

## Syllabus

Darren Simon

English 8

Thursday: 5:30 to 9:45

Room 208

Contact info: 337-1386

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Class Code: 10347

### Course objective:

This is a preparatory course for English 9. The class will include intensive instruction in grammar and punctuation and the writing of paragraphs and essays. The course is meant to help students start to master some of the basic sentence construction skills needed to express themselves in clear paragraphs and essays. The skills learned in this class should help students begin to develop confidence in their writing abilities.

### Course materials:

Book: Sentences, Paragraphs & Beyond, Sixth Edition

A novel to read for the book report of no less than 300 pages

A good notebook used solely for this course

A dictionary to be brought to each class

### Course work:

This is writing course so you will do a lot of writing. You will have up to seven take-home paragraphs and essays, three of those papers will focus on paragraphs, four will be five-paragraph essays. You will have grammar quizzes as needed, a mid-term and final.

### Grading:

#### Take-home writing:

- Two 50-pt papers (paragraphs)
- Three 100 pt. point papers (one paragraph, two essays)
- Two 200 pt papers — including one book report and argumentation essay

Quizzes: 20 to 40 pts. each

Mid-term: 200 pts.

Final: 300 pts

### Plagiarizing:

The first and most important rule is that no plagiarism or cheating of any kind will be accepted. Anyone caught plagiarizing someone else's work could be subject to dismissal from the class and at the very least will receive no points for that assignment. You also cannot have anyone else edit your work or help you to write the paragraphs, except when seeking help from the writing

lab. Each paragraph is a contract between the student and the teacher and the teacher should be the only one who edits the work unless the teacher allows group work where students can help each other or, again, the student is helped by the writing lab. If a student's in-class work is substantially different from their work out of class, the teacher reserves the right to base their grade solely on the work done in class.

#### Late Work:

As a rule late work will not be accepted, but here's how I will handle work turned in beyond deadlines. Any first draft turned in a day late will automatically lose 10 pts., and will lose an additional 10 pts for every day not turned in after that. Any second draft turned in late will not be graded. Papers are to be turned in the day they are due typed and double-spaced if required and stapled. No paper should be emailed to the teacher unless you are going to be absent.

#### Absences/Tardies:

Absences should not occur, but I realize that sometimes it cannot be helped. Please contact me and let me know if you are going to miss a class so that you can find out what the assignments are. Always maintain contact with the instructor. You will be allowed three absences; any beyond that will result in the subtraction of 50 points from your final grade. At some point, at the teacher's discretion, you can be dropped if you have too many absences. Tardies also should not occur, but again I realize they do. Please come to class even if you are going to be late. But three tardies will count as an absence.

#### Cell Phones/Pagers:

You can bring your cell phones and pagers to class, but show some class etiquette. Turn down the sound, and if you do receive a call, quietly step out and return as quickly as possible. If it becomes a constant issue, it could count as an absence against you.

#### Finally:

This class is based strongly on your participation. Please, when you come to class come prepared to take part in the lecture by asking questions, coming to the board when asked to do so, playing an active role in group work and by helping your fellow students. Remember, I like questions, so always feel comfortable asking them. Do not leave the class until you feel comfortable that you understood the day's lecture.

#### Note on Student Services:

Please make use of the services available to you here at IVC. Seek help from tutors in the library early in the semester. Do not wait until you are failing to decide to get that help. Maintain contact with your counselors. Also, if you are in need of services offered by IVC's Disabled Student Programs and Services, contact that department at 355-6312 or visit the office in the 2100 building.

Schedule:

Week 1

Roster

Syllabus

Opening discussion of what a paragraph is

Practice paragraph

Open with discussion on run-ons and fragments

Start to discuss parts of speech

Week 2

Buy book

Elements of a paragraph

Outlining

Continue on run-ons and fragments

Start Chapter on parts of speech.

Week 3

More on parts of speech

Assign Paper 1

Week 4

Finish parts of speech

Move to chapter on subjects/verbs

Turn in Paper 1

Assign Paper 2

Week 5

Turn in Paper 2

Continue on subjects and verbs

Return Paper 1 to be re-written

Assign paper 3

Week 6

Turn in Paper 3

End subjects and verbs

Return Paper 2 to be re-written

Start Reading Novel for Book Report (Paper 7)

Week 7

Turn in re-writes of Paper 1 and 2  
Prepare for mid-term  
Return Paper 3 to be re-written

Week 8  
Mid-term  
Turn in Paper 3

Week 9  
Start chapter on clauses/phrases  
Go over mid-term  
Assign Paper 4  
Return Paper 3 to be re-written

Week 10  
Turn in Paper 4  
Continue work on clauses/phrases  
Discuss Essay Structure

Week 11  
Continue discussion of clauses/phrases  
Continue discussion of Essay structure  
Assign Paper 5 (Essay for Eng. 97 students)  
Turn in re-write of Paper 3  
Return Paper 4 to be re-written

Week 12  
Start chapter on run-ons  
Start chapter on fragments  
Turn in Paper 5  
Turn in re-write of Paper 4  
Assign Paper 6 (book report)

Week 13  
Turn in Paper 6 (book report)  
Discuss Paper 7 (argumentation)  
Continue to discuss run-ons  
Continue to discuss fragments  
Return Paper 5 to be re-written

Week 14  
Turn in Paper 5 re-write  
Continue to discuss run-ons  
Return Paper 6 to be re-written  
Assign Paper 7 (argumentation).

Week 15

Prepare for final

Go over Paper 7 in class

Turn in re-write Paper 6 (book report)

Week 16

Turn in final draft Paper 7 (argumentation)

Final