

Basic Course Information

Semester:	Summer 2025	Instructor Name:	Angel Sandoval, MFA
Course Title & #:	English 201 – Advanced Composition	Email:	Angel.Sandoval@imperial.edu
CRN #:	30052		n/a
Classroom:	404	Office #:	2798
Class Dates:	16 June – 24 July 2025	Office Hours:	No Office Hours
Class Days:	Monday through Thursday	Office Phone #:	(760) 355-5734
Class Times:	7:30 – 9:45 AM	Emergency Contact:	(760) 355-6337 (English Dept.)
Units:	3	Class Format:	Face-to-Face / On-Ground

Course Description

This course offers advanced instruction in argumentation and critical thinking in reading and writing through the evaluation and analysis of primarily non-fiction texts. Limitation on Enrollment: Course not open to students with a "C" or higher in English 204. (C-ID: ENGL 105) (CSU/UC)

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

ENGL 105 or ENGL 110 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. Write argumentative and analytical papers composing a total of at least 5,000 words of formal writing
2. Use style, diction, and tone appropriate to a diverse academic community and to the purpose of the specific writing task; proofread, edit, and revise essays so English grammar, usage, or punctuation does not impede clarity
3. Find, analyze, interpret, and evaluate primary and secondary sources, incorporating them into written essays using MLA documentation without plagiarism
4. Compose thesis-driven arguments to suit a variety of rhetorical situations, including interpretation, evaluation, and analysis
5. Recognize and analyze rhetorical methodologies such as inductive and deductive reasoning, cause and effect, and logos, ethos, and pathos
6. Identify a text's premises and assumptions in various social, historical, cultural, psychological, or aesthetic contexts
7. Demonstrate an understanding of formal and informal fallacies in language and thought and identify such fallacies in the writings of others
8. Critically read, analyze, and evaluate complex arguments for validity and soundness, distinguishing fact from opinion, and differentiating relevant from irrelevant support

Textbooks & Other Resources or Links

The End of Men: And the Rise of Women, by Hanna Rosin, Riverhead Books, **ISBN-13: 978-1594631832**. Required.

Nonsense: Red Herrings, Straw Men and Sacred Cows: How We Abuse Logic in Our Everyday Language, by Robert J. Gula, Axios Press, **ISBN-13: 978-1604191257**. (Any version will do.) Required.

Resources & Links

Purdue Online Writing Lab (OWL): https://owl.purdue.edu/owl/purdue_owl.html

OWL is a reference tool. On the above website you will find MLA, grammar, and writing rules.

EasyBib (citation generator): <http://www.easybib.com/guides/>

Remember, this is a tool we can use, but we should know the proper way to format a Works Cited page and be ready to edit the works-cited entries yielded by any citation generator.

MLA Style Center: <https://style.mla.org/>

Online reference that focuses on the MLA writing and documenting style we will use in this class. Also provides information on how to cite sources and generative AI material, <https://style.mla.org/citing-generative-ai/>

Course Requirements and Instructional Methods

Students are expected to:

- Complete the first week of class assignments (students who do NOT complete the assignments in the allotted time frame will be automatically dropped)
- Know and observe due dates for all assignments
- Communicate assignment extensions and/or learning needs to the instructor in a timely manner
- Participate in gathering and sharing research and contributing to discussions
- Have the equipment necessary to participate in class
- Drop the class if the student cannot participate in class or does not wish to continue the course of training
- Take an active role in successfully completing the class (the instructor and other IVC professionals such as counselors and administrators are here to help you succeed, but the bulk of the work is your responsibility)

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

– Grade Breakdown (tentative) –

Papers (all drafts) – 60 points

Journals – 10 points

Discussion Posts – 10 points

Quizzes & Other Assignments – 20 points

Total Points = 100

Extra Credit (XC) – No more than eight (8) points.

-!!!EVERY POINT COUNTS!!!-

****To get a passing grade in this class, you must submit all three final drafts. Failure to receive a score/grade for a final draft will disqualify you from obtaining a passing grade (A, B, or C) in this class. Final drafts that are deemed incomplete will earn a zero, i.e., a non-score. Moreover, receiving a zero on a final draft due to plagiarism and/or cheating will disqualify you from earning a passing grade in this class.***

Furthermore, if a student is absent the last week of class and misses the Dialogue/Debate, the student is ineligible to receive a passing grade for the class, regardless of the overall grade percentage he/she may have earned for the semester.

NOTE: Each point represents a percentage point; this means that the 100 points possible represents the 100 percent (%) associated with the overall grade.

100-90 pts. = A

89-80 pts. = B

79-70 pts. = C

69-60 pts. = D

59-0 pts. = F

This course can be taken for a letter grade only.

Like most assignments, the paper assignments are related to the larger, overall class subject/theme. Every paper will involve different types of research and different argumentation strategies.

- Paper/Project 1 – Queer Community (Research & Presentation)
- Paper 2 – Women’s and Men’s Issues (Argumentation & Research)
- Paper 3 – Dialogue/Debate Relationship (Debate & Research)

Assignments that are plagiarized will receive a score of zero (0). Papers drafts that are incomplete, not properly formatted, or off-topic are likely to receive a failing score.

****To get a passing grade in this class, you must submit all three final drafts. Failure to receive a score/grade for a final draft will disqualify you from obtaining a passing grade (A, B, or C) in this class. Final drafts that are deemed incomplete will earn a zero, i.e., a non-score. Moreover, receiving a zero on a final draft due to plagiarism and/or cheating will disqualify you from earning a passing grade in this class.***

– Evaluation of Papers –

Compositions will be scored based on whether they

1. contain a **controlling idea (or thesis)** that responds to the prompt.
2. support the main idea using **evidence and examples**.
3. present a clear **overall organization** (this includes **transitions**) and effective **paragraph structure**.
4. demonstrate clear command of **grammar and punctuation** skills.
5. follow **MLA format**, paragraph and page length, and other prompt requirements.

The rubric that follows is only a general example of the instructor’s scoring process and does not mean all or any papers will be scored in this manner.

Criterion	Full Credit	Partial Credit	No Credit
1.Thesis (2 pts)	Stated in Introduction and Conclusion, <u>Underlined</u> . Follows the	Stated in Intro or Concl. Not underlined. Does not follow the	Thesis not stated.

	thesis tiers format.	thesis tiers format.	
2. Evidence/Examples (2 pts)	3-4 pieces of evidence/examples per mini-claim (topic sentence)	1-2 piece of evidence/example.	No evidence provided to support mini-claim.
3. Organization & Structure (2 pts)	Contains all topic sentences, <u>underlined</u> . Contains transitions.	Contains some topic sentences. TS are a little vague or too broad.	Contains few or no topic sentences.
4. Grammar & Punctuation & Mechanics (2pts)	Few (0-4) grammar mistakes. Strong and grammatical sentences.	Contains grammar mistakes (5-10). Sentences are vague or unclear.	Too many grammar mistakes (10+). Sentences are incomprehensible.
MLA & Other Requirements (2 pts)	All requirements met: MLA-compliant, meets page requirements, meets source requirements.	Combination of few MLA mistakes and most requirements met.	Not MLA compliant. Does not meet page or source requirements.
Total Pts. Per Paper: 10			

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.

NOTE: Once again, provided below is an online resource that should help you avoid plagiarism and cheating.

MLA Style Center: <https://style.mla.org/>

Online reference that focuses on the MLA writing and documenting style we will use in this class. Also, provides information on how to cite sources and generative AI material, <https://style.mla.org/citing-generative-ai/>

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

Attendance

We meet face-to-face every week.

Attendance is important because oftentimes in-class assignments (which include quizzes and debates/dialogues) will NOT have makeup opportunities. If a student is absent when one of these in-class assignments without a makeup opportunity is due, the student misses out on the points. More importantly, if a student is absent the last week of class and misses the Dialogue/Debate, the student is ineligible to receive a passing grade for the class, regardless of the overall grade percentage he/she may have earned for the semester.

Additionally, in this course, logging in to Canvas on a regular basis and your class **participation** is how I will gauge your "attendance."

Online attendance is about **participation and engagement** with the course activities and assignments. Going beyond logging onto Canvas includes:

- Submitting an assignment or exam
- Taking a class quiz
- Creating a discussion post
- Participating in an instructor-led ZOOM conference

If, after reviewing the syllabus and orientation unit, you feel this is not the right course for you, please let me know ASAP, so that you can be dropped from the course and another student can be added in your place.



Students who miss more than two graded assignments (lessons, discussions, drafts, peer reviews, or conferences) *may* be dropped from the course.

In addition, students who fail to log in to the course for 7 consecutive days *risk being dropped* from the course. If you are struggling, experiencing access issues, or are seriously ill, please contact me immediately so we can develop a success plan together.

- 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.

Basic 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:
 - ✓ identify yourself
 - ✓ include a subject line
 - ✓ avoid sarcasm
 - ✓ respect others' opinions and privacy
 - ✓ acknowledge and return messages promptly
 - ✓ copy with caution
 - ✓ do not spam or junk mail
 - ✓ be concise
 - ✓ use appropriate language
 - ✓ use appropriate emoticons (emotional icons) to help convey meaning
 - ✓ 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;
- Allowing someone else to copy your answers on a quiz, test, exam, or assignment;
- Having someone else take an exam or quiz for you;
- 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);

- 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.

Other Course Information

Late Submissions / Sick Policy

I believe you; you don't need to show me a doctor's note.

However, contact me as soon as possible to request an extension on any assignment you need more time to complete. See *Assignment Extension Policy* below.

Assignment Extension Policy

If you would like more time to complete an assignment, please contact me immediately and ask for an extension. Most extension requests will be granted, especially if you *request the extension at least forty-eight (48) hours before the assignment is due (hard deadline/due date)*. If you are granted an assignment extension, your assignment will NOT be considered late.

When you E-mail me, include the name of the assignment for which you need an extension and the amount of time you need to complete it.

Remember, all major paper assignments (Paper 1, Paper 2, and Paper 3) must be submitted in order to earn a passing grade for the course.

You get a maximum of two (2) assignment extensions per semester.

If you don't wish to use your extensions on small (non-paper/drafts) assignments, you can choose to make up those assignment points by earning extra credit points. See *Extra Credit Policy* below.

Extra Credit Policy

Extra credit points/opportunities will be offered to you this semester. Extra credit assignments are optional.

You must have an in-class attendance rate of at least 85% for me to accept and score your extra credit work. Please note that Canvas will also calculate late arrivals and early departures as part of the attendance rate.

Each extra credit assignment is worth a maximum of one (1) point. Type and properly format your extra credit write-ups to earn the maximum amount of credit.

No extra credit assignment will be accepted after the **penultimate week** of the semester.



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

*****Tentative, subject to change without prior notice*****

NOTE: The following class schedule is a guiding tool used for the purpose of structure, but it should be noted that because of the natures of instruction and learning this schedule will change. With this understanding in mind, **please refer to the Announcement posts in Canvas and Canvas due dates** for updated changes to this schedule.

Week #	Assignment, Activity, and/or Topic	Assignment(s) Due
1	Orientation; MLA guidelines Lec. on Research Lec. Source Documentation Readings – Queer Community Texts– tba Readings – <i>Nonsense</i> (Gula)	Quiz 1; Paper 1-Draft 1; Paper 1-Final Draft
2	Lec. Evidence and Sources Lec. Source Credibility & Reliability Readings – Queer Community Texts – tba Readings – <i>Nonsense</i> (Gula) Readings – <i>End of Men</i> (Rosin)	Journal 1; Discussion 1

3	<p>Lec. Fallacies</p> <p>Lec. Cognitive Biases</p> <p>Lec. Assumptions and Prejudices</p> <p>Readings – <i>Nonsense</i> (Gula)</p> <p>Readings – <i>End of Men</i> (Rosin)</p>	Paper 2-Draft 1 and Paper 2-Final Draft
4	<p>Lec. Rhetorical Devices</p> <p>Lec. Logic & Rhetoric</p> <p>Readings – <i>Nonsense</i> (Gula)</p> <p>Readings – Men's Texts</p>	Journal 2 and Gula Assignment
5	<p>Self-editing and feedback</p> <p>Readings – <i>Nonsense</i> (Gula)</p>	Discussion 2; Paper 3-Draft 1; Paper 3-Final Draft
6	<p>Dialogues & Q&A</p> <p>Readings – <i>Nonsense</i> (Gula)</p>	Debates and Quiz 2

*****Tentative, subject to change without prior notice*****