

Office Hours

10:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. MW
2:30 – 3:00 p.m. TR

Official Course Description for ENGL 201

Emphasizes critical thinking in reading and writing beyond that achieved in ENGL 110 or ENGL 101. Written argumentation will focus on deduction and induction, an understanding of the fallacies of language and thought, the application of valid evidence, and refutation. (CSU, UC) Prerequisite: ENGL 110 or ENGL 101 with a grade of "C" or better.

Specific Course Description

To begin the semester, you should already have experience identifying the most common logical fallacies and developing sound reason. You should have some skill with analysis of claims and stakeholders. You should have some idea of research methods and evaluation of sources. We will build on this foundation. Since the quality of your writing and thinking depends on the depth and range of your reading, you should expect to engage a variety of texts with some complexity—both for class assignments and as part of independent research.

Texts

Aristotle. *On Rhetoric: A Theory of Civic Discourse*. Trans. George A. Kennedy. 2nd ed. New York: Oxford UP, 2007. Print. [ISBN #9780195305098]

Modern Language Association. *MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers*. 7th ed. New York: Modern Language Association, 2009. Print. [ISBN #9781603290241]

Shakespeare, William. *Julius Caesar: The Oxford Shakespeare*. Ed. Arthur Humphreys. New York: Oxford UP, 2009. Print. Oxford World's Classics. [ISBN #9780199536122]

Smith, Zadie. *White Teeth*. New York: Vintage, 2000. Print. [ISBN #9780375703867]

Evaluation

All writing projects must be completed and submitted as described in individual assignment sheets. Failure to bring a full and revised draft for workshop will result in a one-letter grade deduction for the essay. Late essays/projects will receive a one-letter grade deduction per day overdue. Each of the four major writing projects may be revised once for an improved grade (unless that grade was the result of an ethics violation); however, any accumulated late-submission or no-draft penalties will remain.

In a college environment it's the student's responsibility to perform whatever extra work is necessary (e.g., vocabulary development, background research) to understand and fulfill the obligations of the course. Your thoroughness, insight, and intellectual curiosity this semester will shape the resulting grade and, more importantly, the reasoning skills you develop.

While you may consult the professor regarding the quality of your work or particular problems you experience, it's up to you to monitor your own effort, progress, and points. Points will be earned according to the following categories:

Critical Thinking Essay – 10	Research Essay – 20
Sophistry Essay – 20	Midterm Exam – 20
Source Annotations – 10	Final Exam – 20

Attendance

I expect that each of you will be in class, with a grasp of the reading assignment for the day, and ready to advance class discussion with insightful commentary. If you should miss a class, you must *contact a classmate* (NOT your professor) to request notes. Absence due to required attendance at an IVC event must be arranged in advance with the professor and will be excused. All other absences are unexcused. A student who has accumulated three consecutive unexcused absences is to be dropped from the course.

Ethics

No student may attempt to use this class or its assignments to advocate discriminatory speech or implement it as a weapon against other students, the professor, or parties/identities not present/represented. Recognizable, historically determined bigotry creates a toxic environment in the classroom and impedes and discourages sound, nuanced reason; self-critique; and, realistic assessment of subject. In other words, it is the antithesis of critical thinking and investigation—our mission at IVC and in this class.

Depending on type and severity, an instance of plagiarism may be addressed with an ungraded revision; a reduced/failing grade for the project; or disciplinary action from administrative staff. If you are at all uncertain on the issue of plagiarism, show me your source materials and explain your research methodology before submitting the essay. Do not solicit “help” from personal acquaintances. Instances of plagiarism can occur through contact with faculty unaware of professional ethics or plagiarism standards.

- *False Authorship.* Obtaining by any means another’s work, and using that work in an essay/assignment presented for a grade. False authorship includes texts copied with minor changes/adjustments, translation from another language without acknowledgement, and patchwriting several sources into one document.
- *Misrepresentation of Source.* Distorting or altering the meaning of a source text in order to support a claim. Falsification of information about the source would also fall into the category of misrepresentation. Most often, students misrepresent the text because of personal bias or inadequate reading skills.
- *Unacknowledged collaboration.* Allowing too much outside influence or re-writing of the student’s work. The individual’s consent or cooperation is irrelevant.
- *Recycling.* Submitting all or part of a text that was prepared for another assignment/course.
- *Insufficient Citation.* Including quotations or paraphrased content from another’s work with faulty, or no, citation. Direct quotations also require quotation marks or, when appropriate, block quote spacing.

Tentative Schedule

Jan 21	Syllabus & rhetorical key terms	Mar 18	“Against the Sophists” (provided by prof.)
Jan 23	Review critical thinking excerpts	Mar 20	<i>Antidosis</i> (provided by prof.)
Jan 28	Review critical thinking excerpts	Mar 25	<i>White Teeth</i> , ch. 1-3
Jan 30	Critical Thinking Essay Workshop	Mar 27	<i>White Teeth</i> , ch. 4-7
Feb 4	Critical Thinking Essay Submission	Apr 1	<i>White Teeth</i> , ch. 8-12
Feb 6	<i>On Rhetoric</i> , introduction	Apr 3	<i>White Teeth</i> , ch. 13-16
Feb 11	<i>On Rhetoric</i> , book 1	Apr 8	<i>White Teeth</i> , ch. 17-20
Feb 13	<i>On Rhetoric</i> , book 2	Apr 10	Research Project Workshop
Feb 18	Fallacies	Apr 15	Source Annotations Submission & Toulmin method
Feb 20	Fallacies	Apr 17	Research Project Submission
Feb 25	<i>Julius Caesar</i> , Act I	Apr 22	SPRING BREAK
Feb 27	<i>Julius Caesar</i> , Act II-III	Apr 24	SPRING BREAK
Mar 4	<i>Julius Caesar</i> , Act IV-V	Apr 29	Aristotle & sophistry review
Mar 6	Sophistry Essay Workshop	May 1	<i>Julius Caesar</i> review
Mar 11	Sophistry Essay Submission & definition handouts for “ideology”; “hegemony”	May 6	Fallacy identification exercise
Mar 13	Midterm Exam	May 8	Essay Revision Submissions
		May 13	Midterm review
		May 15	Final Exam

ADDENDUM: GENERAL POLICY & COURSE CONTENT FROM IVC

Student Learning Outcomes for ENGL 201

- Interpret appropriately and analyze a written argument for claim, evidence, reasoning, fallacies, and overall effectiveness. (ILO 1, ILO 2)
- Develop an effective written argument containing a factual claim, providing valid and appropriate evidence, utilizing appropriate reasoning strategies, and avoiding fallacies. (ILO 1, ILO 2, ILO 3)
- Demonstrate command of rules regarding plagiarism and academic ethics. (ILO 3)

Course Objectives and Minimum Standards for Grade of “C” in ENGL 201

Upon satisfactory completion of the course, students will be able to:

- Student will identify the structure of arguments, including the assertions/claims and the proof/support.
- Student will analyze arguments critically, evaluating multiple arguments for validity and soundness, distinguishing fact from judgment and knowledge from opinion, and differentiating relevant from irrelevant support.
- Student will analyze and construct both deductive and inductive arguments.
- Student will write argumentative prose that defines, that analyzes casual relationships, that advocates solutions, that evaluates judgments, and that refutes other arguments.
- Student will identify formal and informal fallacies in language and thought.
- Student will recognize and apply the effects of denotation and connotation; emotive language; and various figures of speech, especially metaphor, within argumentative prose.
- Student will revise written drafts and edit appropriately for an academic audience, observing conventions of coherence, unity, purpose, grammar, mechanics, and documentation.

Attendance

- A student who fails to attend the first meeting of a class or does not complete the first mandatory activity of an online class will be dropped by the instructor as of the first official meeting of that class. Should readmission be desired, the student’s status will be the same as that of any other student who desires to add a class. It is the student’s responsibility to drop or officially withdraw from the class. See General Catalog for details.
- Regular attendance in all classes is expected of all students. A student whose continuous, unexcused absences exceed the number of hours the class is scheduled to meet per week may be dropped. For online courses, students who fail to complete required activities for two consecutive weeks may be considered to have excessive absences and may be dropped.
- Absences attributed to the representation of the college at officially approved events (conferences, contests, and field trips) will be counted as “excused” absences.

Academic Honesty

- Plagiarism is to take and present as one’s own the writings or ideas of others, without citing the source. You should understand the concept of plagiarism and keep it in mind when taking exams and preparing written materials. If you do not understand how to correctly “cite a source,” you must ask for help.
- Cheating is defined as fraud, deceit, or dishonesty in an academic assignment or using or attempting to use materials, or assisting others in using materials, or assisting others in using materials, which are prohibited or inappropriate in the context of the academic assignment in question.

Anyone caught cheating or will receive a zero (0) on the exam or assignment, and the instructor may report the incident to the Campus Disciplinary Officer, who may place related documentation in a file. Repeated acts of cheating may result in an F in the course and/or disciplinary action. Please refer to the General School Catalog for more information on academic dishonesty or other misconduct. Acts of cheating include, but are not limited to the following: (a) plagiarism; (b) copying or attempting to copy from others during an examination or on an assignment; (c) communicating test information with another person during an examination; (d) allowing others to do an assignment or portion of an assignment; (e) use of a commercial term paper service.

Disabled Student Programs and Services

Any student with a documented disability who may need educational accommodations should notify the instructor or the Disabled Student Programs and Services office as soon as possible. The DSP&S office is located in Building 2100, telephone 760-355-6313 if you feel you need to be evaluated for educational accommodations.

Student Counseling and Health Services

Students have counseling and health services available, provided by the pre-paid Student Health Fee. We now also have a fulltime mental health counselor. For information see <http://www.imperial.edu/students/student-health-center/>. The IVC Student Health Center is located in the Health Science building in Room 2109, telephone 760-355-6310.

Student Rights and Responsibilities

Students have the right to experience a positive learning environment and due process. For further information regarding student rights and responsibilities please refer to the IVC General Catalog available online at http://www.imperial.edu/index.php?option=com_docman&task=doc_download&gid=4516&Itemid=762

Information Literacy

Imperial Valley College is dedicated to help students skillfully discover, evaluate, and use information from all sources. Students can access tutorials at <http://www.imperial.edu/courses-and-programs/divisions/arts-and-letters/library-department/info-lit-tutorials/>