



ILLINOIS VALLEY COMMUNITY COLLEGE

COURSE OUTLINE

DIVISION: Humanities, Fine Arts and Social Science (HFASS)

COURSE: ENG 0995 Basic Reading and Composition

Effective Date: Summer 2026

Submitted Date: Nov-25

Credit Hours: 3

IAI Number (if applicable): None

Complete all that apply or mark "None" where appropriate:

Prerequisite(s): Appropriate score and placement with Accuplacer and/or Write Placer OR Meeting the requirements outlined on the IVCC Placement Grid:

<https://www.ivcc.edu/assessmentcenter/PlacementGridIVCC.pdf>

Enrollment by assessment or other measure? ☒ Yes ☐ No

If yes, please describe: Appropriate score on the Next Generation Accuplacer test.

Corequisite(s):

Pre- or Corequisite(s):

Consent of Instructor: ☐ Yes ☒ No

Delivery Method: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Lecture	3 Contact Hours (1 contact = 1 credit hour)
<input type="checkbox"/> Seminar	0 Contact Hours (1 contact = 1 credit hour)
<input type="checkbox"/> Lab	0 Contact Hours (2-3 contact = 1 credit hour)
<input type="checkbox"/> Clinical	0 Contact Hours (3 contact = 1 credit hour)
<input type="checkbox"/> Practicum	0 Contact Hours (5 contact = 1 credit hour)
<input type="checkbox"/> Internship	0 Contact Hours (5 contact = 1 credit hour)

Offered: ☒ **Fall** ☒ **Spring** ☒ **Summer**

CATALOG DESCRIPTION:

This course is designed to enhance student reading comprehension and writing skills necessary for college success. The course emphasizes critical thinking, effective communication, and academic preparedness. Students will practice strategies for understanding and analyzing texts, identifying main ideas, making inferences, summarizing information, and applying those skills to classroom discussions and writing projects. Writing instruction will focus on brainstorming and planning strategies, organizing ideas, developing clear paragraphs and essays, expressing thoughts effectively, and grammar and writing mechanics. Basic Reading and Composition earns three credit hours of Illinois Valley Community College credit, but it does not earn transfer credit hours for this pass/fail course. **IAI Number (if applicable):** None

ACCREDITATION STATEMENTS AND COURSE NOTES:

Students must earn 80 percent of the total points available to pass the course.

COURSE TOPICS AND CONTENT REQUIREMENTS:

- I. Strategies for active reading and note-taking
- II. Identifying main ideas and supporting details
- III. Recognizing text structure
- IV. Making inferences and drawing conclusions
- V. Summarizing and paraphrasing texts
- VI. Understanding vocabulary in context and academic word usage
- VII. Analyzing author's purpose and tone
- VIII. Critical thinking and questioning strategies
- IX. Brainstorming and Planning
- X. Writing clear and focused thesis statements
- XI. Paragraph development
- XII. Organizing ideas logically
- XIII. Integrating textual evidence and examples into writing
- XIV. Drafting, revising, and editing written work
- XV. Sentence structure, grammar, and punctuation review
- XVI. MLA formatting
- XVII. Academic integrity and plagiarism

INSTRUCTIONAL METHODS:

- Lecture
- Writing workshops
- Small-group and whole-class discussion
- Assigned readings
- Peer review
- Conferencing with instructor

EVALUATION OF STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT:

- Regular attendance in accordance with instructor's policy
- Participation in class discussions and workshops
- Complete four major writing projects totaling 2500 words (8-10 pages)
- Formative assessments of course work, including but not limited to:
 - Short quizzes for reading comprehension
 - Peer and self-assessment
 - Review drafts of major writing projects throughout the writing process
 - On-line discussion posts

- Reading notebook or journal
- Summative assessments of course work, including but not limited to:
 - Using rubrics to provide peer feedback on major writing projects
 - A final portfolio of revised work
 - Individual or group presentations

Grading Scale:

A=100-94

B=93-87

C=86-80

F=79 and below

Instructors may require passing students to enroll in ENG 0920 or ENG 0925 for extra support with their ENG 1001 or ENG 1205 class.

INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS:

Textbooks

Textbook and/or supplemental authentic reading material is/are at the discretion of the full-time composition/reading faculty. Part-time faculty members are to use the textbook chosen for the course. Part-time faculty members are to use the supplemental authentic reading material as designated by the Dean of Humanities, Fine Arts, and Social Sciences.

Resources

- **Computer Applications**
- Word-processing Software
- Other reading software as available
- Classroom Management System – Brightspace

LEARNING OUTCOMES AND GOALS:

Institutional Learning Outcomes

- ☒ 1) Communication – to communicate effectively.
- ☐ 2) Inquiry – to apply critical, logical, creative, aesthetic, or quantitative analytical reasoning to formulate a judgement or conclusion.
- ☐ 3) Social Consciousness – to understand what it means to be a socially conscious person, locally and globally.
- ☐ 4) Responsibility – to recognize how personal choices affect self and society.

Course Outcomes and Competencies

Upon completion of the course, the student will be able to:

- 1. Demonstrate active reading and comprehension strategies**
 - 1.1 Identify main ideas and supporting details in various texts.
 - 1.2 Recognize text structures (cause/effect, compare/contrast, problem/solution, chronological).
 - 1.3 Make inferences and draw logical conclusions.
 - 1.4 Summarize and paraphrase information accurately.
- 2. Analyze and evaluate texts critically**
 - 2.1 Determine author's purpose, tone, and perspective.
 - 2.2 Evaluate arguments and evidence in nonfiction texts.
 - 2.3 Distinguish between fact, opinion, and understand the impact of bias.
 - 2.4 Apply critical thinking to interpret meaning and implications.
- 3. Develop clear, coherent, and structured writing**
 - 3.1 Construct well-organized paragraphs with topic sentences and supporting details.
 - 3.2 Develop thesis statements and maintain focus throughout an essay.
 - 3.3 Use appropriate transitions to connect ideas logically.
 - 3.4 Write summaries, responses, and analytical paragraphs effectively.
- 4. Demonstrate mastery of foundational grammar and mechanics**
 - 4.1 Understand and apply standard grammar, punctuation, and spelling rules in writing.
 - 4.2 Identify and correct sentence-level errors.
 - 4.3 Use appropriate academic vocabulary in written expression.
 - 4.4 Identify and use complete sentences in written expression.
 - 4.5 Identify and use a variety of sentence structures in written expression.
- 5. Reflect on and revise written work to improve clarity and effectiveness**
 - 5.1 Understand feedback as an integral part of the writing process.
 - 5.2 Engage in self-assessment and peer review of drafts.
 - 5.3 Apply feedback to strengthen content, organization, and style.
 - 5.4 Edit and proofread writing for clarity, coherence, and correctness.

6. Integrate evidence and sources into writing responsibly

- 6.1 Identify relevant textual evidence to support claims.
- 6.2 Incorporate quotes, paraphrases, and examples accurately.
- 6.3 Avoid plagiarism through proper citation and references.

7. Practice academic honesty and integrity

- 7.1 Maintain honesty in all reading, writing, and research activities
- 7.2 Cite all sources appropriately and accurately.
- 7.3 Understand and follow the plagiarism guidelines found in the “Student Rights and Responsibilities” section of the IVCC Student Handbook..

8. Apply reading and writing skills across academic and real-world contexts

- 8.1 Transfer comprehension strategies to new texts and disciplines.
- 8.2 Communicate ideas effectively in academic, professional, and personal writing.
- 8.3 Demonstrate independent learning and critical thinking.