

DIVISION OF ARTS AND SCIENCES - ESL AND REMEDIAL STUDIES AT ASA

Effective Spring 2017 Semester, after having researched academic requirements and ESL students' needs, following changes to ESL curriculum have been made:

ESL AND REMEDIAL STUDIES AT ASA

Instruction in English as a Second Language (ESL) has been one of the longest standing and most important elements of ASA's pedagogical and educational history. It serves as the backbone of basic English literacy. The ESL courses at ASA offer the multi-cultural, immigrant student body an opportunity for intensive language immersion, emphasizing the importance of the practical use of English. ASA's ESL students are engaged in a course of study which aims to enhance many aspects of students' lives. The areas in which students' lives may be impacted include other academic environments, social environments, and professional/work environments.

In order for students to meet the highest possible levels of English proficiency, the remediation program in ESL consists of six intensive levels. Student progress is consistently and accurately assessed through testing at the appropriate level of proficiency.

The ESL course offerings feature curricula created specifically to meet the academic needs of ASA's diverse student body. These courses particularly focus on articulation and literacy. Students with a greater need for immersion may initially be enrolled into level "A-1", level "A-2", and level "B" subjects. More advanced students will be placed in higher levels (C, D, or E).

Students are placed at particular levels based on their English language proficiency. This proficiency is determined by a placement test. Additionally, students are evaluated by instructors, who appropriately distribute grades indicating learning and growth.

Grading components include: grammar, oral communication, reading, writing, and integrated language skills. In cases where any of the required components have not been met, students are required to repeat the course. However, in particular cases of student's non-progress and demonstration of the inability to perform at a satisfactory level in three or more curriculum components, a dismissal from the course will be issued.

The overall scores of the exams measure the appropriate levels of ESL placement with the following restriction: *Students must complete all subsequent levels of ESL before they are permitted to take English Composition I.*

LEVEL A-1

(Each course is 3 non-credit hours)

This course has been designed for students who are at absolute beginner language and literacy level. Designed for adult immigrant learners, the course is for students who are preliterate in their own language and who know no English. Recognizing the reality that adults can't wait to become literate in order to work and carry on with their lives, the course offers instructions in survival English, basic literacy, and elemental civic concepts at the same time.

ESL Reading Skills - Level A-1,
ESL Basic Writing Skills - Level A-1,
ESL Grammar Skills - Level A-1,
ESL Oral Communication Skills - Level A-1

LEVEL A-2

(Each course is 3 non-credit hours)

The curriculum for Level A in ESL study has been expressly designed for students whose ability to communicate in English is very limited. These students will be immersed in an intensified, component-based curriculum that emphasizes the skills of reading, writing, grammar applications, integrated language skills, and oral communication.

ESL Reading Skills - Level A -2,

ESL Grammar Skills - Level A -2,
ESL Oral Communication Skills - Level A -2,
Integrated Language Application Skills - Level A-2

Students registered for courses in this level of ESL are not permitted to take any credit bearing courses.

LEVEL B

(Each course is 3 non-credit hours)

Students enrolled in Level B curriculum of the ESL courses have been previously introduced to the very basics of grammatical written forms, simple sentence formations and may, with difficulty, communicate in English.

ESL Reading Skills - Level B,
ESL Grammar Skills - Level B,
ESL Oral Communication Skills - Level B,
Integrated Language Application Skills - Level B

Students registered for courses in this level of ESL are not permitted to take any credit bearing courses.

LEVEL C

(Each course is 3 non-credit hours)

Students enrolled in Level “C” courses have successfully reached a certain level of proficiency in the English language, especially in articulating their needs with clarity and writing short comprehensive compositions.

ESL Reading Skills - Level C,
ESL Writing Skills - Level C,
ESL Oral Communication Skills - Level C,
Integrated Language Application Skills- Level C

Students registered for courses at this level of ESL are not permitted to take any credit-bearing course.

LEVEL D

(Each course is 3 non-credit hours)

Students enrolled in Level “D” courses have reached nearly fluent proficiency in the English language. These students speak and write comfortably and make transitions from their native language to English with ease.

ESL Writing Skills - Level D,
ESL Oral Communication Skills - Level D

Students may take up to six credits of the program of study but not advanced English courses (such as English Composition) nor reading-intensive courses (e.g. Microeconomics). Appropriate schedule for Level D ESL students will be determined at the time of registration.

LEVEL E

(3 non-credit hours)

Students enrolled in Level “E” of the ESL courses take only one course, “Advanced ESL Writing Workshop”, which specifically prepares them for the demands of the main stream academic subjects. In this course, students learn about the ways in which basic essays are built and about the writing process. The course is a prerequisite for English Composition I.

ADVANCED ESL WRITING WORKSHOP

Students who are placed in this level must complete this course before taking English Composition I.

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COURSE DESCRIPTIONS - ESL AND REMEDIAL STUDIES AT ASA

ENGLISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE

LEVEL A-1 - PLACEMENT BY EXAMINATION

**ESLA011 3 NON-CREDITS
ESL READING SKILLS - LEVEL A-1**

Pre-Beginning Reading is for absolute beginners who may or may not be fully familiar with the Roman alphabet as well as for students with low-level literacy skills. The course introduces students to the most basic structures and vocabulary of the English language through the skills of reading, writing, speaking, and listening.

**ESLA012 3 NON-CREDITS
ESL BASIC WRITING SKILLS - LEVEL A-1**

Basic Writing Literacy Skills Course is a course in English that starts at absolute beginner language and literacy level. Designed for adult immigrant learners, Writing Skills is for students who are preliteracy in their own language and who know no English. Recognizing the reality that adults can't wait to become literate in order to work and carry on with their lives, Writing Skills offers instructions in survival English, basic literacy, and elemental civic concepts at the same time.

**ESLA013 3 NON-CREDITS
ESL ORAL COMMUNICATION SKILLS - LEVEL A-1**

This course is designed for absolute English learning beginners. Initial attention is paid to recognition and pronunciation of the English alphabet. Then, emphasis is on learning Basic English pronunciation and intonation and its sound system. Later on, major work is done on learning and practicing simple daily conversations. Throughout the course, correct pronunciation and understanding of simple spoken language of daily life is given special attention.

**ESLA015 3 NON-CREDITS
ESL GRAMMAR SKILLS - LEVEL A-1**

This course is designed for students who have zero knowledge of English. It is to introduce them to the English language in writing form. With the aim of the course at enabling students to write very simple English sentences correctly, major attention is given to creating a foundation of grammar knowledge. Major emphasis is on introducing several common tenses regarding the use of verbs. Ba-

sic knowledge about nouns, pronouns, adjectives, prepositions and others are also learned.

LEVEL A-2 - PLACEMENT BY EXAMINATION

**ESLA021 3 NON-CREDITS
ESL READING SKILLS - LEVEL A-2**

This course is especially designed for students who do not have English language proficiency. Here students will learn the elements of the English language, including the alphabet and the basic sentence structures. Students will develop their reading skills and broaden their vocabulary as well as improve their comprehension and speaking abilities. A special emphasis will be placed on making use of graphic, syntactic, lexical, and rhetorical cues in understanding reading material.

**ESLA023 3 NON-CREDITS
ESL ORAL COMMUNICATION SKILLS - LEVEL A-2**

This course is designed for students who have very little prior knowledge of English. Initial attention is paid to the recognition and pronunciation of the English alphabet. Then, emphasis is on learning basic English pronunciation and intonation and its sound system. Later on, major work is done on learning and practicing simple daily conversations. Throughout the course, correct pronunciation and understanding of simple spoken language of daily life is given special attention.

**ESLA025 3 NON-CREDITS
ESL GRAMMAR SKILLS - LEVEL A-2**

This course is designed for students who have little knowledge of English. It is to introduce them to the English language in written form. With the aim of enabling students to write very simple English sentences correctly, major attention is given to creating a foundation of grammar knowledge. Major emphasis is on introducing several common tenses regarding the use of verbs. Basic knowledge about nouns, pronouns, adjectives, prepositions and others are also learned.

**ESLA026 3 NON-CREDITS
INTEGRATED LANGUAGE
APPLICATION SKILLS - LEVEL A-2**

ESL Integrated Language Applications Skills I is planned for beginning students to strengthen grammar and listening skills

acquired in other ESL courses. Students will do so in a diverse environment and class setting. This class combines all aspects of listening – sounds, stress, rhythm, and intonation which will help students to develop their listening skills. Students will learn basic listening skills through exercises as they listen to both CDs and computer listening programs. Also, students will apply and highlight their basic grammar understanding using textbook drills and specially developed on-line exercises. Students will first work on controlled activities for skills and ability (2 hours), and then practice what they have learned in the Language Computer Lab (1 hour). In the Lab they will be able to use the most modern updated technology and equipment. The reading part of the program will help students to: (a) practice reading comprehension skills; (b) enrich their vocabulary; (c) drill communication skills while answering questions and discussing stories; (d) get broader knowledge about the world, its cultures, traditions, people, which would support students' interest in learning English.

ESLA07 **3 NON-CREDITS** **INTRODUCTION TO ESL CIVICS**

This course has been designed to introduce beginning and intermediate adult students to the meaning of American Citizenship and naturalization. Activities in this course will encourage ESL students to build up life skills and knowledge about their new homeland. Also students will be able to compare life in the USA with the life, history, and government of their native countries. In this course essential information on US history, government and civics is integrated with the skills of listening, speaking, reading, and writing. *(Not offered currently)*

LEVEL B - PLACEMENT BY EXAMINATION

ESLB01 **3 NON-CREDITS** **ESL READING SKILLS - LEVEL B**

This course is designed for beginning students. The course focuses on reading, speaking, and writing, through a variety of lively, classroom-tested, easy-to-use activities. Upon completion of the course, students should be able to integrate reading, vocabulary, and structure. They will be able to understand authentic texts and express simple ideas and information of their everyday life.

ESLB03 **3 NON-CREDITS** **ESL ORAL COMMUNICATION SKILLS - LEVEL B**

This course is designed to prepare students in elementary levels of conversation in the English language. Students will learn to utilize common phrases in various "true to life" situations and dialogues. The main focus of the class will be on listening, comprehension

and articulation. Students will begin to acquire a level of proficiency by completing exercises geared towards different discussions of interest to students' lives. They participate in role playing, story telling, problem solving, brainstorming and memory games. Special attention will be given to American English idioms found commonly in every day language.

ESLB05 **3 NON-CREDITS** **ESL GRAMMAR SKILLS - LEVEL B**

This course is designed for beginning students. The course focuses on English grammar through active listening, speaking, reading, and writing activities. At the end of the course, students should be able to understand basic English grammar and to express basic information about their everyday life through simple grammar units. They have to have clear understanding of the parts of speech and English simple tenses.

ESLB06 **3 NON-CREDITS** **INTEGRATED LANGUAGE** **APPLICATION SKILLS - LEVEL B**

This pre-intermediate course teaches students to integrate diverse English skills, including speaking, listening, reading and writing, into holistic language use. Students will build on language skills by increasing reading comprehension, writing fluency and speaking fluency. Students will work on controlled activities for skills and proficiency, and then practice what they have learned in the Language Computer Lab (Longman English Interactive Software) outside their classroom time. In the Lab they will be able to use the latest up-dated technology and equipment.

ESLD05 **3 NON-CREDITS** **LANGUAGE AND CULTURE**

This course has been expressly created for advanced students whose level of English has reached near fluency. The material studied in the course will cover every aspect of human life and interaction. The focus of study will be American mainstream values that have attracted people to the United States for more than two hundred years. During the course of study, certain changes and influences in various aspects of American life will be traced. Students will be exposed to a lot of language phenomena: vocabulary, idioms, terminology, phonetics, and grammar. The curriculum objectifies what it means to be an American, asking and answering the question: What is American culture? *(Not currently offered)*

Formerly: ESLB07

LEVEL C - PLACEMENT BY EXAMINATION

ESLC01 **3 NON-CREDITS** **ESL READING SKILLS - LEVEL C**

This course is designed to strengthen student reading skills and comprehension. Here students will be introduced to reading materials mainly focused to broaden the students' vocabulary, increase reading speed, and teach critical analysis. Students will be exposed to various genres of readings, including fiction, non-fiction, newspapers, and magazines. This will effectively show students that different reading strategies are necessary to become a proficient reader. Students will also be exposed to numerous exercises that challenge their intellectual and conceptual interests while enabling them to advance in language proficiency.

ESLC02 **3 NON-CREDITS** **ESL WRITING SKILLS - LEVEL C**

This course provides students with the knowledge of grammatical structures at the intermediate level of English grammar, including usage and styles. Students will become familiar with the parts of speech, rules and exceptions of punctuation, sentence constructions, patterns, capitalization, abbreviations, numbers, spelling, and word division. The class will be taught three-dimensionally to familiarize students with syntax, semantics, and pragmatics-form, meaning and use. Challenging exercises for students will teach them to achieve clarity and accuracy in writing as well as in oral communications.

ESLC03 **3 NON-CREDITS** **ESL ORAL COMMUNICATION SKILLS - LEVEL C**

This course is intended for ESL students who wish to achieve considerable proficiency in verbal communication skills of the English language. The focus will be on teaching intermediate listening and conversational skills. Students will work with exercises taken from "real life" situations, dialogues, and sentence patterns. Students will be asked to use grammatically correct language units as well as appropriate stress, intonation, and vocabulary. With challenging sets of exercises, (oral, written, and on-line), students will achieve grammar and speech proficiency commonly used in social settings.

ESLC06 **3 NON-CREDITS** **INTEGRATED LANGUAGE** **APPLICATION SKILLS - LEVEL C**

ESL Integrated Language Applications Skills is planned for students to support high-intermediate grammar and listening skills acquired in other ESL courses. Students will do so in different

environments and situations. This class combines all aspects of listening - sounds, stress, rhythm, and intonation which will help students to expand their listening skills. Students will acquire higher-developed listening skills through exercises as they listen to CDs and computer listening programs. Also, students will apply and emphasize their grammar knowledge using textbook drills and specially developed on-line exercises. Students will first work on controlled activities for skills and expertise (2 hours), and then practice what they have learned in the Language Computer Lab (1 hour). In the Lab they will be able to use the most recent updated technology and equipment. The reading part of the program will help students to: (a) practice reading comprehension skills; (b) enrich their vocabulary; (c) drill communication skills while answering questions and discussing stories; (d) get broader understanding of the world, its cultures, traditions, people, which would maintain students' interest in learning English.

ESLC07 **3 NON-CREDITS** **TEACHING ENGLISH THROUGH FILM**

The course has been designated for ESL students and focuses on American Films as means to study real-life spoken language. Watching movies is one of the most effective ways to develop listening comprehension skills together with vocabulary study. In addition, art of film is one of the finest ways for ESL students to learn various aspects of American culture and life style. Students will watch segments from the most famous Hollywood movies, discuss the scenes, practice new vocabulary, and share their opinions on various cultural phenomena that they will observe in the movies. *(Not Currently Offered)*

LEVEL D - PLACEMENT BY EXAMINATION

ESLD01 **3 NON-CREDITS** **ESL READING SKILLS - LEVEL D**

This course is designed to apply students' knowledge of intermediate ESL proficiency to focus on the expansion of a reader's vocabulary. In addition, the students will improve their skills and speed in reading and comprehension. Students enrolled in the class will be asked to challenge themselves in critical reading skills combined with reading comprehension and ever expanding knowledge of the English language. Knowing the differences between the written word and the spoken word will be also a valuable contribution to the students' learning process.

ESLD02 **3 NON-CREDITS** **ESL WRITING SKILLS - LEVEL D**

This class is specifically designed for students whose knowledge of the English language has reached sufficient levels of advanced

oral communicative skills. Here students are expected to learn the appropriateness of particular written expressions, grammatical forms and structures to complete grammatically correct writing assignments. Also, students will practice writing a variety of sentence structures using their imagination, judgment, intelligence and feelings.

ESLD03 **3 NON-CREDITS**
ESL ORAL COMMUNICATION SKILLS - LEVEL D

This course presents various ways in which ESL students may advance in their communicative skills in the English language. The lessons of this course include a particular focus on the use of commonplace language in the context of social communications. Here students will learn the necessary forms and patterns of language to function and communicate among English speaking people in the areas of shopping, banking, housing, health care, employment. This course, likewise, presents students with the opportunity to reinforce listening comprehension and verbal expression skills necessary to pursue college level academic work.

LEVEL E - PLACEMENT BY EXAMINATION

ESLE02 **3 NON-CREDITS**
ADVANCED ESL WRITING WORKSHOP

This is an advanced ESL writing course designed to prepare students for future composition class and other academic writing endeavors they will encounter at ASA. This is an intensive writing course with assignments due each week. In the first 5-6 weeks, students will explore topics through paragraph writing. In the final 9-10 weeks, students will explore essay writing. Students will also be required to participate in the revision process of both their and their peers' papers in the format of peer workshops. In addition, students must keep a weekly journal where they have free rein of topics which could include reactions from their readings.