

Imperial Valley College
Syllabus: Fall 2013
English 110 – English Composition and Reading

Instructor: Audrey A. Morris, M.S. Ed.
Email: audrey.morris@imperial.edu
Office: 2700/2799
Phone: 760 355-6354

CRN: 10411
Day/Time: M, 8/19 4:30 – 6pm
CRN: 10412
Day/Time: T, 8/20 1 – 2:30pm

Office Hours: M 3:30 – 4:30pm; W 4:30 – 5:30 pm; R 1:00 – 2:00 pm (In Office – 2799)
T 1:00 – 2:00 pm (In Writing Lab)

Read not to contradict and confute, not to believe and take for granted,
not to find talk and discourse, but to weigh and consider.
~Sir Francis Bacon

Course Description

English 110 is the standard freshman course in English at IVC. It has been designed to improve your ability to read, think and write academic texts clearly and purposefully. The course includes an emphasis on reading, interpreting, and evaluating texts, as well as on academic writing and research strategies. Students in this course will write a research paper using MLA guidelines and will read and interpret a single-author text. This course is offered online and requires the use of a computer and an Internet connections. *See *log-in instructions on the Blackboard Link on the Student Menu on the IVC Homepage.*

Student Learning Outcomes

Upon completion of this course, you will be able to:

1. Demonstrate mastery of research strategies, including appropriate use and correct documentation of research materials (IL01, IL04, IL05)
2. Demonstrate mastery of pre-writing strategies, including brainstorming and outlining (IL01, IL02)
3. Develop an essay of multiple pages that effectively presents and strongly supports a thesis statement (IL01, IL02)
4. Demonstrate command of rules regarding plagiarism and academic ethics. (IL03)

Course Objectives

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

1. Read, analyze, and interpret a variety of written texts, including one single-author text.
2. Identify evidence, tone, purpose, and audience, and fallacies in a variety of written works.
3. Demonstrate a thorough understanding of the writing process, from development and drafting to revising and editing.
4. Demonstrate a command of varying writing patterns, such as comparison and contrast, definition, and argumentation.
5. Demonstrate an understanding of connotative and figurative language while writing for an academic audience.
6. Adapt writing strategies to the requirements of the writing situation (e.g., to essay exam or other timed writing, research writing, reflective writing)
7. Examine and analyze their own writing and that of other students with a view towards improving the effectiveness of the written work.
8. Develop text analysis and interpretation supported by citations, synthesized with the study and application of documentation styles and library skills (including electronic databases) to produce a research paper.
9. Demonstrate an understanding of the writing process by writing at least four essays using a variety of rhetorical modes, along with one research paper, composing a total of 8,000-10,000 words. Expository and

argumentative papers constitute the bulk of student writing. However, revisions, summaries, journals, or other assigned writing may be used to meet the requirement.

10. Participate in a number of activities and areas of study as deemed appropriate by the instructor.

Required Texts and Equipment

- *The St. Martin's Guide to Writing* by Rise B. Axelrod and Charles R. Cooper, Tenth Edition*
- *Fahrenheit 451* by Ray Bradbury
- Lined paper, notebook, pens, pencils, erasers, portfolio cover
- Access to a computer and the Internet

Attendance and Participation

In English 110, subject matter and skills are introduced and practiced by completing online activities and assignments. Completion of assignments and participating in online discussions, blogs, and journals is required. *If you do not complete the Week 1 Assignments, you will be dropped; otherwise, it is your responsibility to drop before the deadline.*

Evaluation: Class Preparation and Assignments

You are responsible for knowing and observing due dates for all assignments, and I expect you to come to class prepared, as many in-class activities are based on your preparation. I will evaluate your preparation by collecting and grading selected assignments and also by giving impromptu quizzes on your reading. Aside from documented emergency situations, I will not grade late assignments or give make-up tests.

Plagiarism, using someone else's writings, ideas and/or words and passing them off as your own, is a form of cheating and will result in an "F" on the assignment or test and a visit to the dean. If it is repeated, the student will fail the course and can be expelled from the college. See student handbook for policy.

Evaluation: Grades

A final grade will be based on your weighted average in the following categories:

- Essays: 70%
- Weekly Discussion/Blog: 10%
- Weekly Assignments: 10%
- Weekly Quizzes: 5%
- Weekly Journals: 5%

Essay 1 – 10%
Essay 2 – 15%
Essay 3 – 20%
Essay 4 – 25%

90-100% = A; 80-89%=B; 70-79%=C; 60-69%=D; 0-59%=F

Successful Students

In this class, you will be given the opportunity to learn vital reading, thinking, and reasoning skills that will prepare you for future academic and life pursuits. You will make the most of this opportunity if you:

- **Read** the syllabus carefully
- **Ask questions** about assignments and check Blackboard before due dates
- **Set aside plenty of time** to do the necessary reading and thinking for this course.
- **Know when to ask for help!**

If you suspect you have a disability that may impact your ability to achieve the objectives of this course, please notify your instructor or contact the DSPS staff in the Health Services Building at 355-6312. All information and documentation is confidential.

Course Map: English 110

Unit I: READING, WRITING AND THINKING (4 weeks)

- Week 1: Thinking about Writing (Chapter 1 & 11)
- Week 2: Thinking about Reading (Chapter 12 & F451/1 – 32)
- Week 3: Remembering an Event (Chapter 2 & F451/33 – 68)
- Week 4: Narrating and Describing (Chapter 14 & 15 & F451/69 – 91)

Unit 1 Essay: 600 – 800 words
Remembered Event Essay (Narrative)

Unit II: READING, WRITING AND LEARNING (4 weeks)

- Week 5: Explaining a Concept (Chapter 4 & F451/91 – 110)
- Week 6: Defining & Classifying (Chapter 16 & 17 & F451/111 – 139)
- Week 7: Comparing and Contrasting (Chapter 18 & F451/139 – 173)
- Week 8: In-Class Essay: Explaining a Concept

Unit 2 Essay: 600 – 800 words
Explaining a Concept (Expository)

Unit III: READING, WRITING, AND RESEARCH (4 weeks)

- Week 9: Proposing a Solution and Planning a Research Project (Chapter 7 & 23)
- Week 10: Speculating About Causes (Chapter 9)
- Week 11: Evaluating and Using Sources (Chapter 25 & 26)
- Week 12: Using MLA and Avoiding Plagiarism (Chapter 27)

Unit 3 Essay: 2800 - 3200 words
Research Paper (Expository)

Unit IV: READING, WRITING, AND PERSUASION (4 weeks)

- Week 13: Reading and Analyzing an Argument (Chapter 6)
- Week 14: Finding Common Ground (Chapter 5)
- Week 15: Arguing a Position (Chapter 19)
- Week 16: In Class Final: Persuasive Essay

Unit 4 Essay: 800 – 1000 words
Persuasive Essay (Expository)

Note: Chapter #'s refer to *The St. Martin's Guide to Writing, 10th Edition*
F451 refers to *Fahrenheit 451*