

## Basic Course Information

|                   |  |                             |  |
|-------------------|--|-----------------------------|--|
| Semester:         | Spring 2021  | Instructor Name:            | Scott Simpson  |
| Course Title & #: | ENGL 110   | Email:                      | scott.simpson@imperial.edu   |
| CRNs #:           | 20253 & 20259  | Office #:                   | 2796   |
| Classroom:        | Online   | Office Hours:               | via email: 10 - 11 AM<br>M/T/W/TH  |
| Class Dates:      | Asynchronous • No use of Zoom • Follow the weekly schedule in Canvas | Office Phone #:             | (760) 355-6164   |
| Class Days:       | Asynchronous • No use of Zoom • Follow the weekly schedule in Canvas | Contact for Canvas Support: | <b>24/7 Canvas Support Hotline is available for students to use: 877-893-9853.</b> |
| Class Times:      | Asynchronous • No use of Zoom • Follow the weekly schedule in Canvas | Class Format:               | Asynchronous • No use of Zoom • Follow the weekly schedule in Canvas               |
| Units:            | 4  |                             |  |

## 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. (CSU, UC)

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

ENGL 009 or ENGL 010 with a grade of "C" or better or appropriate placement.

## 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. 1. Compose college-level essays that contain clear thesis statements, effective support, and unified organization. (ILO1, ILO2, ILO4)
1. 2. Synthesize information from multiple sources to produce a research paper that is formatted and documented according to MLA guidelines. (ILO1, ILO2, ILO4, ILO5)
2. 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

---

## Imperial Valley College Course Syllabus • ENGL 110 • Composition & Reading • Spring 2021

6,000 words of formal writing. That's approximately 24 pages of double-spaced text with a 12-point font and one inch margins.

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

**2) Title of Book:** [They Must Be Monsters: A Modern-Day Witch Hunt](#)

**Authors:** Matthew LeRoy, Deric Haddad

ISBN-10: 1732448906    ISBN-13: 978-1732448902

**Publication Date:** July 31, 2018    **Publisher:** The Manor Publishing House

Purchase new or used anywhere you like. We will start using the book in the third week.

### 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 eight hours of homework per week for this 4-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

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

---

## Imperial Valley College Course Syllabus • ENGL 110 • Composition & Reading • Spring 2021

Points needed in order to earn an A grade: 6443 - 7159 points  
Points needed in order to earn a B grade: 5727 - 6442 points  
Points needed in order to earn a C grade: 5011 - 5726 points  
Points needed in order to earn a D grade: 4295 - 5010 points  
Points needed in order to earn a F grade: 4294 or fewer points

**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.

**Major Writing Assignments** • 5500 points • Approximately 70% of your total grade

|  |             |
|--|-------------|
| 1. Dweck/Mindset Essay                 | 500 points  |
| 2. Dweck/Zimbardo/Myers-Briggs+ Essay  | 1000 points |
| 3. American Dream Essay (Jung, et al.) | 2000 points |
| 4. Final Essay (Mass Delusions)        | 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 30% of your total grade

A) They Must Be Monsters (textbook chapter tests) approximately 579 points total

### **Discussion Boards on Canvas**

B) Discussion boards related to essay topics (12) approximately 880 points total

- **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

especially on a major assignment also usually makes it **impossible** to pass the course. 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 have to even 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. **Of course (!)** there are NO do-overs for a plagiarized assignment! 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.

(Note: If you are retaking this course, **avoid self-plagiarism**; that is, you will need to within reason to 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.)

- Again, there are no "do-overs" for any reason on any assignment.
  - Everyone gets one shot to complete each assignment.
- 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.

### **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.

• 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 especially on a major assignment also makes it virtually **impossible** to pass the course. 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 us**. We don't have to even look. The system alerts us. It highlights the copied text, even if some words have been changed. It shows us the URL on the web or the student paper it was copied from-- instantly! 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. **Of course** there are no do-overs for a plagiarized assignment. Most students would never plagiarize. But that one or two who might will very easily be caught with zero effort on my part and will suffer consequences.

(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.)

## 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, a 24/7 Canvas Support Hotline is available for students to use: 877-893-9853.
- **[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.  
The instructor reserves the right to change this syllabus during the semester.*