



IMPERIAL VALLEY COLLEGE

Basic Course Information

Semester:	Spring 2026	Instructor Name:	Rosa Contreras
Course Title & #:	ESL 108 College Composition for Non-Native Speakers	Email:	rosa.contreras@imperial.edu
CRN #:	21118	Webpage (optional):	Canvas
Classroom:	Room 302	Office #:	2789
Class Dates:	February 17 – June 12	Office Hours:	TBD – See Canvas
Class Days:	Mondays & Wednesdays	Office Phone #:	760-355-5707
Class Times:	08:00am-09:25am	Emergency Contact:	ESL Dept. 760-355-6337
Units:	5	Class Format/Modality:	HYBRID -class meetings required

Course Description

This college composition course emphasizes advanced writing, reading, critical thinking, and research skills. It focuses on the needs of multilingual writers by addressing specific language and cultural content required for academic and professional writing. Writing assignments include expository and argumentative prose based on the analysis of texts that include diverse perspectives. Students write a minimum of 6,000 words, including at least one research paper. (C-ID: ENGL100) (CSU/UC)

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

Prerequisites: ESL 106 or ESL 107 – with a grade of “C” or better or appropriate placement based on AB 705.

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. Critically read, analyze, and summarize college-level texts.
2. Compose texts for a wide range of situations, both academic and professional, which demonstrate critical thinking, effective structure and development, and clarity of language.
3. Assess the credibility of online and print sources and integrate them into writing through effective paraphrases and quotation using MLA citation formatting standards.

Course Objectives

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

1. Read, analyze, and respond to a sampling of academic and professional texts with consideration of context, purpose, and culturally-bound references;
2. Employ a variety of rhetorical strategies to write comprehensive, well-developed, and coherent texts with focused theses and appropriate support.
3. Summarize and discuss academic college-level non-fiction and fiction.
4. Completely integrate multiple text sources for the purpose of developing a written argument, analysis, or interpretation.
5. Locate, read, evaluate, analyze, and interpret primary and secondary sources, incorporating them into written essays using appropriate documentation.
6. Self-edit for common second language errors such as verb usage, word forms, and sentence boundaries.

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7. Compose multiple papers-including one research paper – that, together, add up to 6,000 words of formal writing.
8. Construct concise, grammatically correct, and varied sentences following the principles of standard edited American English and conventions of genre.
9. Demonstrate a command of rules regarding plagiarism and academic ethics.
10. Write timed/in class essay exhibiting college-level control of mechanics, organization, development, and coherence.

Textbooks & Other Resources or Links

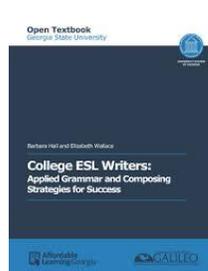
College ESL Writers: Applied Grammar and Composing Strategies for Success

Authors: Barbara Hall & Elizabeth Wallace

This is an OER Book; no need to purchase.

You can access the book from the link below:

<https://oer.galileo.usg.edu/english-textbooks/14/>



I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings

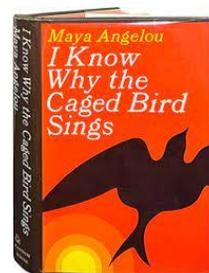
Author: Maya Angelou

Publisher: Ballantine Books

ISBN: 978-0345514400

You can access the book from the link below:

<https://ccyd.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2021/02/I-Know-Why-the-Caged-Bird-Sings-PDFDrive-.pdf>



** **Any copy of the book is fine because we go by chapters and not page numbers.

Also, our IVC library has about 30 copies of this book available to check out.

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

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. There are required class meetings in person. You will also 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:

CATEGORY	PERCENT
Readings, Exercises, and Responses	20%
Grammar and Writing Exercises	20%
Think and Discuss/Reflections	10%
Final Writings (paragraphs, essays, summaries)	25%
Textbook – <i>College ESL Writers</i>	25%
TOTAL	100%

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:

- Posting and responding in weekly discussions
- Completing weekly work on canvas
- Submitting your work on time

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. Assignments lock after two weeks.

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.



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- 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.

Tutor Verification Requirement for Essay Grading

In order for your final draft of any essay 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 essays 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

Essays 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
Week 1 February 16-21	<p>*Note* Campus CLOSED on Monday, Feb. 16th in observance of Martin Luther King, Jr.'s Day</p> <p>Syllabus & Introduction Orientation Module DUE: Tuesday, 8/13th at 11:59pm Module Week 1: Intro to the course components, pre-reading strategies and grammar assessments</p>	Saturday, Feb. 21 by 11:59pm
Week 2 February 23-28	<p>Overview of Formal Discussions, ICE, and MLA College ESL Writers: Prewriting Strategies, Sentence Variety, Coordination and Subordination, Sentence Structure and Errors, and Parallelism. Discussion: Effective Introduction? Annotations: Maya Angelou background</p>	Saturday, Feb. 28 by 11:59pm
Week 3 March 2-7	<p>College ESL Writers: Commonly Confused Words, Spelling, Effective Means for Writing a Paragraphs; Purpose, Audience, Tone, and Content Compare and Contrast Quiz, RAP and ICE quiz MLA 9th Edition sheet, MLA Activity, MLA Quiz Caged Bird Background Information & Ch. 1-6 quiz</p>	Saturday, March 7 by 11:59pm
Week 4 March 9-14	<p>College ESL Writers: Word Choice and The Writing Process Discussion: Stereotypes and Restraint Annotations: Three Articles for Compare/Contrast ISMs Essay</p>	Saturday, March 14 by 11:59pm
Week 5 March 16-21	<p>MLA Quiz 1 College ESL Writers: Run-on Sentences, Comma Splices and Run-ons, Word Form, and Developing a Thesis Compare/Contrast ISMs Essay Rubric & Outline Caged Bird Ch. 7-12 quiz</p>	Saturday, March 21 by 11:59pm
Week 6 March 23-28	<p>MLA Quiz 2 College ESL Writers: Context Clues, Subject-Verb Agreement, and Outlining Annotations: parenting styles article/poem Discussion: Deadly Superior? Caged Bird Ch. 13-17 quiz **FINAL DRAFT of Compare/Contrast Isms essay</p>	Saturday, March 28 by 11:59pm
Week 7 March 30-April 4	<p>College ESL Writers: Negative Statements and Writing Introductions Paragraphs MLA Quiz 3 Persuasion vs. Argumentation; Intro. To Logos, Pathos, and Ethos Midterm Group Project Introduction</p>	Saturday, April 4 by 11:59pm



	<p>Discussion: Logos, Pathos, Ethos Caged Bird Ch. 18-21 quiz</p>	
SPRING BREAK	SPRING BREAK APRIL 5-11 SPRING BREAK	SPRING BREAK
<p>Week 8 April 13-18</p>	<p>MLA Quiz 4 College ESL Writers: Comma Usage, Semicolon Uses, Count and Noncount Nouns and Articles, Pronouns, Pronoun Agreement, and Writing Body Paragraphs Argumentative Essay Models and Phrases **Midterm Group Project Submission and Presentations Caged Bird Ch. 22-24 quiz</p>	<p>Saturday, April 18 11:59pm</p>
<p>Week 9 April 20-25</p>	<p>MLA Quiz 5 College ESL Writers: Commas and Writing Conclusion Paragraphs Formal vs Informal writing; Database Searching, What is an Argumentative Essay? Argumentative Research Essay: Ban TikTok assignment, Video quizzes, and T-chart</p>	<p>Saturday, April 25 by 11:59pm</p>
<p>Week 10 April 27-May 2</p>	<p>MLA Quiz 6 Semicolons, Colons, Subject-Verb Agreement, Reviewing Your Essay Discussion: Representing Race Research Essay Ban TikTok scholarly article, outline, and rough draft. Caged Bird Ch. 25-29 quiz</p>	<p>Saturday, May 2 by 11:59pm</p>
<p>Week 11 May 4-9</p>	<p>MLA Quiz 7 College ESL Writers: Quotes and Apostrophes Completing a Peer Review quiz Discussion: Who Has More to Fear? Argumentative Research Essay peer review (in-class ONLY) Caged Bird Ch. 30-33 quiz</p>	<p>Saturday, May 9 by 11:59pm</p>
<p>Week 12 May 11-16</p>	<p>MLA Quiz 8 College ESL Writers: Parenthesis, Dashes, and Editing for Grammar and Mechanics Discussion: Junkyard: Trash or Treasure? Argumentative Research essay tutor verification and Final Draft due Caged Bird Ch. 34-36 quiz</p>	<p>Saturday, May 16 by 11:59pm</p>
<p>Week 13 May 18-23</p>	<p>MLA Quiz 9 College ESL Writers: Hyphens, Capitalization, and Qualities of Good Writing Discussion: Free from Her Cage? Final Essay Prompt, Outline, and Rough Draft</p>	<p>Saturday, May 23 by 11:59pm</p>
<p>Week 14 May 25-30</p>	<p>*Note* Campus CLOSED on Monday, May 25th in observance of Memorial Day MLA Quiz 10</p>	<p>Saturday, May 30 by 11:59pm</p>



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	Final Research Essay Rough Draft Peer Review (in-class ONLY) <i>Caged Bird</i> Film	
Week 15 June 1-6	Final Essay draft revising/editing Review: sentence fragments and run-on sentences	Saturday, June 6 by 11:59pm
Week 16 June 8-12	IMPORTANT: Final Essay Tutor Verification and Final Draft DUE Thursday, June 11th at 11:59pm	Final Essay, 06/11th by 11:59pm Module, 06/12 by 11:59pm

Subject to change without prior notice