

English As a Second Language

The Curriculum

The English As A Second Language (ESL) curriculum offers courses in reading, writing, conversation, and pronunciation for beginning, intermediate, and advanced second-language students. The beginning ESL course will introduce students to English and lay a foundation upon which to build more sophisticated grammar structures and vocabulary. Upon completion of the advanced ESL course, students will be prepared to take developmental or college-level English composition courses and/or mainstream into the general college curricula.

The Major

The ESL program is not a degree-granting program. Students should consult the Counseling faculty for assistance in planning a major.

ESL Course Organization and Numbering System		
ADVANCED COURSES		
SPECIFIC SKILLS	CORE SKILLS	SPECIFIC SKILLS
ESL 288 Advanced Grammar and Writing	ESL 81 Academic Writing II	ESL 290 Language Through Literature
	↑	
ESL 287 Advanced Grammar Review	ESL 280 Academic Writing I	ESL 286 Listening and Note-taking Skills
ESL 284 Advanced Vocabulary Skills		ESL 285 Academic Reading Skills
ESL 282 Advanced Conversation		ESL 283 Advanced Pronunciation
INTERMEDIATE COURSES		
SPECIFIC SKILLS	CORE SKILLS	SPECIFIC SKILLS
ESL 364 Idioms in American English	ESL 361 Intermediate Skills II	ESL 365 Spelling for Non-native Speakers
	↑	
ESL 362 Intermediate Conversation	ESL 360 Intermediate Skills I	ESL 363 Intermediate Pronunciation
BEGINNING COURSES		
SPECIFIC SKILLS	CORE SKILLS	SPECIFIC SKILLS
ESL 342 Beginning Conversation	ESL 341 Beginning Skills II	ESL 343 Beginning Pronunciation
	↑	
	ESL 340 Beginning Skills I	

ESL Course Numbering	
BEGINNING CLASSES	
No.	Title
340	Beginning Skills I
341	Beginning Skills II
342	Beginning Conversation
343	Beginning Pronunciation
INTERMEDIATE CLASSES	
No.	Title
360	Intermediate Skills I
361	Intermediate Skills II
362	Intermediate Conversation
363	Intermediate Pronunciation
364	Idioms in American English
365	Spelling for Non-native Speakers
ADVANCED CLASSES	
No.	Title
280	Academic Writing I
81	Academic Writing II
282	Advanced Conversation
283	Advanced Pronunciation
284	Advanced Vocabulary Skills
285	Academic Reading Skills
286	Listening and Note-taking Skills
287	Advanced Grammar Review
288	Advanced Grammar and Writing
290	Language Through Literature

English as a Second Language Courses

BEGINNING

ESL 340 4 units

BEGINNING SKILLS I

This course is an introduction to English for non-native speakers. Emphasis is on listening, speaking, and survival skills. Reading and writing skills will be introduced. R-E-3

Lecture hours: 6

ESL 341 4 units

BEGINNING SKILLS II

Recom: ESL 340. This course continues the acquisition of the fundamental skills of written and spoken English. R-E-3

Lecture hours: 6

ESL 342 2 units

BEGINNING CONVERSATION

This is an English as a Second Language conversation course designed to teach and practice oral/aural skills at the beginning level. Emphasis is on everyday communication which the student needs for survival. R-E-3

Lecture hours: 3

ESL 343 2 units

BEGINNING PRONUNCIATION

This course is designed to help students recognize and produce the sounds, rhythms, stresses, and intonation patterns of American English. Students gain self-confidence in speaking through intensive pronunciation drills, short readings, dramatizations, and roleplaying, and in free conversation designed to elicit pronunciation objectives. R-E-3

Lecture hours: 3

INTERMEDIATE

ESL 360 4 units

INTERMEDIATE SKILLS I

Recom: ESL 341. This course is designed for further development of listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills. Vocabulary acquisition and idiomatic expressions will be put into the context of grammatical structures. R-E-3

Lecture hours: 6

ESL 361 4 units

INTERMEDIATE SKILLS II

Recom: ESL 360. This course continues the refinement of language skills—reading, writing, speaking, and listening—at an intermediate/advanced level. Vocabulary expansion, idiomatic expression, and free conversation will be put into the context of grammatical structures. R-E-3

Lecture hours: 6

ESL 362 2 units

INTERMEDIATE CONVERSATION

Recom: ESL 342. This is a conversation course designed to improve the communication skills of students at the intermediate level of their English language acquisition. Emphasis is on developing self-confidence and self-expression. R-E-3

Lecture hours: 3

ESL 363 2 units

INTERMEDIATE PRONUNCIATION

Recom: ESL 343. This course is designed to further help the student produce and recognize the sounds, rhythms, stresses, and intonation patterns of American English. Students develop ability in all speaking situations through intensive training in oral readings in English, more advanced pronunciation practice, in-class conversations, dialogues, dramatizations, and other listening and speaking activities. R-E-3

Lecture hours: 3

ESL 364 2.5 units

IDIOMS IN AMERICAN ENGLISH

Recom: ESL 341. This intermediate-level vocabulary course focuses on the idioms of American English. It is designed to help non-native speakers understand and use—in both speech and writing—the most common and helpful English idioms. The course will introduce two-word verbs, phrasal verbs, prepositional verbs, and idiomatic expressions. R-E-3

Lecture hours: 4

ESL 365 1 unit

SPELLING FOR NON-NATIVE SPEAKERS

Recom: ESL 341. This intermediate-level course offers a comprehensive presentation of the sound and spelling patterns of American English. It will provide students with an understanding of American English consonant and vowel patterns and their relationship to the sound system of the language. R-E-3

Lecture hours: 2

ADVANCED

ESL 280 3 units

ACADEMIC WRITING I

Recom: ESL 361. This course develops academic writing, preparing the student to enter college-level courses and/or the work force. It is the first in the series of writing courses for the advanced English as a Second Language student. Students will continue to develop reading skills and focus on writing skills at the sentence and paragraph level with an introduction to the essay. Conversational skills will be incorporated into the body of the course, and listening comprehension will be further developed. R-E-3

Lecture hours: 5

ESL 81 3 units

ACADEMIC WRITING II

Recom: ESL 280. This is an advanced academic skills course for the English as a Second Language student concurrently enrolled in or preparing for college-level courses. The course focuses on reading and writing for academic purposes and on developing aural/oral skills at the advanced level. No CSU credit. R-E-3

Lecture hours: 5

ESL 282 2 units

ADVANCED CONVERSATION

Recom: ESL 362. This is a conversation course for advanced ESL students. It is designed to hone their oral academic skills and improve their ability to communicate in expected and unexpected situations. Emphasis is placed on self-expression in problem-solving tasks; oral presentations; defense of decisions, attitudes, and values; and succinct expression of oneself in varying environments. R-E-3

Lecture hours: 3

ESL 283 2 units

ADVANCED PRONUNCIATION

Recom: ESL 363. This is the last in the series of college-level English as a Second Language pronunciation courses for the advanced English as a Second Language student. Students continue to develop pronunciation accuracy, auditory discrimination, conversation techniques, and selective listening skills. The course stresses discourse-level pronunciation and the distinctions which communicate intent and meaning. R-E-3

Lecture hours: 3

ESL 284 3 units

ADVANCED VOCABULARY SKILLS

Recom: ESL 280. This advanced vocabulary course for non-native speakers is designed to develop college-level vocabulary. Emphasis is on the acquisition of words, expressions, and idiomatic phrases geared to fields of higher education or vocational training. Vocabulary is always presented in context. R-E-3
Lecture hours: 5

ESL 285 2 units

ACADEMIC READING SKILLS

Recom: ESL 280. This is an advanced English as a Second Language reading course designed to prepare students for entrance into the basic English program. It will provide reading strategies which will allow limited English speakers to build a background of information in content areas and to improve their knowledge of the American/English-speaking world. It is recommended for students whose reading level is between the fifth and eighth grades. R-E-3
Lecture hours: 3

ESL 286 2 units

LISTENING AND NOTE-TAKING SKILLS

Recom: ESL 284. In this advanced listening skills course, foreign speakers prepare to enter mainstream college courses. Emphasis is on learning the techniques necessary for course participation: note taking, outlining, comprehending spoken information, questioning, and paraphrasing. This is a course for the English as a Second Language student who wishes to mainstream or who has already mainstreamed. It includes lectures from the college-wide curriculum. R-E-3
Lecture hours: 3

ESL 287 2 units

ADVANCED GRAMMAR REVIEW

Recom: ESL 280 or 361. This is an advanced, rapidly paced grammar course for non-native speakers of English who have completed at least four semesters of English as a Second Language or the equivalent. The course focuses on structures particularly difficult for non-native speakers, including the verb system, prepositions, gerunds, and infinitives. Writing of original sentences based on structures is stressed. This course is recommended for students progressing into Writing 201 and Writing 1. R-E-3
Lecture hours: 3

ESL 288 3 units

ADVANCED GRAMMAR AND WRITING

Recom: ESL 280. This is an advanced grammar and writing course for non-native speakers of English who have completed at least four semesters of English as a Second Language or their equivalent, or who are entering college-level courses. The course focuses on grammatical structures particularly difficult for non-native speakers of English. R-E-3
Lecture hours: 5

ESL 290 2.5 units

LANGUAGE THROUGH LITERATURE

Recom: ESL 280. This is an advanced-level ESL course promoting literary understanding and appreciation, recognition of cultural similarities and differences, and increased mastery of the English language (reading, writing, vocabulary enrichment, and oral communication). Fiction, poetry, and drama will be introduced and read. The course emphasizes active student participation, including many oral activities (discussion, dramatic activities, oral presentations, and group work) and writing activities (short writing assignments, literature-response journals, and essays). R-E-3
Lecture hours: 4