

J. Sargeant Reynolds Community College
Course Content Summary

Course Prefix and Number: ESL 31

Credits: 6

Course Title: Composition I

Course Description: Provides instruction and practice in the writing process, emphasizing development of fluency in writing and competence in structural and grammatical patterns of written English. Credits are not applicable toward graduation. Prerequisite: Recommendation of department following satisfactory completion of ESL 20 or appropriate placement test. Lecture 6 hours per week.

General Course Purpose: To provide the writing and grammar skills needed to advance to the high intermediate level of writing instruction.

Course Prerequisites and Co-requisites:

Prerequisite: Recommendation of department following satisfactory completion of ESL 20 or appropriate placement test

Course Objectives:

Upon completing the course, the student will be able to:

- a. Compose brief personal and expository writings that maintain a focus on a unifying idea;
- b. Use present and past simple and continuous tenses, “will” and “going to” future tenses, and distinguish auxiliaries “be” and “have” in negative constructions and questions;
- c. Use correct subject-verb sequences in simple and compound declarative and interrogative sentences. Properly construct negative sentences;
- d. Write simple and compound sentences;
- e. Use subject, object, and possessive pronouns;
- f. Understand main distinctions between count and non-count nouns, quantity words and plurals and related articles;
- g. Make some word form distinctions: adjectives, adverbs, nouns, verbs;
- h. Form superlatives and comparatives;
- i. Use new vocabulary, including some prepositions; and
- j. Use capitalization and terminal punctuation.

Major Topics to Be Included:

- a. Language: Word-order, grammar, vocabulary, cohesion in written sentences and paragraphs
- b. Composing: Writing, revising, and editing to correct errors in expression; organizing accurate paragraphs with topic sentence, supporting details and concluding sentence; acquiring fluency by practicing writing processes

Effective Date of Course Content Summary: September 3, 2015