

Course Syllabus
English 061X: Accelerated Introductory Composition

Ticket #70685**M-W 12:30 PM – 3:05 PM****ROOM: D-204**Instructor: **Rachel Sosta**Phone: **(714) 564-6566**Office: **D-427**E-Mail: sosta_rachel@sac.edu

Office Hours: **M/W: 8:00am – 8:30am**
11:00am – 12:15pm
T/Th: 9:00am – 9:45am



Course Description: 5 Units. An accelerated alternative to the English course sequence designed to prepare students for English 101, Freshman Composition, emphasizing sentence structure, paragraph writing, essay writing, and argumentation using reading-based modeling. Reading 101X recommended for concurrent enrollment.

Student Learning Outcomes (SLO):

- Students will demonstrate competency in summarizing, paraphrasing, and analyzing texts.
- Students will demonstrate competency in developing and supporting clear thesis statements.
- Students will demonstrate competency in using standard written English.
- Students will demonstrate competency in integrating and documenting sources, in MLA format, in a short research essay.

About the Course

This course is an opportunity to become a stronger writer as well as a critical reader and thinker. It won't be easy, nothing worthwhile ever is, but it won't be impossible either. There are two keys to becoming a better writer. First, you must write. There will not be a single day of this course in which you do not write at least one paragraph. Secondly, you must read. Reading various articles, short stories and essays will provide you with examples of how others express themselves via the written word. In class we will talk about writing and other hopefully interesting topics that can serve as the subject matter for your essays. This will all be done in a non-threatening atmosphere where you should feel free to ask any questions you believe are appropriate to the discussion. Remember, there are no stupid questions. This is YOUR class, so speak up! English 061X is also an accelerated class and was created to give you an easier, faster pathway to successful English 101 completion. We will be moving quickly in this class, and there will be a lot of work (reading and writing, especially), so it's important that you stay on top of readings and assignments. It's also important that you come to me if you're having trouble, have questions, or need help: I am a resource for you, and I hope you take advantage.

Required Texts and Materials*The Brief Bedford Reader*, 13th Edition*061X Grammar Review* (provided)

2 Bluebooks (one for your midterm and one for your final)

Lined paper for in-class writing

A stapler

A two-pocket folder for journal entries

Grading

Email Assignment	15	points
5 Tests (reading and grammar—15 points each)	75	points
Written Midterm Exam (in class paragraph)	50	points
Midterm Revision Assignment	50	points
Final Exam (in class essay)	100	points
2 Paragraph Assignments (50 points each)	100	points
3 Essay Assignments (100 points each)	300	points
Final Research Paper	100	points
Reader Response Journals (collected twice, 25 points each)	50	points
Learning Center DLAs	30	points
Learning Center and Library Workshops (20 points each)	80	points
<u>Participation, Attendance, and In-Class Writing</u>	<u>50</u>	<u>points</u>
TOTAL	1000	points

900 - 1000	A	600 - 699	D
800 - 899	B	599 & Below	F
<u>700 - 799</u>	<u>C</u>		

Grading Criteria for 061X Assignments

Paragraphs and essays written for English 61 will be given letter grades based on the presence of an effective topic sentence/thesis statement, organization, development, appropriateness of content, sentence correctness, mechanics, punctuation, and maturity of style. Also, on every graded paper, you will get comments and corrections from me. I expect you to look at these comments carefully and apply them to your future assignments. **I am looking for *improvement more than perfection*.** All drafts must be turned in on time. **I do NOT accept late work.** All final drafts must be turned in with either a rough draft or notes as directed. All final drafts **must be typed and should follow MLA format.**

Rewrites

You may rewrite one regular assignment for a better grade. This rewritten assignment must be completed and turned in by the beginning of the second-to-last class meeting. You may only rewrite an assignment that you turned in when it was originally due. **You may not rewrite an assignment that you did not turn-in in the first place.**

Extra Credit

Occasionally I will give small assignments worth extra credit points. These extra credit points, however, will only be applied to your grade at the end of the semester **if you have earned a passing grade (700 points)***. In other words, extra credit can help you go from a C to a B or from a B to an A. You must—and CAN!—earn a passing grade on your own merit.

*There will also be some “Special Extra Credit” for certain assignments (e.g. *extra* Learning Center DLAs or seeing a tutor at the Learning Center) where the extra credit will be added to your grade automatically. Make sure to look for and take advantage of these opportunities!

Participation

English 061X is a lecture and discussion based class. In order to get the most out of the course and earn a strong grade, full participation is required. Participation includes being in class (on time), being prepared for class (with class materials and completed readings), asking and answering questions in class, listening actively and respectfully, being on task during small group discussions and peer review, and turning in work on time.

Reading Assignments in *The Brief Bedford Reader (BR)* and *Grammar Review (GR)*

In order for the class to move at a reasonable pace, it is important that you complete all the assigned readings *prior* to coming to class. One way of being an active participant in the class is to ask and answer questions about the readings. Note: You are NOT required to complete all of the activities in any of the assigned reading sections. However, you are always welcome to try them to check your understanding of that section.

Emailing and Office Hours

I encourage you to email me or come to my office hours with any questions, concerns you have.

Email: If you would like to email me, please include your **name, class, and class meeting time** in the **subject line** of the email. Please also include your name in the body of the email. If you do not let me know who you are and which class you're in, there is a possibility that I will not be able to answer respond. I will answer your email as quickly as possible, but please be aware that it may take me up to 48 hours to respond. If you have not heard from me within 48 hours, please resend your email.

Office Hours: My office hours are listed on the first page of the syllabus. These are open times that I have set aside FOR YOU, so do not hesitate to take advantage of them. You do not need an appointment: I will see students on a first come/first served basis.

Attendance

In order to stay paced with the class and have every chance of success, you are expected to attend all sessions of the classes in which they are enrolled. You are allowed 2 unexcused absences; **missing more than 2 class meetings may result in the loss of some of your participation points (if you're not in class, you can't participate!); missing 4 class meetings may result in a loss of all participation points. Missing more than 4 class meetings will result in an instructor drop.** You should also report to class on time, as repeated tardiness will accumulate as unexcused absences (**two tardies/early departures = 1 absence**). You should report absences due to illness to the instructor with an email the day of the missed class (it is up to you to request any handouts given out that day in class). Consult your syllabus and classmates for missed information, lectures, etc.

If you wish to withdraw from the class, it is your responsibility to take care of this.

- **The last day to Drop the course with no grade is 9/8/19.**
- **The last day to Withdraw with a "W" is 11/17/19.**

IMPORTANT: If you wish to withdraw from this course and do not do so by the date listed above or in the schedule of courses, you will receive a regular letter grade in this course. If you plan to drop/withdraw from this course, please let me know as soon as possible.

Make-Up Exams & Tests

Do not be absent on the day of an exam or test because I do not give make-ups. If, however, you know you are going to be absent for a test or exam, contact me as soon as you become aware of the situation. For a compelling reason, I *may* arrange a way for you to take the test or exam *prior* to the time it is being given in class. This arrangement will be determined case-by-case.

Late Work

All assignments *must* be turned in on time. There are no exceptions to this rule! If you are absent the day an assignment is due, you must find a way to get a copy of the assignment to me before the end of that day's class session. Should you choose to email your assignment (this will only be accepted if you are absent when an assignment is due), **please attach the assignment in a format that I can open (.doc, .docx, .rtf, .pdf, or .txt). If you send the document in a format I cannot open (like .wps), you will not earn any points for that assignment.**

Plagiarism and Cheating

(Adapted from SAC catalog) "Students at Santa Ana College are expected to be honest and forthright in their academic endeavors. To falsify the results of one's research, to steal the words or ideas of another, or to cheat on an examination, corrupts the essential process by which knowledge is advanced. Academic dishonesty is seen as an intentional act of fraud, in which a student seeks to claim credit for the work or efforts of another without authorization, or uses unauthorized materials or fabricated information in any academic exercise. Assignments that demonstrate academic dishonesty may receive an F grade, and the student may be referred to the dean of the division for further disciplinary action." I will not tolerate plagiarism or cheating in its various forms. Such occurrences of cheating will be dealt with immediately and as harshly as the district permits.

Learning Center and Library

You will be required to complete some activities in the Learning Center this semester (including workshops at both the Learning Center and the Library). Please see the "Learning Center/Library Handout" for specifics about these activities. The Learning Center is located in **D-307 and is open M-Th: 9AM-7PM; F: 10AM-2PM; S: 12-3PM.** Please see the handout for more information.

Cell Phones and Electronic Devices

It's important to be present in both body and mind during class. Therefore, while in class, you are expected to have your cell phone turned off or placed on "silent." Moreover, while in class, your attention should be on class material and discussion. Therefore, you may not answer your phone, text message, or use other electronic entertainment devices while in class. **Each use of such devices will result in a "tardy" for that class session.** If you are expecting an "emergency" call, please let me know before class.

Recording Policy

Throughout the semester, we may be reading, writing on, and discussing some controversial, possibly even personal topics. This class is meant to be a safe place where you can express your thoughts and feelings about these topics without fear of exposure. Because it is important to respect the privacy of both your instructor and your fellow classmates, no audio or visual recording will be permitted in class without the express consent of the instructor or a documented DSPS accommodation request.

Disabled Students

Your success in this course is important to me. Santa Ana College and I are committed to providing reasonable accommodations for all individuals with disabilities. If you have a disability that may have some impact on your ability to do well in this course, I encourage you to speak with me as soon as possible. Also, please contact Disabled Student Programs & Services so that we can all collaborate on your classroom accommodations in a timely manner. **DSP&S is located in VL-203**, and their phone number is **(714) 564-6264**. The DSP&S office requires documentation of your disability in order to receive reasonable accommodations. If you do not have documentation, they will work with you to acquire it. I look forward to supporting you to meet your learning goals.

Title IX Statement

Title IX is a federal civil rights law that prohibits sex discrimination in education. This includes sexual harassment, sexual assault, and rape. Violations of Title IX, as well as violence or threats of violence on campus or online, are taken very seriously so that victims are provided with proper support and violators are properly disciplined. **As a faculty member, I am required by law to report all such violations.** If you have been a victim of sexual misconduct and would prefer to talk to someone confidentially, I encourage you to take advantage of the psychological services offered at SAC's Health and Wellness Center. You can contact the Center at (714) 564-6216 or visit them in person in VL-211.

Santa Ana College Mission Statement

Santa Ana College inspires, transforms, and empowers a diverse community of learners.

Santa Ana College English Department Mission Statement

The Santa Ana College English Department provides numerous opportunities for our students to develop and improve the reading, critical thinking, and writing skills required to succeed at their chosen careers, to meet the rigors of the writing demands at four-year transfer institutions, and to foster lifelong learning and an appreciation of literature.

Class policies and grading are subject to change at the instructor's discretion.

Tentative Course Schedule and Assignments

Date	Assignments
Week 1	
8/26	In-Class: Introduction to the class; review syllabus and handouts; writing sample
8/28	Readings: <i>The Bedford Reader (BR)</i> : Chapter 1, “Critical Reading,” pp. 9-28; “The Writing Process,” pp. 29-35 (through “Discovering Ideas”) Assignments: Syllabus Scavenger Hunt due ; journal entry on “Disability” (<i>BR</i> , 12-15) In-Class: Discuss critical reading; discuss “Disability”; begin the writing process
Week 2	
9/2	Labor Day—No Class!! (Catch up/get ahead with reading/journals!!)
9/4	Readings: <i>BR</i> : “Museum,” pp. 78-83 Assignments: Email Assignment due to my email inbox by the end of the day ; journal entry on “Museum” In-Class: Discuss the writing process
Week 3	
9/9	Readings: <i>BR</i> : “Narration: Telling a Story,” pp. 63-73; Handout: “Champion of the World” Assignment: Journal entries on “Champion of the World” In-class: Discuss readings; discuss narration; hand out Paragraph #1
9/11	Readings: <i>BR</i> : “Fish Cheeks,” pp. 74-77 Assignment: Journal entries on “Fish Cheeks” In-class: Discuss recent readings; work on Paragraph #1 Finish writing process; discuss narration; hand out Paragraph #1
Week 4	
9/16	Readings: <i>BR</i> : “The Writing Process,” pp. 34-47 Assignments: Rough draft of Paragraph #1 due at beginning of class In-Class: Peer review of Paragraph #1; discuss basic MLA ; work time Discuss Readings
9/18	Readings: <i>BR</i> : “Definition,” pp. 403-411 Handouts: “The Meaning of a Word” and “Being a Chink” Assignments: Final draft of Paragraph #1 due at beginning of class ; journal entries on “The Meaning of a Word” and “Being a Chink” (2 entries) In-Class: Discuss definition writing; discuss readings; hand out Paragraph #2 Add MLA

Week 13

- 11/18 Readings: *GR*: “Pronoun Use,” pp. 26-33
 Assignments: **Research Outline due**; journal entry on *newspaper article* you’re using for your research paper (use the article you found as the basis of a journal entry; please include a copy of the article with your journal)
 In-Class: Discuss pronouns; research time
- 11/20 Readings: *GR*: “Commas,” pp. 34-39
 In-Class: **Test #4**; discuss commas; work on Research Paper

Week 14

- 11/25 and 11/27 **Individual Conferences with the Instructor (D-427)**
BRING 1st Rough Draft of your Final Research Paper

Week 15

- 12/2 Assignments: Journal entry on *scholarly journal article* you’re using for your research paper (use the scholarly journal article you found as the basis of a journal entry; please include a copy of the article with your journal)
 In-Class: Catch-up day; work time
- 12/4 Assignments: **Journals due (18 entries total—9 new, 50 points); Rough Draft #2 of Final Research Paper due at beginning of class**
 In-Class: **Test #5**; peer editing of Final Research Paper; discuss final exam

Week 16

- 12/9 Assignments: **Rough Draft #3 of Final Research Paper due at beginning of class**
 In-Class: Peer editing and revising of Final Research Paper
- 12/11 **Final Research Paper (with all required components) due at beginning of class; one rewrite due at the beginning of class (please include original graded assignment); Final Exam (BRING A BLUEBOOK)!**

“A man who does not read good books has no advantage over the man who cannot read them.” —Mark Twain

“I find television very educating. Every time someone turns on the set I go into the other room and read a book.”—Groucho Marx

“It is the mark of an educated mind to be able to entertain a thought without accepting it.” —Aristotle

“If you don’t have the time to read, you don’t have the time or the tools to write.”—Stephen King

“Skills can be taught. Character you either have or you don’t have.”—Anthony Bourdain

THANK YOU AND HAVE A GREAT SUMMER!

Grades

As college students, it's YOUR responsibility to keep track of your grade. Because of this, I will not be handing out progress reports or answering the question, "What am I getting in this class?" To aid you in your efforts to keep track of your grade, I'm providing you with a grade spreadsheet. Record your grades as you get them so you always know "what you're getting" in this class (also, ALWAYS hold on to your returned work in case there is ever a discrepancy between our records).

To figure out your current grade in this class, add up the total number of points you've earned so far and divide that number by the total points possible so far. Multiply that number by 100, and the result is your percentage. (For example, if you have currently earned 225 and there have been 250 points possible so far, you would divide 225 by 250. The result would be .9.

Assignments (565 pts. Total)

Email Assignment	_____	/15
Paragraph #1	_____	/50
Paragraph #2	_____	/50
Midterm Revision	_____	/50
Essay #1	_____	/100
Essay #2	_____	/100
Essay #3	_____	/100
Research Paper	_____	/100
(Not available until after the end of the semester)		

Journals (50 pts. Total)

Journal Check #1	_____	/25
Journal Check #2	_____	/25

Learning Center _____/30

Workshops _____/80

Participation _____/50
(Not available until after the end of the semester)

Tests and Exams (225 pts. Total)

Test #1	_____	/15
Test #2	_____	/15
Test #3	_____	/15
Test #4	_____	/15
Test #5	_____	/15
Midterm Exam	_____	/50
Final Exam	_____	/100

Extra Credit

Assignment	Points
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

(Remember, this is only applied if you earn a passing grade of 70% or better)