

**J. Sargeant Reynolds Community College**  
**Course Content Summary**

**Course Prefix and Number:** ESL 33

**Credits:** 6

**Course Title:** Oral Communications I

**Course Description:** Helps students practice and improve listening and speaking skills as needed for functioning successfully in academic, professional, and personal settings. Assesses students' oral skills and includes, as needed, practice with pronunciation, rhythm, stress, and intonation. Provides exercises, practices, small and large group activities, and oral presentations to help students overcome problems in oral communication. Credits are not applicable toward graduation. Prerequisite: Recommendation of department following satisfactory completion of ESL 20, and completion of or co-enrollment in ESL 31 and ESL 32 is recommended. Lecture 6 hours per week.

**General Course Purpose:** To improve speaking and listening skills in preparation for academic coursework.

**Course Prerequisites and Co-requisites:**

**Prerequisite:** Recommendation of department following satisfactory completion of ESL 20, and completion of or co-enrollment in ESL 31 and ESL 32 is recommended.

**Course Objectives:**

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

- a. Participate in informal English conversations on a variety of personal and social topics for different purposes;
- b. Comprehend informal conversations at lower than normal speed or with repetition;
- c. Produce most English consonants and vowels (in most positions), as well as appropriate word and sentence level stress for short interactions with sufficient accuracy to be understood (with repetition) by sympathetic, native-speaking listeners; and
- d. Understand and use culturally appropriate non-verbal cues involved in informal conversations.

**Major Topics to Be Included:**

- a. Acquisition of vocabulary and idiomatic expressions to participate in informal conversation to satisfy everyday interaction needs
- b. Presentation and practice of English structures and discourse strategies needed to participate in informal conversations on a variety of personal topics
- c. Opportunities to listen to and respond to native-speaker interaction at lower than normal rate or with repetition
- d. Components of English pronunciation (sounds, stress, and intonation) needed for formal conversations

**Effective Date of Course Content Summary:** September 3, 2015