

**English 008
Basic English Composition
Imperial Valley College
Fall 2013**

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Hours: M 12:00-1:00 p.m., T 1:30-2:30 p.m., W 12:00-1:00 p.m., TH 12:00-1:00 p.m.

Course Catalog Description

ENGL 008 Basic English Composition

Preparation for ENGL 009. Provides developmental instruction approaching the college level in paragraph and short essay writing.

Course Objectives

Welcome to English 008! The primary objective of this course is to provide you with the skills to write well-structured English paragraphs and short essays. In this class, we will focus on grammar, mechanics, sentence structure, paragraph structure, and essays. To accomplish this goal, we will employ a number of techniques including exercises, short readings, in-class writing assignments, and formal writing assignments (paragraphs and short essays). Though this class will be challenging, it will also be rewarding. Mastering the skills necessary for written communication will not only benefit you throughout your education, but also in your professional and personal future as well.

Goals

- Develop and use discovery techniques such as free-writing and clustering to explore ideas
- Demonstrate mastery of topic sentences and thesis statements
- Write a well-organized, multi-paragraph essay using a variety of organizational structures
- Use critical thinking to formulate thoughtful and reasonable arguments and responses
- Produce short essays with few to no errors in grammar, mechanics, and sentence structure

English 008 Student Learning Outcomes

1. Generate essays with a clear thesis statement.
2. Write essays showing support of a thesis statement
3. Construct complete sentences with few errors in sentence structure such as fragments, comma splices, and run on sentences.

Required Texts and Materials

College Writing Skills with Readings John Langan, 9th Edition

Recommended Texts and Materials

A good dictionary
A spiral-bound notebook

Attendance

It is important that you make every effort possible to attend every class. Participation is an important part of the classroom experience, and if you are not there, you can't participate. Since we will move quickly through subjects, missing one class could mean missing an entire section! If you do miss for any reason, please try to contact a classmate about homework or assignments that you might have missed. If you miss more than two classes, you should seriously consider dropping the class.

Being tardy to class not only is detrimental to you, it disrupts the class. In many cases, journal topics and assignments will be given at the beginning of class. If you are not there, you will not be allowed to make these up.

Financial aid, counseling, or tutoring appointments are not excused absences. Be responsible with your time and schedule these accordingly.

Late work will cost you points! You will lose one point for each class an assignment is late. One point equals one letter grade on that assignment.

Academic Misconduct Policy

Academic misconduct includes misconduct associated with the classroom, laboratory or clinical learning process. Some examples of academic misconduct are cheating and plagiarism.

Cheating includes, but is not limited to, (a) use of any unauthorized assistance in taking quizzes, tests, assessment tests or examinations; (b) dependence upon the aid of sources beyond those authorized by the faculty member in writing papers, preparing reports, solving problems, or carrying out other assignments; or (c) the acquisition, without permission, of tests or other academic material belonging to a member of the college faculty or staff.

Plagiarism includes, but is not limited to, the use of paraphrased or directly quoted published or unpublished work of another person without full and clear acknowledgment. It also includes the unacknowledged use of materials prepared by another person or agency engaged in the selling of term papers or other academic materials. Information gathered from the internet and not properly identified is also considered plagiarism.

Any student found by a faculty member to have committed academic misconduct may be subject to sanctions as determined by the faculty member. Sanctions MAY include a warning, grade adjustment, and course failure. Consequences for plagiarism include a zero on the assignment and a referral to Sergio Lopez, Dean of Student Development and Campus Events.

Discipline Policy

"Imperial Valley College is maintained for the purpose of providing students in the community with programs of instruction in higher education. The College is concerned with the fostering of knowledge, the search for truth and the dissemination of ideas. Students shall assume an obligation to conduct themselves in a manner compatible with the college's function as an educational institution.

An instructor MAY REMOVE a student for the day of removal and the next class meeting. Such action must be immediately reported to Sergio Lopez, Dean of Student Development and Campus Events. During the period of removal the student MAY NOT return without the consent of the instructor."

Assignments

Homework: Most of the homework will come from the textbook. You are required to do *all* of the reading and the assigned exercises.

Journal: Most days will begin with journal writing. You need to come to class prepared with paper and a pen or pencil everyday. A complete journal entry will consist of at least a full page of writing.

Quizzes: We will have at least 3 quizzes covering different grammatical, mechanical or compositional skills. These questions will primarily come from your readings, so it's important to complete all of your homework.

Writing Assignment: For this class, there will be a total of 4 graded essays not including the midterm and final. These essays will cover a number of different organizational structures. Only complete essays (including rough drafts) will be accepted for a grade.

Midterm and Final: We will have a midterm and final for this class. This may consist of fill-in-the blank, multiple choice, short answer, and short essay responses.

Grading Policy

Writing Assignments (4)	40	100-90% - A
Quizzes (3)	15	89-80% - B
Journal	10	79-70% - C
Homework/In-class work	10	69-60% - D
Midterm	10	59-0% - F
Final	15	

Grade Check

Essay #1	_____	(10)
Essay #2	_____	(10)
Essay #3	_____	(10)
Essay #4	_____	(10)
Quiz #1	_____	(5)
Quiz #2	_____	(5)
Quiz #3	_____	(5)
Journal	_____	(10)
HW/CLWK	_____	(10)
Midterm	_____	(10)
Final	_____	(15)

Some Final Notes

- Plagiarism is bad. If you are caught cheating, you will receive an F for that assignment.
- No cell phones in class. Please be respectful of your fellow classmates and turn your phone to silent.
- If you continuously leave for bathroom/phone/friends/any other kind of break, it may become a problem.
- Any student with a documented disability who may need educational accommodations should notify me or the DSP&S office as soon as possible, Room 2117, (760) 355-6312

Schedule*

Week 1 Aug 23	Introductions, syllabus, prewriting techniques
Week 2 Aug 30	Review Chapter 1, review chapter 2,
Week 3 Sept 6	Chapter 3
Week 4 Sept 13	chapter 4, chapter 5
Week 5 Sept 20	Chapter 8, chapter 9
Week 6 Sept 27	Chapter 11, Chapter 24, chapter 25
Week 7 Oct 4	Essay #1 due, Quiz #1, Chapter 12
Week 8 Oct 11	Chapter 13, Chapter 27, Chapter 34
Week 9 Oct 18	Essay #2 Due, Quiz #2
Week 10 Oct 25	Midterm, Chapter 14
Week 11 Nov 1	Chapter 15, Chapter 39
Week 12 Nov 8	Chapter 17, Chapter 21, Chapter 22
Week 13 Nov 15	Essay #3, Quiz #3 (Chapter 22 continued)
Week 14 Nov 22	Chapter 16, Chapter 40, Chapter 42, Chapter 43
Week 15 Nov 29	Holiday
Week 16 Dec 6	Essay #4, Final

*Schedule is subject to change