

**Spring 2015 West Los Angeles College**  
**English 28 Section 8510: Intermediate Reading Composition**  
**Tuesday/Thursday 9:35-11:00 am and 3.20 hours of online**  
**In room GC 150**

**Welcome to English 28:**

I am looking forward to working with each of you this semester. I've taught this course several times and I am always impressed by the quality work my students produce. I am confident that you will also create a strong collection of writings at the end of the semester. Remember, writing is a process and it takes work but being registered for this class is a good step towards becoming a better writer.

**Mindset: research shows that students with a growth mindset are more likely to reach their academic goals. We will read more about this for our first essay of the semester, but essentially a person with a growth mindset believes they can learn (even when it's difficult) and that the key to learning is putting in effort. I will do my best to encourage a growth mindset in our class, and I hope you will do the same.**

**What will I learn?**

**Course Description and Policies:**

English 28 gives students practice in paragraph construction and essay writing, with an emphasis on critical thinking and critical reading of non-fiction essays and books

**Student Learning Objectives for English 28:** At end of the course, the successful student will be able to argue a point and support it (in writing) with multiple examples and limited outside sources.

**What will I need to be successful?** There are several important tools required to reach your goals in this class:

**Materials:**

Any College Dictionary and *Roget's Thesaurus* (or electronic English /thesaurus). **I will allow you to use an electronic version but if you abuse this privilege by texting or face booking etc. you will be required to bring a hardcopy.**

**Visions Across the Americas 8th ed. by Warner and Hilliard**

**Other Materials:**

1. Composition paper/notebook, one blue pen, one black pen, highlighter, Two Blue Books, one index card, stapler

**Instructor Profile**

Name: Jennifer Ortiz

Contact Information:

- Email: private message me on Etudes

Office Hours Tuesday 11-11:30

Education: Bachelor's degree from Mills College (major in English); Master's degree in English from Mills College

Teaching Experience:

Part-time teacher at

West Los Angeles College

Fullerton College

2. Time: In college, the expectation for all of your classes is that you will work for two hours outside of class for every hour spent in class. This out-of-class work can be by studying, reading, writing, going to tutoring or office hours, or doing homework assignments, depending on the requirements of the class. This class is three units, so we spend almost three hours a week together in class. That means you need to plan an additional six hours a week for the homework for this class. To help you manage this workload, you should use a calendar to track your responsibilities (class, work, and home). I can also help you plan a schedule to maximize the time you have, especially if you are very busy with work or family responsibilities.
3. All additional readings and handouts are uploaded onto Etudes.

### **How will my grade be determined?**

“Talking to the text,” notes 8 @ 10 points each: 80 points

Reading Quizzes 8 @ 5 points each: 40 points

Synthesis Quizzes 4 @ 15 points each: 60

In-class essay 1: 40 points

In-class essay 2 (Midterm): 60 points

In-class essay 3: 60 points

In-class essay 4 (Final): 100 points

Out-of-class essay 1: 40 points

Out-of-class essay 2: 60 points

Out-of-class essay 3: 60 points

Out-of-class essay 4: 100 points

City Council Proposal: 40 points

Portfolio: 300 points (Revised out-of-class essay, revised in-class essay, revised synthesis quiz, and a reflection)

### **Etudes**

**Section 8510 will be offered in a hybrid format, which requires students to do part of their work online. On-campus meetings will be held at the times shown.**

**You will be required to log into Etudes on a daily basis for additional readings, assignments, and handouts. This is mandatory and you will not be successful in this class unless you are checking the site regularly.** You will have reading and writing due for every day we meet on campus.

I will grade you on: your posts, class discussion, online peer review, online quizzes These assignments count towards your additional 3.20 hours you will have to complete online.

### **What is the portfolio?**

At the end of the semester, you will hand in your final portfolio: this will consist of one revised in-class essay (one of the first three), one revised out-of-class essay (one of the first three), and one revised synthesis quiz. The portfolio is the single largest assignment of the semester it is worth 300 points.

When you turn in your final drafts of your essays, you will also be turning in your rough drafts, so **be sure to keep all of your writing for the entire semester and save everything you type up on a reliable computer, in your email, or on a thumb drive.** You also need to save all of your graded work until the semester is over and you have received and are satisfied with your final grade. This is something you should do for all of your classes.

**What support is available to help me meet my goals?**

**Below you will find the contact information for both The Writing Center and Tutoring Center. Remember: you will receive extra credit for using either of these free services.**

Resource:	What they offer:	Contact information:
The Writing Center	One-on-one tutoring helping with the writing process (prewriting, drafting, revising).	<b>Location:</b> - <del>HLRC</del> <b>Heart of campus Center</b> 1st Floor 2nd Floor
The Learning (Tutoring) Center	One-on-one or group tutoring helping with writing	<b>Learning Center Intake Desk (310) 287-4404 for more information.</b> 1st Floor Building

**What are some policies I'll be expected to follow?**

**Make up exam:**

No make-up exams will be given unless documentation is provided substantiating a dire emergency. You are expected to notify me and make arrangements for a make up exam. You will not be reminded. No assignments will be dropped or ignored. If you decide to drop the course, this is your responsibility. I will not automatically drop you if you stop coming to class.

**Late Policy:**

Essays are due on the due date and the beginning of class. **They must be turned in by the start of class on the due date.**

- 1 late paper is accepted per student, per term, not to exceed two class periods. One letter grade is subtracted for each class period late.
- If you will be absent from class, you may email your take home assignment (responses and journals) before the start of class for credit. If I do not receive them before this time, you will receive no credit for the response/journal.

**Attendance:**

Class participation is mandatory to this course. I will expect you to have completed all your assignments and be prepared to participate in class discussions. **If you miss two (2) in- class periods a semester or two (2) online discussions, I will drop you from the class,** or you will receive a NP if the drop deadline has passed. In case of emergencies, such as a death in the family or medical issues, please let me know and you will be excused.

Remember to be on time since excessive tardiness will affect your grade. All quizzes, class updates, and changes will be made at the beginning of class. Make sure to follow-up with your classmates about anything you missed after class.

**Study Partner List:** *Contact students for homework/notes.*

Names	Email	Phone #
1)		
2)		
3)		
4)		
5)		

**If you choose to drop the class, please be aware that it is your responsibility to drop yourself. The last day to withdraw from class without a W 2/21. The last day to withdraw from class with a W is 5/9.**

**Talking to the text (4T):**

In this class, we will practice an active reading strategy known as “Talking to Text” (4T). It involves actively engaging with the assigned readings to better understand them. You will be required to write in your book or on a separate sheet of paper and to show those notes to me at the beginning of class when reading has been assigned (the days that the notes are due are listed in your syllabus). Don’t worry we will continue practicing this exercise through out the semester!

**Reading Quizzes:**

After I verify your 4T notes, we will discuss the assigned readings. Sometimes at the beginning of class you will be quizzed on these readings. The quizzes are open books, open notes but closed for neighbors.

**Synthesis Quizzes:**

There will be four synthesis quizzes. These are much like the reading quiz but tougher, since you will be asked to identify and analyze connections between different essays. You will be given more time to complete them and you will be able to use your books and any notes.

### **Turnitin.com:**

I require all students to use Turnitin.com to check for similarities between student submissions and the Internet, various research databases, and the Turnitin.com database of previous student submissions. All assignments submitted to Turnitin.com will become part of their database and will be used for plagiarism prevention and detection. Student papers, however, will remain the intellectual property of the author.

**Class ID: 9421240**

**Password: english28**

You will be required to submit all out of class essays onto tunritin.com before the start of class **on the due day. You will lose 5 points for everyday its late. You will also need to submit a hard copy in order to receive credit.**

**What are some West Los Angeles College policies?**

### **Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Statement:**

Disabilities are not a reflection of who you are, but of how your brain works. Maybe eventually we won't even call them "disabilities" anymore. Understanding how you learn is the first step to success. If you know or *think* that you have any learning or physical disabilities, please contact the Disabled Student Programs and Services Office. The DSPS will then contact your instructors to notify them of needed accommodations, such as additional testing time, note taker, etc.

### **Wait Time for Late Instructors:**

If, due to unforeseen emergencies, the instructor does not arrive at the scheduled start time for class, students are to wait for fifteen minutes (unless otherwise notified by the division). If they do not receive notification to wait for their instructor to arrive, after fifteen minutes the students may leave with no penalty for absence or assigned work due for that class meeting.

If it is possible, I will also email the class using the email address you've provided on Etudes if class must be cancelled, so check on a regular basis.

### **Policy on Academic Honesty**

It is the philosophy of West Los Angeles College that academic dishonesty is a completely unacceptable mode of conduct and will not be tolerated in any form. All persons involved in academic dishonesty will be disciplined in accordance with regulations and procedures. Discipline may include suspension or expulsion from the College. "Scholastic dishonesty includes but is not limited to cheating, plagiarism, collusion, the submission for credit of any work or materials that are attributable in whole or in part to another person, taking an examination for another person, any act designed to give unfair advantage to a student or the attempt to commit such acts." You can get in trouble for plagiarism—even if you do not intend to cheat—by failing to correctly indicate places where you are making use of the work of another. It is your responsibility to familiarize yourself with the conventions of citation by which you indicate which ideas are not your own and how your reader can find those sources.

Read your handbook for more information on quoting and citing properly to avoid plagiarism. If you still do not understand, ask your instructor.

**Classroom Behavior:**

**This class will abide by West Los Angeles College Code of Conduct. You can find this on the West LA Website.**

Come to class on time, every time, and plan to stay the entire time. We will take a break about 40 minutes into the class. Please use the break to use the restroom, make phone calls, text, or eat, and avoid those activities during class time. Do not leave the class during instruction or group activities except for emergencies.

- Do not use your cell phone or iPods during class time, especially during group activities. Please turn your ringer off and remove ear buds when you come into class. Two exceptions: I will allow you to use your phone as a dictionary and to listen to music with earphones whenever we have an in class test. If I need to talk to you about turning the music down you will lose that privilege. You may NOT use your phone to take notes, download the assigned reading, or look things up from our Etudes page.
- Be respectful to those who are talking by listening attentively. When others are talking, it is inappropriate to text, talk with a neighbor, or leave the class.
- Come to every class ready to work. Bring your textbooks, a notebook, the syllabus and course outline, paper, and a pen or pencil every day. Have your homework completed by the start of class.
- Upload each of your take-home essays before the beginning of class. You will have to also turn in a hard copy in order to receive a grade.

<b>DATE</b>	<b>In class</b>	<b>Homework</b>
<b>Tuesday 2/10</b>	Review Syllabus , Etudes, Rubrics	Sign syllabus Complete 4T annotations
<b>Wednesday 2/11</b>	Sign Syllabus, Respond to Etudes Discussion	Read and annotate 35-50
<b>Thursday 2/12</b>	TedTalks, RQ Share Annotations	Read and annotate 133-138
<b>Monday 2/16</b>	Online Class Review Prompt for Essay 1	93-100
<b>Tuesday 2/17</b>	Library Orientation 10-11	140-143
<b>Wednesday 2/18</b>	Online Class, Post intro/thesis	
<b>Thursday 2/19</b>	Student Conferences	154-157
<b>Monday 2/23</b>	Online Class, Peer Review Assignment	
<b>Tuesday 2/24</b>	Share Annotations, Modeling Intro and Thesis	181-184
<b>Wednesday 2/25</b>	Online Class, Essay 1 Due on turnitin.com	188-191, 197-203
<b>Thursday 2/26</b>	TBD, Go over Prompt for Essay 2	253-259, 267-273
<b>Monday 3/2</b>	Online Class Post Intro and thesis	
<b>Tuesday 3/3</b>	Review Intros and thesis	
<b>Wednesday 3/4</b>	Online Class	
<b>Thursday 3/5</b>	Peer Review	
<b>Monday 3/9</b>	Online Class, Share resources and synopsis under Discussion	283-288, 291-293
<b>Tuesday 3/10</b>	TBD	300-304, 338-340

<b>Wednesday 3/11</b>	Online Class, Peer Review Assignment	
<b>Thursday 3/12</b>	Student Conferences	
<b>Monday 3/16</b>	Online Class, Essay 2 Due on turnitin.com	427-430
<b>Tuesday 3/17</b>	Review Essay 3 Prompt	
<b>Wednesday 3/18</b>	Online Class	
<b>Thursday 3/19</b>	Share resources and synopsis under Discussion	
<b>Monday 3/23</b>	Online Class, Modeling Intros and thesis under Discussion	
<b>Tuesday 3/24</b>	Student Conferences	
<b>Wednesday 3/25</b>	Online	
<b>Thursday 3/26</b>	TBD	
<b>Monday 3/30</b>	Online	
<b>Tuesday 3/31</b>	NO CLASS HOLIDAY	
<b>Wednesday 4/1</b>	Online Class	
<b>Thursday 4/2</b>	Final Essay Due on turnitin.com	

**Course syllabus is subject to change**