/> <p>Homework</p> <p>Blackboard discussion #6 due 10/21</p> <p>(study for midterm)</p>	