

# ENGL 9 – Basic English Composition II

## Course Syllabus – Fall 2013

### Class Meetings

Section 10361 meets Mon/Wed/Fri ..... 11:25 a.m. to 12:40 p.m. in Room 2731.  
Section 10363 meets Mon/Wed/Fri ..... 12:50 p.m. to 2:05 p.m. in Room 2751.  
Section 10370 meets Thursday evening ..... 5:30 p.m. to 9:45 p.m. in Room 212.

### Instructor and Office Hours

James David Patterson, PhD james.patterson@imperial.edu  
<http://faculty.imperial.edu/james.patterson> Office 2780

Monday ..... **3:30 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.**  
Tuesday ..... **11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.**  
Wednesday ..... **3:30 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.**  
Thursday ..... **11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.**

### Course Description

Preparation for ENGL 110. The course seeks to facilitate the student's *mastery* of the short essay at the college level. The course follows in sequence from ENGL 008.

“Mastery has been achieved when one neither makes a mistake nor hesitates in the performance.” – Friedrich Nietzsche

“Mastery indicates that the process or material has been over-learned to the point of automaticity.” – Kathleen Ricards Hopkins

### Required Textbooks and Materials

- Beidler, Peter G. *Writing Matters*, 2<sup>nd</sup> edition. Seattle: Coffeetown Press, 2013. ISBN: 1603811745. The textbook is available in the college bookstore.

Sharing textbooks will not be allowed in this class; each student is responsible to have her or his book. Copies of chapters from the book are a violation of copyright law and will be confiscated if discovered.

- Patterson, James. *English 9 Handbook*. Fall Semester 2013. Imperial, CA: IVC, 2013. A print copy can be purchased in the Reprographics Office.

- The student will need access to her/his IVC email account, WebStar, and Blackboard. The student is expected to check her/his IVC email account daily. Specific instructions and assignments will be available only through the Blackboard system.
- In addition, the student is expected to have a good, quality English dictionary. Bilingual students are encouraged to use a bilingual dictionary as well.
- In-class writing assignments must be completed in black or blue ink on standard 8½ x 11 notebook paper with clean edges.
- In addition, the student should purchase five (5) large, 8½ x 11 Greenbooks/Bluebooks for in-class writing assignments.

### **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 responds to an essay prompt with a clear controlling idea or thesis statement.
2. Compose a multi-paragraph essay with a clear organizational structure and adequate support.
3. Compose a multi-paragraph essay that uses correctly formed sentences with virtually no sentence-level or grammar errors.
4. Develop a research paper that effectively synthesizes ideas and information from multiple sources and utilizes correct MLA formatting of citations.

### **Evaluation of Student Progress**

Student learning will be evaluated in seven categories:

1. Basic Skills Examinations	60 pts
2. In-Class Essays	80 pts
3. Essay Revisions	80 pts
4. Reading Comprehension	40 pts
5. Summary Writing (paragraphs)	40 pts
6. Academic Writing Project	40 pts
7. the Common Essay Examination	80 pts

Additional information pertaining to these seven categories is provided in the ***English 9 Handbook***, available in the Reprographics Office.

The final grade will be based on the following:

Final Grade of <b>A</b> .....	375 pts
Final Grade of <b>B</b> .....	330 pts
Final Grade of <b>C</b> .....	290 pts

### **Accommodations**

Any student with a documented disability (i.e., learning disability, physical, psychological, vision, hearing, etc.) who needs to arrange reasonable accommodations must contact the instructor and Disabled Student Programs and Services at the beginning of the semester.

**NOTE:** Any recording (audio and/or video) of the lecture components of class must have the explicit, written permission of the instructor.

### **Attendance Policy / Disrespectful Behavior**

The student is expected to attend every scheduled class period, to arrive in the classroom before class begins, and to remain in class until the class period concludes.

***Official withdrawal from the course is the student's responsibility.***

The college catalog notes that "A student may be excluded from further attendance in a class during any semester when absences [...] have exceeded the number of class hours which the class meets per week." This is a 4-unit course; the instructor reserves the right to drop a student when absences **exceed four (4) hours** of class time.

***It is the student's responsibility to schedule proctored make up of missed in-class essays; however, missed textbook assignments or a missed Common Essay Examination cannot be made up.***

The student shall assume an obligation to conduct herself/himself in a manner compatible with the college's function as an educational institution. Misconduct is subject to disciplinary action.

When attending class, it is required that the student demonstrate respect for the instructor and fellow students. *Coming to class unprepared is considered disrespectful behavior.* Perceived disrespect (or disruptive behavior) or other misconduct will prompt the removal of the student(s) from the class for the remainder of the class period.

“From the day that you decide to change and be different, that is when everything starts counting.” – Emeterio Hernandez, former student

### **Spelling and Penmanship**

A text demonstrates the writer’s skill and competence in composition. In this composition course, correct spelling, appropriate grammar, and legible penmanship are expected. Therefore, submitted assignments which lack correct spelling, appropriate grammar, or legible penmanship are not acceptable.

### **Plagiarism and Cheating**

Submitting a paper or essay to the instructor is a form of publication protected by the appropriate copyright laws of the United States. Therefore, the use of another’s words, phrases, ideas, and/or organization, delivered as the student’s own words, phrases, ideas, and/or organization is plagiarism. *Any student found to have plagiarized materials in any writing assignment will receive a failing grade for the assignment.*

Given the definition of plagiarism, the following rule-of-thumb will apply to papers submitted in this class. Any three words (or more) taken in sequence from a published source, without correct punctuation and documentation, is considered plagiarism. For the purposes of this class, there is no difference between accidental and intentional plagiarism. Therefore, the student is warned to pay close attention to instruction provided regarding the use of quotation marks and the correct application of parenthetical references in one’s essays.

Students are encouraged to join study groups and/or to seek tutoring assistance in the development of their writing skills. Each student is expected to write her or his own papers, but study group activity or tutoring assistance is not considered cheating in this course. *Any student found to have cheated by submitting work evidently completed by someone else will receive a failing grade for the assignment.*

### **Maintenance of Records**

The instructor will attempt to return to the student all class materials. The student should keep these materials until after the final grade has been posted and accepted. These materials will be needed in the event the student elects to challenge the posted final grade.

Materials not returned to the student by the final class meeting will be held in the instructor’s office through the first four weeks of the next term. Any papers not retrieved by the student may be used (in part or whole) as sample texts in future courses.

## **Emergency Procedures**

In the event it becomes necessary to evacuate the classroom, students should quickly gather their personal belongings and walk to the classroom's assigned area (avoiding the parking lot areas). The instructor, or other campus personnel, will join the students and remain with them until further instructions are available.

In the event of an emergency in the classroom, the instructor will ask for two volunteers with personal cell phones. One student will be directed to call 9-1-1 and report the emergency. The other student will be directed to call the campus operator at 352-8320. Campus security will assist emergency personnel in locating the classroom.

Students without medical or first aid training may be asked to clear the area, depending on the event. Students with medical or first aid training may offer assistance but are not required or expected to do so.

## **Tentative Class Schedule** [Fall 2013]

Week 1	Introduction to Course
Week 2	Basic Skills: Simple, Compound, and Complex Sentences
Week 3	Basic Skills: Paragraphs and Summary Writing
Week 4	The Academic Writing Process
Week 5	Punctuation & Prewriting Strategies
Week 6	<b><u>Essay 1: Cause/Effect</u></b>
Week 7	Revision & MLA Formatting
Week 8	Outlining
Week 9	<b><u>Essay 1: Comparison/Contrast</u></b>
Week 10	Review of Skills
Week 11	<b><u>Essay 3: Definition</u></b>
Week 12	Scholarly Research and Writing
	<b>Drop Deadline: 9 November 2013</b>
Week 13	<b><u>Essay 4: Persuasive</u></b>
Week 14	Common Essay Exam preparation
Week 15	Common Essay Examination
Week 16	Course Evaluation and Final Examination