

ESLW 40 Intermediate-Low Writing

Spring 2010

Instructor: Ms. Loomis
Office: RS 232
Phone: 558-2245

Office Hours: M W 2:45-3:55
T Th 9:45-10:55
(or by appointment)

Required Textbook: *Focus on Grammar 2*, Third Edition, by Irene E. Schoenberg.

Optional Textbook: *First Steps in Academic Writing*, Second Edition, by Ann Hogue.

Required Materials: A notebook or binder, 8 1/2 by 11-inch lined paper, an English-English book dictionary, and a stapler.

Note: You must have your own textbook (*Focus on Grammar 2*) and bring it to class every day, beginning the second day of class. You will not be allowed to share a book during class. Not bringing your book to class will result in your being marked half-absent for the day.

Prerequisite: Grade of “C” or better in ESLW 30 or proof of placement from the SCC Assessment Office. You must fulfill the prerequisite by the second class day or you will be dropped from the course.

Course Objectives: You will learn how to generate and organize ideas for writing paragraphs; to use topic sentences, supporting sentences, and concluding sentences; to write with time limits; to prewrite, revise, and edit your writing; to use simple, compound and complex sentences in writing; to use five verb tenses and modals; to use various noun forms; to identify and use parts of speech; and to apply rules of spelling and capitalization.

Course Description: In this course, students will learn to write multiple drafts of paragraphs with a clear beginning, middle, and end while developing correct sentence structure at the Intermediate-Low level. They will learn to use critical thinking skills and level-appropriate grammar in their writing.

Methods of Instruction: Methods of instruction include the presentation and discussion of grammar and composition points; intensive oral practice in class; written assignments, including homework exercises and editing activities; in-class paragraph writing; and small-group practice.

Attendance and Homework: Students are expected to attend all class meetings. If you have more than three absences from class, I may drop you from class. Going over the allowed number of absences after the last day to drop the class, April 18, will result in a failing grade in the course. Also, please come to class on time and stay until you are dismissed. Being late to class (5-15 minutes) will result in 1/2 absence. Coming 16 or more minutes late will result in being marked absent. If you are absent, call a classmate to get the assignment. It is the students’ responsibility to get any handouts they missed before the next class day; I don’t bring extra copies of handouts to class, so be sure to stop by my office to pick up handouts if you are absent. **I do not give make-up tests, so don’t be absent on test days.**

Homework is due at the beginning of the class period. Late work will not be accepted. All out-of-class writing assignments must be written neatly in blue or black ink on 8 1/2 by 11-inch lined paper, double-spaced, single-sided, with pages stapled together. Work done in pencil, not double-spaced, not single-sided, or with unstapled pages will not be accepted.

This class requires you to think and to study hard. **According to college policy, students are expected to study two hours at home for every hour in class; in other words, plan to study at least 8 hours every week for this class if you hope to earn a passing grade (C) in the course. If you do not like to study or to do homework, this is not the class for you; you will be very unhappy in this class. Homework is a very important part of this class and of learning a new language.** Please think carefully about this as you try to fulfill all of your obligations (school, work, family, and so on). Always be prepared for class by doing your homework!

Methods of Evaluation: Students will be evaluated by tests, paragraphs written in class, a comprehensive final exam, and written homework assignments. Tests will cover material from *Focus on Grammar 2*, class lectures, handouts, and homework. Tests include a variety of exercises, including paragraph writing.

The teacher will assign seating on test days and as needed. Cheating is not tolerated on tests or assignments. Cheating in any form (talking or saying anything to a classmate; looking around the room or at another student's test or desk; using any notes, books, or dictionaries during a test; copying another student's work; having your cell phone or other electronic device on your desk or lap; not turning in your test when told to do so; having someone do or correct your homework for you, and so on) will result in an F (0 points) on that test or assignment. Anybody found cheating during a test may have his/her test taken away and may be told to leave the class for the rest of the day. In addition, you will not get tests back after you take them; tests are the property of the teacher. You are welcome to see the teacher in her office to go over your tests individually.

Grading: Your grade will be based on the total number of points you have earned during the semester. Remember that in order to receive a C or better in ESLW 40, students must have an average of 70% or C- on in-class writing, tests, quizzes, and exams.

Point total of quizzes, tests, in-class writing, homework, and final exam:

90-100% = A 80-89% = B 70-79% = C 60-69% = D below 60% = F

Notes:

1. Turn off all cell phones and personal electronic devices before you come to class. If your electronic device makes noise during class, you will receive one grade lower on the next test. If your device makes noise during a test, you will receive an F (0) on that test.
2. This is an English class, so please do not speak another language in the classroom. Speaking another language during class is rude. You will lose 10 points from your point total each time you say a word in a language that is not English. If you repeatedly speak a language other than English and lose many points, you may fail the course. If you are tempted to speak your native language with a classmate, don't sit next to that person. Sit somewhere else and make a new friend.
3. You may use an English-English book dictionary in class on non-test days. You may not use a bilingual or electronic dictionary in class.

4. Class participation is important. Participation means listening attentively, asking and answering questions, helping with group work. Do not eat or fall asleep in class, please. If you fall asleep in class, you will be marked absent for the day.

5. Respect for others is important. Please listen carefully when other students are asking questions. Having private conversations, even if you are trying to say what page we are on, is rude. You will lose 10 points from your point total each time you speak privately to a classmate.

6. If you have questions about what we are studying, please ask the teacher; don't ask a classmate! Don't wait to get help if you need it; see me in my office for extra help!

7. If you have special needs that require accommodation, please tell me as soon as possible.

Important Dates:

Holidays: February 12 and 15, and Marcy 29-April 4

Last day to petition for pass/no pass: February 11

Last day to drop without notation on record: February 14

Last day to drop with "W" on record: April 18

Final Comprehensive Grammar Exam:

Monday/Wednesday 12:30 PM class: Monday, May 17, 12:45-2:45

Tuesday/Thursday 7:30 AM class: Thursday, May 13, 8:00-10:00

Note: You must take the final grammar exam with your class at the scheduled time.

M W 12:30 PM Class**Tentative Schedule**

| <u>Week</u> | <u>Date</u> | <u>Activities</u> |
|-------------|-------------|---|
| 1 | 1/18 | Holiday |
| | 1/20 | Introduction to course; Units 1-3 |
| 2 | 1/25 | Units 4-5; |
| | 1/27 | Units 6-7; At-home Paragraph #1 due |
| 3 | 2/1 | Review Units 1-7 |
| | 2/3 | Test on Units 1-7 (Parts I and II) |
| 4 | 2/8 | Units 8-10 |
| | 2/10 | Units 11-12 |
| 5 | 2/15 | Holiday |
| | 2/17 | Units 13-14; At-home Paragraph #2 due |
| 6 | 2/22 | Test on Units 8-14 (Parts III and IV) |
| | 2/24 | Units 15-17 |
| 7 | 3/1 | Units 20-22 |
| | 3/3 | Handouts on the past progressive tense |
| 8 | 3/8 | At-home Paragraph #3 due; Review units 15-17 and 20-22 |
| | 3/10 | Test on Units 15-17 and 20-22 (Parts V and VI) |
| 9 | 3/15 | Units 23-25 |
| | 3/17 | Units 26-29 |

| Week | Date | Activities |
|-------------|-------------|---|
| 10 | 3/22 | At-home Paragraph #4 due; Review Units 23-29 |
| | 3/24 | Test on Units 23-29 (Parts VII and VIII) |
| 11 | 4/5 | Units 30-31 |
| | 4/7 | Units 33-35 |
| 12 | 4/12 | At-home Paragraph #5 due; Review Units 30-31 and 33-35 |
| | 4/14 | Test on Units 30-31 and 33-35 (Parts IX and X) |
| 13 | 4/19 | Units 18-19, 32, and 36 |
| | 4/21 | Units 37-39 |
| 14 | 4/26 | Units 40-43; At-home Paragraph #6 due |
| | 4/28 | Review Units 18-19, 32, and 36-43 |
| 15 | 5/3 | Test on Units 18-19, 32, and 36-43 (Parts XI and XII) |
| | 5/5 | Review course material |
| 16 | 5/10 | Review course material |
| | 5/12 | Write final in-class paragraph |
| | 5/17 | Comprehensive test on grammar: 12:45-2:45 |