

Basic Course Information

Semester	Fall 2015	Instructor Name	D. Rowley
Course Title & #	Basic Composition 1 – Engl. 8	Email	deirdre.rowley@imperial.edu
CRN #	10923	Webpage (optional)	
Room	rm. 2751 in the Science Building	Office	Science Building 2792
Class Dates	Aug. 17, 2015 – Dec. 11, 2015	Office Hours	M/T/W 12:30-1:30pm Thurs 10:30-11:30am
Class Days	Monday / Wednesday	Office Phone #	Part-time faculty may use dept. secretary phone number.
Class Times	10:20am – 12:25pm	Office contact if student will be out or emergency	Blackboard Messaging
Units	4 credits		

Course Description

Preparation for ENGL 009. Provides developmental instruction approaching the college level in paragraph and short essay writing. (Nontransferable, non-degree applicable)

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. Generate essays with a clear thesis statement or controlling idea. (ILO1, ILO2, ILO4)
2. Write essays showing support for a thesis statement or controlling idea. (ILO1, ILO2, ILO4)
3. Construct complete sentences with few errors in sentence structure such as fragments, comma splices, run-on sentences. (ILO1, ILO2, ILO3, ILO4)
4. Compose a multi-paragraph essay that uses standard verb form and tense in response to a reading. (ILO1, ILO2, ILO4, ILO5)

Course Objectives

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

1. Develop and use discovery techniques such as free-writing and clustering and apply these techniques to expository writing of paragraphs and essays.
2. Generate ideas based upon knowledge of concrete data and be able to express ideas effectively using a controlling idea or thesis statement.
3. Organize data necessary to support a thesis statement or controlling idea while studying and applying various rhetorical modes with emphasis on description, narration, and exemplification.
4. Demonstrate the use of critical thinking by identifying the main ideas and developing written responses to a variety of written texts.
5. Demonstrate clean and correct sentence patterns and work to eliminate sentence errors such as fragments, comma splices, and run-ons.
6. Produce writing in which meaning is un-obscured by grammar or usage errors in punctuation, spelling, subject-verb agreement, verb tense, word choice, and word order.
7. Demonstrate an understanding of the writing process with special attention given to editing and proofreading.
8. Participate in a number of activities and areas of study as deemed appropriate by the instructor.

Textbooks & Other Resources

- *Grassroots with Readings*, 11th ed., by Susan Fawcett published by Cengage. ISBN:978-1-285-43077-5 (new, used, or rented) Available from IVC Bookstore, Amazon, Cengage
- *Aplia* online homework access code for *Grassroots*. Available from IVC Bookstore, Amazon, Cengage
- English only dictionary. (No electronic translators.)

Course Requirements and Instructional Methods

In Class Assignments: Grammar and punctuation practice, paragraph and essay writing, journals, and assignments in *Grassroots*. Expect group as well as individual work. There will be quizzes and quick writes. Quick writes are practice and preparation for the common final.

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. What this means for the student:

- English 008 is a 4 credit class.
- You will spend 4 hours a week in class.
- You are expected to spend 8 hours a week, outside of class reading, studying, and doing assignments.
- This works out to a total of 12 hours a week of your time spent on this class, for every week of the semester.

Aplia: Aplia provides practice and review of material covered in class. Some *Aplia* assignments will be done in the writing lab during the regularly scheduled class time. Some *Aplia* assignments will be done outside of class. *Aplia* homework may be done in one of the computer labs on campus or off campus on any computer with Internet access. *Aplia* assignments are due on Friday by 11:59pm. Once the deadline has passed, the assignments will no longer be available. *Aplia* assignments may not be completed after the deadline.

The scores earned for each *Aplia* assignment go into the grade book as homework.

Homework: Homework will both reinforce and prepare the student for the in class work. Homework will include *Aplia*, journals, writing, reading, and assignments from *Grassroots*.

- Homework is due when it is due. Late work is not accepted. If you arrive late for class, and the homework has already been collected or checked, your homework is late and will not be accepted. Emailed homework is not accepted.

The Common Final: The final exam is given at the end of the semester to all English 8 students. The final is graded by a committee of English professors, with a minimum of two professors grading each essay. While the student's own professor does not grade the final exam, she does compute the student's final grade. The score for the final exam is based on the student's final exam successfully demonstrating the Student Learning Outcomes and the Course Objectives. The common final grading is: One/Superior, Two/Adequate, Three/Fail.

Course Grading Based on Course Objectives

Grade Scale:

- 90-100% = A
- 80-89% = B
- 70-79% = C
- 60-69% = D
- 0-59% = F

A final course grade of C or better is needed to progress to the next level English class.

Grade categories are weighted as follows:

- Writing 15%
- Quizzes 10%
- Quick Writes 20%
- Homework/Classwork 5% (out-of-class assignments, plans, drafts, *Aplia*, and journals)
- Mid-Term 20%
- Common Final 30%

Essays: The value of a graded writing assignment increases as the semester progresses. This increasing point value allows a student's writing and grade to improve without poor scores in the beginning of the semester over shadowing improving writing skills as the semester progresses. Emailed essays or paragraphs are not accepted. Earlier writing will

be submitted in class. Essay assignments will be submitted and graded through Blackboard. Comments on essays graded through Blackboard are available to students once all essays are graded.

- Writing Assignment #1 = possible 50 points (paragraph)
- Writing Assignment #2 = possible 50 points (paragraph)
- Writing Assignment #3 = possible 75 points (multi-paragraph)
- Writing Assignment #4 = possible 75 points (multi-paragraph)
- Writing Assignment #5 = possible 100 points (essay)
- Writing Assignment #6 = possible 100 points (essay)

Late essays lose 5 points for each day late.

Zeros: Be aware. Although homework is worth 5% of the total grade, a string of zeros for missing homework can be disastrous for the overall grade.

Quizzes:

- Quizzes are not always announced in advance.
- Late arrivals may not take quizzes already in progress.
- Missed quizzes may not be made up.
- The lowest quiz grade is dropped.
- Quizzes cover readings and writing skills such as grammar and punctuation.

Quick Writes: Quick Writes are practice for the final exam. They are either a response to a reading or an opinion on an article previously read and discussed in class. Each Quick Write is written during a single class. Any two missed Quick Writes may be made up within five days after the date given. It is the student's responsibility to make arrangements for such make-ups. Once a student has missed two Quick Writes, any missed Quick Write earns a zero.

- Quick Write One: possible 15 points
- Quick Write Two: possible 25 points
- Quick Write Three: possible 50 points
- Quick Write Four: possible 75 points
- Quick Write Five: possible 100 points

Extra Credit: There is no extra credit.

Grade Reports: Grades are available on Blackboard 24/7.

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.
- Do not schedule non-emergency medical appointments, counseling appointments, vacations, or trips during your scheduled class time.
- Absences attributed to the representation of the college at officially approved events (conferences, contests, and field trips) will be counted as 'excused' absences.
- If you are late to class, and an activity is in progress, you will not be personally accommodated.
- If you are late to class, and the homework has been collected or checked, your homework is considered late and will not be accepted.
- Late arrivals may not take quizzes already in progress.
- Your personal attendance record is available online through Blackboard 24/7.

Classroom Etiquette

- Electronic Devices: Cell phones and electronic devices must be turned off and put away during class, unless otherwise directed by the instructor. Exceptions: ebooks
- Food and Drink are prohibited in all classrooms. Water bottles with lids/caps are the only exception. Additional restrictions will apply in labs. Please comply as directed.
- Disruptive Students: Students who disrupt or interfere with a class may be sent out of the room and told to meet with the Campus Disciplinary Officer before returning to continue with coursework. Disciplinary procedures will be followed as outlined in the General Catalog.
- Children in the classroom: Due to college rules and state laws, no one who is not enrolled in the class may attend, including children.

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
 - (11) use appropriate intensifiers to help convey meaning [do not use ALL CAPS or multiple exclamation marks (!!!!)].

Academic Honesty

- 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 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) using a commercial term paper service.

Additional Help – Discretionary Section and Language

- Blackboard support center: <http://bbcrm.edusupportcenter.com/ics/support/default.asp?deptID=8543>
- Learning Labs: There are several 'labs' on campus to assist you through the use of computers, tutors, or a combination. Please consult your college map for the Math Lab, Reading & Writing Lab, and Study Skills Center (library). Please speak to the instructor about labs unique to your specific program.
- 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.

Disabled Student Programs and Services (DSPS)

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. 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.

- **Student Health Center.** A Student Health Nurse is available on campus. In addition, Pioneers Memorial Healthcare District and El Centro Regional Center provide basic health services for students, such as first aid and care for minor illnesses. Contact the IVC [Student Health Center](#) at 760-355-6310 in Room 2109 for more information.
- **Mental Health Counseling Services.** Short-term individual, couples, family, and group therapy are provided to currently enrolled students. Contact the IVC [Mental Health Counseling Services](#) at 760-355-6196 in Room 2109 for more information.

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 helping 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/>

Anticipated Class Schedule / Calendar

These assignments and due dates are tentative and may change during the semester.
College classes require assignments be read prior to the class in which the information will be utilized.

Week/Date	Activity, Assignment, and/or Topic	Aplia
Week 1 August 17	Syllabus & Introduction Grassroots: Ch 1 and Ch. 9	
Week 2 August 24	Grassroots: Ch. 2 & 10, 11 "Daring to Dream Big" page 438. Quick Write One	Introduction Ch. 1
Week 3 August 31	GR: Ch. 3, 12, 13; Writing Assignment #1 Due Monday, 8/31/15	Ch. 2,10,
Week 4 September 7	Monday, September 7 – No classes/Campus closed GR: Ch. 3 con't,14, 15 "Put the Brakes on Driving while Texting" p.439	Ch. 9, 11, 12
Week 5 September 14	GR: Ch. 4, 16, 17 Writing Assignment #2 due Monday, 9/14/15	Ch. 3, 13, 14,
Week 6 September 21	GR: Ch. 4 con't, 18,19, 20; Quick Write Two "Superman and Me" p. 441	Ch. 15, 16, 17
Week 7 September 28	GR: Ch. 5, 21, 22; Writing Assignment #3 due Monday, 9/28/15 Preparation for Mid-Term; Mid-Term Exam	Ch. 4, 18, 19
Week 8 October 5	GR: Ch. 6, 23 "Heroes Everywhere" P. 444	Ch. 5, 20, 21
Week 9 October 12	GR: 24, 31; Writing Assignment #4 due Monday, 10/12/15 "A Day without Media: Heaven or Hell?" p.450	Ch. 22, 23
Week 10 October 19	GR: Ch. 7, 25, 29 Quick Write Three	Ch. 6, 24, 31

Fall 2015

**[IMPERIAL VALLEY COLLEGE COURSE SYLLABUS – BASIC COMPOSITION 1
ENGLISH 8 CRN 10923]**

Week 11 October 26	GR: Ch. 7 con't, 26, 35; Writing Assignment #5 due Monday, 10/26/15 "Buy Yourself Less Stuff" p. 455	Ch. 25, 29
Week 12 November 2	GR: 8, 27, 28; Quick Write Four "Stuff" p. 458	Ch. 7, 26, 35
Week 13 November 9	GR: 8 con't. Wednesday, November 11 – No Classes Writing Assignment #6 due Monday 11/9/15	Ch. 27, 28
Week 14 November 16	GR: Ch. 30, 33; preparation / practice for final exam "Why Chinese Mothers are Superior" p. 462 Quick Write Five	Ch. 8, 30
November 23-28	Thanksgiving Recess – No Classes	
Week 15 November 30	"The Hidden Life of Bottled Water" p. 485; preparation for final exam	Ch. 30, End of Semester Diagnostic
Exam Week	Common Final	