

Imperial Valley College Course Syllabus • ENGL 110 • Composition & Reading • Fall 2023

Basic Course Information

Semester:	Fall 2023	Professor Name:	Scott Simpson
Course Title	ENGL 110 Composition & Reading	Preferred way to contact-- Email:	scott.simpson@imperial.edu
CRNs:	10131	Units:	4
Classroom/Class format:	Online - asynchronous • Follow the weekly activity schedules posted on Canvas • No real-time instruction • Zoom is not used. • No on-campus work for this course	Office #:	There are no meetings in the office this semester.
Class Dates:	October 9 to December 9 Note: This is a short-term course: 16 week's amount of work compressed into eight weeks.	Office Hours:	• M/T/W/TH: 9:30 - 10:30 AM PST via email on Canvas , but contact me via email whenever you have a question. Don't wait for office time.
Class Days:	Online - asynchronous • Follow the weekly activity schedule in Canvas	Office Phone #	(760) 355-6164 • However, email is a much more efficient way to reach the instructor.
Class Times:	• Follow the weekly activity schedules posted on Canvas • No real-time instruction • Zoom is not used.	Emergency Contact:	IVC Student Resources https://imperial.instructure.com/courses/15311/pages/ivc-student-resources • • • • • Canvas Help https://community.canvaslms.com/t5/Canvas/ct-p/canvas • • • • • If there is an emergency that affects completion of assignments, keep the instructor informed on a timely basis.

Course Description

The standard course in freshman English. The course seeks to improve the student's ability to understand serious and complex prose and to improve the student's ability to write an exposition that is thoughtful and clear, including the production of a well-documented research paper. Limitation on Enrollment: Course not open to students with a C or higher in English 110. (CSU/UC)

Course Prerequisite(s) and/or Corequisite(s)

ENGL 009 or ENGL 010 with a grade of "C" or better or appropriate placement based on AB 705.

Student Learning Outcomes

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

1. Compose college-level essays that contain clear thesis statements, effective support, and unified organization. (ILO1, ILO2, ILO4)

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2. Synthesize information from multiple sources to produce a research paper that is formatted and documented according to MLA guidelines. (ILO1, ILO2, ILO4, ILO5)
3. Demonstrate an ability to comprehend and interpret a variety of college-level texts, including complex arguments and at least one full-length novel, play, or non-fiction book, without relying on outside sources for assistance (ILO1, ILO2, ILO3, ILO4)

Course Objectives

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

1. Write multiple essays—including one research paper and one final exam—that, together, add up to 6,000 words of formal writing.
2. Demonstrate a command of the writing process, which may include pre-writing, drafting, revising, self-editing, peer group editing, and proofreading.
3. Compose error-free essays that avoid sentence-level and grammar problems.
4. Compose unified essays that include support for the thesis statement, clear development, and effective transitions.
5. Demonstrate a command of writing patterns by effectively integrating various rhetorical modes, such as compare/contrast, definition, cause/effect, and argumentation together to produce sophisticated, college-level essays as appropriate.
6. Demonstrate an ability to adapt writing strategies to the requirements of the writing situation (e.g. in-class writing, research writing, reflective writing) or to tailor a written assignment to address specific audiences (both general and academic).
7. Demonstrate a thorough understanding of research strategies and library skills (including electronic databases) to identify and evaluate resources for a research paper.
8. Synthesize information from multiple sources to produce a research paper that is formatted and documented according to MLA guidelines.
9. Demonstrate a command of rules regarding plagiarism and academic ethics.
10. Read actively, using metacognitive strategies to monitor comprehension, build vocabulary, and improve analysis of college-level texts.
11. Analyze the rhetorical context when reading by identifying genre, medium, purpose, audience and tone.
12. Analyze and evaluate the strategies an author uses to make and support a claim, including the use of fallacies.
13. Synthesize knowledge by relating texts to personal experience, to past and present events, and to other texts.

Textbooks & Other Resources or Links

• **Title of Book:** Empire of Pain

Authors: Patrick Radden Keefe

Purchase any version you wish from any place (seller) that you wish.

Kindle (electronic) version: **ASIN:** B08ND91K6G

Paperback version: **ISBN-10:** 1984899015 **ISBN-13:** 978-1984899019

Hardcover version: **ISBN-10:** 0385545681 **ISBN-13:** 978-0385545686

Publication Date: April 2021 **Publisher:** Doubleday

Again: purchase new or used, printed or electronic version, anywhere you like. We will start using the

book immediately.

Course Requirements and Instructional Methods

This class is focused on writing essays and reading. Information in the readings (and sometimes video lectures and interviews) serve as support for the essays. Largely what separates college writing from other types of writing is incorporating trustworthy information as core support of a thesis.

Out of Class Assignments: The Department of Education policy states that one (1) credit hour is the amount of student work that reasonably approximates not less than one hour of class time and two (2) hours of out-of-class time per week over the span of a semester. WASC has adopted a similar requirement. This means to expect on average ten hours of homework per week for this 5-unit course.

Course Grading Based on Course Objectives

Grade Scale by % A: 90 - 100 B: 80 - 89 C: 70 - 79 D: 60 - 69 F: 0 - 59

Note: You never have to add up points; Canvas keeps tracks of all points for you automatically.

Grading rubrics for major assignments like essays are posted on Canvas.

Deadlines and late work: Check upcoming deadlines regularly. All deadlines are posted there. A **short** grace period of one day can be requested if I am contacted in advance of the due date with a reasonable explanation for the request. Expect any late work to be docked points. Don't expect work completed more than two days late to be awarded any points. If not contacted in advance of the due date about work arriving late, don't expect the assignment to be accepted. In general, don't expect late work to be accepted.

- There are no "do-overs" for any reason on any assignment. Everyone gets one shot to complete each assignment. We prepare in stages for each assignment, so there is absolutely no reason to hand in any work that is far off target.

- Also note that the instructor reserves the right to assign a grade of zero to any previous class assignments if the quality of writing is not similar to the quality of writing shown in the final exam.

- **Missing any ten assignments = being dropped from the course.**

- **If you are missing two essays, expect to be dropped from the course.**

Major Writing Assignments • 5000 points • Approximately 60% of your total grade

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| 1. The Underground History of Chinese Mexicali Essay | 1000 points |
| 2. Social Media Influencers Essay | 2000 points |
| 3. The Opioid Epidemic/Mass Delusions Essay | 2000 points |

Note: If all of the above major writing assignments are **not** handed in, there will be **NO** opportunity to pass the course. Period.

These are not optional assignments, regardless of the number of points you will have accumulated or what Canvas shows your grade to be.

Other Assignments • Approximately 40% of your total grade

- Essay details preparation: three assignments (total: 300 points)
- Discussion Boards (DB): approximately 8 (total: 800 points)
- Additional reading assignment (300 points)

Total: approximately 6400 maximum points

- Number of assignments and point value of assignments are subject to change.

• **Deadlines and late work:** Be aware of deadlines. A **short** grace period of up to a few days for essays and some other assignments can be requested if I am contacted in advance of the due date with a reasonable explanation for the request. Expect ANY late work to be docked points. Don't expect work completed more than a few days late to be accepted. Keep in mind you can start almost any assignment much earlier than the due date.

• Note that **plagiarism** results in a **zero** for any assignment and could lead to discipline by the college which could not only mean **dismissal** from the class but also **permanent expulsion** from IVC. A zero on a major assignment also makes it **impossible** to pass the course. Furthermore, plagiarizing a second time is an absolute guarantee of not passing the course, regardless of the overall grade. Yes, it's easy to cut and paste text from the internet. You should be very aware that due to technology, **detecting plagiarism is even easier for your instructors.** We don't even have to look. The system alerts us. If there is any plagiarism, I give you a 100% guarantee that this technology shall find it, whether it's from text on any page on the internet or another student's paper taking any class in any place on Earth. Yes, most students would never plagiarize. But that person who might try should know that being caught is a guarantee and major consequences will definitely be suffered.

If artificial intelligence (AI), like Chat GPT, is used in any way on any assignment, it will also easily be detected, and the grade will be zero for the assignment. Any use of AI will be treated as if it were plagiarism. The same policy for plagiarism seen above also applies for any use of AI in submitted assignments.

(Note: If you are retaking this course, **avoid self-plagiarism**; that is, you will need to within reason hand in a substantially different essay even though it may be on the same topic as before. Any essay that is substantially the same as the student's own previous work will be graded zero.)

To summarize:

- There are no "do-overs" for any reason on any assignment.
 - Everyone gets one shot to complete each assignment.
 - Plagiarism guarantees being caught and failing the course.
- The vast majority of students never plagiarize and sincerely seek to improve their skills.
- Also note that the instructor reserves the right to assign a grade of zero to any assignments, even previously graded assignments, if the quality of writing is not similar to the quality of writing shown in the final exam.

Advice on Grades • Success in Class

They say common sense isn't so common anymore, so here it goes! Absolutely do your utmost to **COMPLETE every assignment.** Hand in ALL the essays. Never consider doing otherwise. And do

your best to complete ALL of the other assignments as (1) those assignments **prepare** you to succeed in the weightier assignments and (2) all those little points that may not seem so much at first definitely add up to a lot of points by the semester's end!

Course Policies

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.

What does it mean to "attend" an online class?

Attendance is critical to student success and for IVC to use federal aid funds. Acceptable indications of attendance are:

- Student submission of a written academic assignment that demonstrates substantial engagement with preparatory materials
- Student submission of an exam the results of which demonstrates substantial engagement with preparatory materials
- Student participation in an instructor-led Zoom conference
- A substantive posting by the student in an online discussion demonstrating engagement with preparatory materials

Logging onto Canvas alone is NOT adequate to demonstrate academic attendance. Complete assignments with care and attention and on time or expect to be dropped from the course.

Online Netiquette

- What is netiquette? Netiquette is internet manners, online etiquette, and digital etiquette all rolled into one word. Basically, netiquette is a set of rules for behaving properly online.
- Students are to comply with the following rules of netiquette: (1) identify yourself, (2) include a subject line, (3) avoid sarcasm, (4) respect others' opinions and privacy, (5) acknowledge and return messages promptly, (6) copy with caution, (7) do not spam or junk mail, (8) be concise, (9) use appropriate language, (10) use appropriate emoticons (emotional icons) to help convey meaning, and (11) use appropriate intensifiers to help convey meaning [do not use ALL CAPS or multiple exclamation marks (!!!!)].

Academic Honesty

Academic honesty in the advancement of knowledge requires that all students and instructors respect the integrity of one another's work and recognize the important of acknowledging and safeguarding intellectual property.

There are many different forms of academic dishonesty. The following kinds of honesty violations and their definitions are not meant to be exhaustive. Rather, they are intended to serve as examples of unacceptable academic conduct.

- Plagiarism is taking and presenting 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 "cite a source" correctly, 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 that are prohibited or inappropriate in the context of the academic assignment in question.

Anyone caught cheating or plagiarizing 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 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) using a commercial term paper service.

How do I show academic honesty and integrity in an online "classroom"?

- **KEEP YOUR PASSWORDS CONFIDENTIAL.**
 - You have a unique password to access online software like Canvas. Never allow someone else to log-in to your account.
- **COMPLETE YOUR OWN COURSEWORK.**
 - When you register for an online class and log-in to Canvas, you do so with the understanding that you will produce your own work, take your own exams, and will do so without the assistance of others (unless directed by the instructor).

Examples of Academic Dishonesty that can occur in an online environment:

- Copying from others on a quiz, test, examination, or assignment;
- Writing a discussion post without substance (like "Hello" or a blank post) with the intent to see classmates' posts/work;
- Allowing someone else to copy or be influenced by your answers on a quiz, test, exam, or assignment; this includes uploading course work to a website;
- Having someone else take an exam or quiz for you;
- Allowing another student to paraphrase your work without attribution to you;
- Paraphrasing another student's work without attribution;

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- Conferring with others during a test or quiz (if the instructor didn't explicitly say it was a group project, then he/she expects you to do the work without conferring with others);
- Buying or using a term paper or research paper from an internet source or other company or taking any work of another, even with permission, and presenting the work as your own;
- Excessive revising or editing by others that substantially alters your final work;
- Sharing information that allows other students an advantage on an exam (such as telling a peer what to expect on a make-up exam or prepping a student for a test in another section of the same class); and
- Taking and using the words, work, or ideas of others and presenting any of these as your own work is plagiarism. This applies to all work generated by another, whether it be oral, written, or artistic work. Plagiarism may either be deliberate or unintentional. Sources you used even when paraphrased by you need to be cited.
- The first instance of plagiarism or other type of academic dishonesty will result in a zero grade for that assignment. A second instance will result in a grade of "F" in the course and being reported to the college. If the plagiarism or another type of academic dishonesty is discovered after the course is complete, the instructor reserves the right to change the student's final grade at any future time.

IVC Student Resources

IVC wants you to be successful in all aspects of your education. For help, resources, services, and an explanation of policies, visit <http://www.imperial.edu/studentresources> or click the heart icon in Canvas.

Imperial Valley College offers various services in support of student success. The following are some of the services available for students. Please speak to your instructor about additional services which may be available.

- **CANVAS LMS.** Canvas is Imperial Valley College's main Learning Management System. To log onto Canvas, use this link: [Canvas Student Login](#). The [Canvas Student Guides Site](#) provides a variety of support available to students 24 hours per day. Additionally, Canvas Support is available via the Help menu in Canvas.
- **Learning Services.** There are several learning labs on campus to assist students through the use of computers and tutors. Please consult your [Campus Map](#) for the [Math Lab](#); [Reading, Writing & Language Labs](#); and the [Study Skills Center](#).
- **Library Services.** There is more to our library than just books. You have access to tutors in the [Study Skills Center](#), study rooms for small groups, and online access to a wealth of resources.

Anticipated Class Schedule/Calendar

The most up-to-date class schedule is in Canvas, so see that information there in great detail. That information is available when the semester begins.

- *The instructor reserves the right to change this syllabus during the semester.*