



IMPERIAL VALLEY COLLEGE

Basic Course Information

Semester:	Spring 2026	Instructor Name:	Dr. Michael Heumann
Course Title & #:	ENGL C1001	Email:	michael.heumann@imperial.edu
CRN #:	21238	Webpage (optional):	imperial.instructure.com
Classroom:	Online	Office #:	2780
Class Dates:	18 Feb-10 Jun 2026	Office Hours:	Mon, Tu & Th 7-8 PM (Online), Wed 4:30-5:30 PM
Class Days:	Online	Office Phone #:	760-355-6553
Class Times:	Online	Emergency Contact:	760-355-6337
Units:	3.0	Class Format/Modality:	Online

Course Description

In this course, students receive instruction in critical thinking for purposes of constructing, valuating, and composing arguments in a variety of rhetorical forms, using primarily non-fiction texts, refining writing skills and research strategies developed in ENGL C1000 College Reading and Writing (C-ID ENGL 100) or similar first-year college writing course. (Formerly ENGL 201)(C-ID: ENGL 105) (CSU/UC)

Additional Description Information:

Limitation on Enrollment: Course not open to students with a "C" or higher in English 204.

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

PREREQUISITES: - College-level composition (ENGL C1000/ENGL C1000H/ENGL C1000E/C-ID ENGL 100) or equivalent, including, ENGL 105 or ENGL C1000 or ESL 108 - with a grade of "C" or better.

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

Course Objectives

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

1. Define, recognize, and utilize forms of critical reasoning, including deductive and inductive reasoning, in a variety of rhetorical contexts.
2. Reflect critically on one's own thought processes to identify and avoid cognitive biases and common fallacies of language and thought.
3. Employ critical reading and research strategies to locate and evaluate complex texts representative of diverse experiences, perspectives, and forms of authority.

4. Evaluate and document evidence to construct arguments in a variety of rhetorical situations, distinguishing knowledge from belief and fact from judgment.
5. Draft written arguments to respond appropriately to texts, with attention to intended audience, purpose, and social context, and revise for clarity, cogency, persuasiveness, and soundness.

Textbooks & Other Resources or Links

- Nisbett, Richard E. *The Geography of Thought: How Asians and Westerners Think Differently...and Why*. Free Press, 2003.
- LeGuin, Ursula K. *The Lathe of Heaven*. Scribner, 2023.
- Homer. [Iliad](#). Translated by Michael Heumann. Pressbooks, 2021.
- Mills, Anna. [How Arguments Work: A Guide to Writing and Analyzing Texts in College](#). LibreText. OER.

Course Requirements and Instructional Methods

1. Any student who misses the first assignment (Syllabus Quiz) will be dropped. Students may be dropped at instructor discretion if they go over a week without turning in any assignments.
2. No late work will be accepted unless the student contacts the instructor in advance.
3. There are no make-ups for in-class assignments—including discussions, weekly assignments, and exams.
4. You are responsible for keeping track of your class grade average and the drop deadline.
5. 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.

Course Grading Based on Course Objectives

Graded Assignments	% of Total Grade
Essay #1	10
Essay #2	20
Essay #3	20
Essay #4	20
Final Exam	10
Reading Assignments	10
Discussions	10
TOTAL	100

- **Essays:** There will be four essays this semester. Essay #1 will be 500-1,000 words in length and will require only one source; Essays #2-4 will be 1,250-2,000 words in length and require at least four sources. All sources must be formatted and documented according to MLA guidelines.
- **Reading Assignments:** There will be weekly reading assignments, which will consist of answering questions related to that week's readings (or that week's videos).
- **Discussions:** There will be weekly discussions that will require you to both post responses for the class to read and respond to other people's posts.
- **Final Exam:** The final will consist of an essay focusing on a topic that will be announced later. Research will be required for this exam.



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Academic Honesty (Artificial Intelligence -AI)

IVC values critical thinking and communication skills and considers academic integrity essential to learning. Using AI tools as a replacement for your own thinking, writing, or quantitative reasoning goes against both our mission and academic honesty policy and will be considered academic dishonesty, or plagiarism unless you have been instructed to do so by your instructor. In case of any uncertainty regarding the ethical use of AI tools, students are encouraged to reach out to their instructors for clarification.

There are other 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.

Accessibility Statement

Imperial Valley College is committed to providing an accessible learning experience for all students, regardless of course modality. Every effort has been made to ensure that this course complies with all state and federal accessibility regulations, including Section 508 of the Rehabilitation Act, the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), and Title 5 of the California Code of Regulations. However, if you encounter any content that is not accessible, please contact your instructor or the area dean for assistance. If you have specific accommodations through **DSPS**, contact them for additional assistance.

We are here to support you and ensure that you have equal access to all course materials.

Course Policies

During the first week of this course, you are required to participate or you may be dropped from the course. You **MUST** complete the Syllabus Quiz by the deadline or you will be dropped. If you have any challenges with this task during the first week, please notify me as soon as possible so we can get you started!

Throughout the course, I will review your participation and assignments. If you fail to complete the required activities for **over one week**, this may be considered excessive absences and may be grounds for being



dropped. It's your responsibility to notify me if you have any challenges as soon as possible. It is also your responsibility to drop the course if you feel you can no longer participate and complete the course.

Please refer to the [General Catalog](#) for details of drop and withdrawal/"W" deadlines. If you don't drop the course before the end of the course, you will, unfortunately, earn a failing grade for the course. After the final withdrawal deadline, you will receive a grade regardless of whether you completed the work or not, potentially resulting in a failing grade on your permanent academic record.

Financial Aid

Your Grades Matter! In order to continue to receive financial aid, you must meet the Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) requirement. Making SAP means that you are maintaining a 2.0 GPA, you have successfully completed 67% of your coursework, and you will graduate on time. If you do not maintain SAP, you may lose your financial aid. If you have questions, please contact financial aid at finaid@imperial.edu.

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.

Anticipated Class Schedule/Calendar

[Provide a tentative overview of the readings, assignments, tests, and/or other activities for the duration of the course. A table format as in the example below may be used for this purpose.]

Modules & Dates	Topics and Readings	Major Assignments Due
Modules 0 & 1 <i>Week 1,</i> Feb 16-23	Syllabus & Introduction The Theory of Marginal Gains	Essay #1 Due Monday, Feb 23 at 11:59 PM
Module 2 <i>Weeks 2-3,</i> Feb 23-March 9	Argumentation Homer, Iliad , books 1 & 9	Essay #2 Due Monday, March 9 at 11:59 PM
Module 3 <i>Weeks 4-5,</i> March 9-23	Nisbett, <i>The Geography of Thought</i>	Essay #3 Due Monday, March 23 at 11:59 PM
Module 4 <i>Week 6-7,</i> March 23-April 13	LeGuin, <i>The Lathe of Heaven</i>	Essay #4 Due Monday, April 13 at 11:59 PM
Module 5 <i>Week 8,</i> April 14-16	Final Exam (topic to be announced later)	Final Exam Due Thursday, April 16 at 11:59 PM

*****Subject to change without prior notice*****