



Basic Course Information

Semester:	Fall 2025	Instructor Name:	Rosa Contreras
Course Title & #:	ESL 107 Academic Discourse-World Cultures	Email:	rosa.contreras@imperial.edu
CRN #:	11398	Webpage (optional):	Canvas
Classroom:	Room 404	Office #:	2789
Class Dates:	August 11 – December 06	Office Hours:	TBD
Class Days:	Thursdays	Office Phone #:	760-355-5707
Class Times:	08:15am-10:50am	Emergency Contact:	ESL Dept. 760-355-6337
Units:	5	Class Format/Modality:	Hybrid

Course Description

ESL 107 is designed for non-native speakers of English. Students will engage in critical analysis, discussion, and response to works in the Humanities including literature, music, and art with a focus on world cultures and how values are reflected in the development of art and culture. The course will also develop English language skills with a focus on vocabulary, critical reading and composition skills required for more advanced academic discourse. (CSU, UC credit limited. See a counselor.)

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

Prerequisites: ESL 106 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. Compose a multi-paragraph essay that supports a clear thesis statement and demonstrates clarity, unity, and coherence.
2. Analyze and interpret a work of art and/or literature.
3. Describe how value systems influence works in the humanities.

Course Objectives

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

1. Examine the role of the humanities in world cultures.
2. Interpret, analyze and criticize works in the humanities including literature, visual arts, and music.
3. Describe various aesthetic and other values systems and the ways they are communicated across times and cultures.
4. Express an understanding of diverse cultural perspectives on issues.
5. Synthesize and discuss in written form insights gained from reading and other media relating information to personal experience, to past and present events, and to other texts.
6. Analyze the rhetorical context when reading by identifying genre, medium, purpose, audience, and tone.
7. Write multiple essays – including a mini-research paper – that, together add up to 4,000 words of formal writing.
8. Utilizing the writing process, compose multi-paragraph essays with clear organizational structure and adequate support which contain a variety of sentence structures and few sentence-level of grammatical errors.
9. Demonstrate an understanding of plagiarism and ethics in academic writing.
10. Demonstrate the ability to integrate into writing information from outside sources using appropriate citation methods.

Textbooks & Other Resources or Links

Foundations of English

Publisher: Hawkes Learning

Edition: 2nd

eText ISBN: 9781642775709



**Hawkes Learning provide both your textbook and exercises.

***You have an automatic temporary pass that is good for two weeks ONLY.

After that, you must have your code. **If you do not buy your code and do your exercises, you will NOT pass the class!**

You will also need: • Notebook or paper • Pen, pencil, and highlighters • Regular access to a computer with internet, Canvas, email, and Microsoft Word or Google Docs

NOTE: We will be using technology in this course. Assignments, quizzes, and discussions will be held or submitted on Canvas. Additionally, you may be asked to download, upload, and/or print resources.

Course Requirements and Instructional Methods

This is a HYBRID course.

Class meetings in person are required. We will meet face-to-face on campus AND you will do work online (Canvas).

You will have about a week to complete each module; modules open on Monday morning and close on Saturday at 11:59pm.

This class will have multiple forms of instruction, including:

- Lecture/Video • Group work • Individual work • Online work (Canvas)

Assignments will include various forms of writing (individual and group), editing, reading, and responding, exams, other exercises focusing on sentence structure and form, as well as grammar and mechanics.

Out of Class Assignments: The Department of Education policy states that one (1) credit hour is the amount of student work that reasonable 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

This course is built for you to succeed; however, you **MUST** do your work! If you do not do your work, you will not pass.

This class uses a weighted grading system. The points for each assignment count toward a category. The weights are as follows:

ACTIVITY	PERCENTAGE OF FINAL GRADE
Humanities/World Culture – Readings, Exercises, and Responses Module	20%
Grammar and Writing Exercises	20%
Think and Discuss/Participation	20%
Final Writings (paragraphs, essays, summaries)	20%



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Hawkes Learning	20%
Total:	100%

A = 90-100%; B = 80-89%; C = 70-79%; D = 60-69%; F = 59% or below. Students must earn 70% or higher to pass the class.

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.

Plagiarism and Academic Honesty Policy: Because I want to ensure that you are practicing and learning in this class, I take plagiarism very seriously. Plagiarism happens when you copy words or ideas from somewhere else and submit it or repeat it as your own work. We get better at what we practice, and when we copy, we only get better at copying, not the important English skills we should be practicing. Plagiarism is academic dishonesty and is a very serious problem.

Plagiarism and cheating includes: • copying and pasting information from webpages • copying answers from an answer key or Teacher's book • copying the work from another student in your class, in another class, or from a previous term • copying information from a webpage or book in Spanish and submitting the English translation as your work • using AI in any way.

To help keep track of plagiarism, I use Turnitin Similarity in our class. *Turnitin Similarity* will run a report and show how much of the paper is exactly like another paper, webpage, or AI generated. **Any AI usage will result in an automatic zero.**

IMPORTANT: Papers that show signs of AI use or are missing citations or works cited pages when required will receive a zero.

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 Policy: 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.

Regular participation is required. Participation includes:

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- **Posting and responding in weekly discussions**
- **Completing weekly work on canvas**
- **Completing weekly work in Hawkes Learning**
- **Submitting your work on time**
- **Attending our mandatory Face-to-Face Class Meetings**

If there is a problem with completing your work (such as being in the hospital or being sick), please let me know. I am willing to help you, but you need to make sure you communicate with me.

Late Work Policy: Late work is accepted but will be subjected to a **-5% daily point deduction**. Discussions will not be accepted late.

Participation Policy: People learn better when they are connected as a community. I encourage and expect all students to work together and participate in discussions and group activities using English Only!

To ensure your success, plan to **participate in ALL class activities!** There are many ways that we can participate, collaborate, and share ideas in an online environment. Here are a few:

- Contribute and share ideas in groups and online discussion boards.
- Reading information from the instructor as well as classmates.
- Be prepared and complete homework before due dates.
- Turning in assignments, quizzes, homework on-time.

You may be dropped if you are no longer actively participating in the course, logging into Canvas, and engaging in course material. Active participation includes logging into Canvas and engaging with course content, completing and turning in homework, assignments, and quizzes. If you are unable to log into Canvas for a long period, it is your responsibility to find out everything you missed. You have a personal problem or issue, please communicate with me and let me know what's going on before too much time has passed.

IMPORTANT:

- If you are missing any five assignments after Week 4 of the semester, you will be dropped from the course due to lack of participation.
- If you are missing any ten assignments after the Week 8, you will be dropped from the course due to lack of participation.
- If you are missing two essays before the drop date (date after which you will get a grade other than "W"), expect to be dropped from the course.

Classroom Technology Policy

To ensure that we have the best possible learning environment, I am enforcing IVC's Classroom Technology Policy. **ALL personal technology, including phones, laptops, and tablets should be kept out of sight and away during class time.** This policy is part of our College Policies. You can find more information here: <http://www.imperial.edu/studentresources>. [Links to an external site.](#)

The only **exception** to this rule is if you have a special accommodation that requires the use of technology. If this applies to you, please let me know as soon as possible. Students who do not follow this policy will be given a warning during class. If the issue persists, the student will be referred to the Dean of Student Affairs for further handling.

Tutor Verification Requirement for all Writing Assignments (Paragraphs/Essays)



In order for your final draft of any Writing Assignment to be graded, you must submit Tutor Verification showing that you worked with a tutor to revise and/or edit your draft.

👉 This requirement applies to all Writing Tasks in this course—no exceptions.

You may fulfill this requirement in one of the following ways:

- Meet in person with a tutor and receive written feedback directly on your draft
- Meet with a tutor via Zoom and obtain comments during the session
- Submit your draft online to a tutor and receive written feedback in return

It is your responsibility to meet all project deadlines. Not receiving a response from online tutoring does *not* excuse missing the Tutor Verification requirement. Plan ahead and allow time for possible delays.

✅ **How to Submit Tutor Verification:** You must submit one of the following:

- A photo or screenshot of your draft showing tutor comments
- OR, if you met with an IVC tutor, they may email me directly to confirm your visit and summarize what you worked on

Writing Assignments submitted without Tutor Verification will not be graded, and will result in zero.

Any AI usage will result in an automatic zero.

Respectful Use and Speech Policy: All students should be respectful to each other and the instructor. Remember that we are all here to learn, and learning requires practice. Nobody is perfect, and nobody in the class should feel scared or embarrassed about making mistakes. They are a part of learning! I expect all students to be treated with respect. If someone disagrees with an opinion, it is not an opportunity for name calling or belittling. It is a time to respectfully listen, contemplate, and learn. We do not have to agree in discussions, but we do have to be respectful and kind. Any instances of disrespect in a discussion will result in the student being asked to leave the class.

Netiquette and Respectful Use: IVC's Respectful Use and Netiquette Policy: IVC's official policy about netiquette is as follows: 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/emojis) to help convey meaning, and 11. Use appropriate intensifiers to help convey meaning [do not use ALL CAPS or multiple exclamation marks (!!!!)]

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

Date or Week	Activity, Assignment, and/or Topic	Due Dates
Updated 11/2024		

Week 1 August 11-16	Syllabus & Introduction: Orientation Module & Module 1: What does it mean to be human? Hawkes Learning: Diagnostic	Saturday, Aug. 16 by 11:59pm
Week 2 August 18-23	Module 2: Philosophers of the Ancient World Hawkes Lessons: 4.19, 4.20, 4.21 Compare/Contrast Mini Essay - Draft	Saturday, Aug. 23 by 11:59pm
Week 3 August 25-30	Module 3: The Ancient Olympics Hawkes Lessons: 2.6, 2.7, 2.8 Compare/Contrast Mini Essay – Final Draft	Saturday, Aug. 30 by 11:59pm
Week 4 September 1-6	<i>*Note* Campus CLOSED on Monday, Sept. 1st in observance of Labor Day</i> Module 4: Ancient Architecture – Egyptian Pyramids Hawkes Lessons: 4.15, 4.17, 7.4 Cause/Effect Writing & Draft	Saturday, Sept. 6 by 11:59pm
Week 5 September 8-13	Module 5: Ancient Architecture – Mayan Pyramids & Civilization Hawkes Lessons: 5.2, 5.3, 5.5 Cause/Effect Mini Essay – Final Draft	Saturday, Sept. 13 by 11:59pm
Week 6 September 15-20	Module 6: Art of the Islamic World Hawkes Lessons: 5.6, 5.8, 5.9 Analysis Writing	Saturday, Sept. 20 by 11:59pm
Week 7 September 22-27	Module 7: Myths and Folklore Hawkes Lesson 7.5 Analysis Mini Essay Draft	Saturday, Sept. 27 by 11:59pm
Week 8 Sept. 29-Oct. 4	Module 8: Folklore – Mythology Hawkes Learning Midterm Analysis Mini Essay – Final Draft	Saturday, Oct. 4 11:59pm
Week 9 October 6-11	Module 9: Poetry Hawkes Lesson 8.1 The Research Essay, Planning	Saturday, Oct. 11 by 11:59pm
Week 10 October 13-18	Module 10: Literature Hawkes Lesson 8.2 Research Essay, Thesis Proposal	Saturday, Oct. 18 by 11:59pm
Week 11 October 20-25	Module 11: Literature Hawkes Lesson 8.3 Research Essay, Outline & Introduction Paragraph	Saturday, Oct. 25 by 11:59pm
Week 12 Oct. 27-Nov. 1	Module 12: Literature Hawkes Lesson 8.4 Research Essay, Supporting Paragraph 1	Saturday, Nov. 1 11:59pm



Week 13 November 3-8	Module 13: Literature Hawkes Lesson 8.5 Research Essay, Supporting Paragraphs 2 & 3	Saturday, Nov. 8 by 11:59pm
Week 14 November 10-15	Module 14: Literature Hawkes Lesson 8.6 Research Essay, Conclusion	Saturday, Nov. 15 by 11:59pm
Week 15 November 17-22	Module 15: Literature Review for Hawkes Learning Final Exam Research Essay, Rough Draft	Saturday, Nov. 22 by 11:59pm
Thanksgiving Break	Thanksgiving Break November November 24 – November 29th	Thanksgiving Break
Week 16 December 1-5	Module 16: Final Module Hawkes Learning Final Exam Research Paper Final Draft Due IMPORTANT: Final Essay DUE Friday, December 5th at 11:59pm	Final Essay, 12/5th by 11:59pm Module, 6/5th by 11:59pm

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