

ESL 5A ESL Writing and Grammar

WLAC Fall 2014 Section 8508

Instructor: Michael Tracey (traceym@wlac.edu)

Mon & Wed 9:35 to 11:40 in AT 210; additional assignments online TBA

Office Hour: Mon. & Wed. 11:45 – 12:15 (after class in AT 210)

This course is paired with Personal Development 40 online #8178 (with Professor Alma Narez-Acosta 310-287-4259).

Course Description: ESL 5A is a course in written composition and critical reading skills for multilingual students. This course prepares students for ESL 6A and college level courses. ESL 5A emphasizes the development of writing skills and grammar necessary for college level writing. Section 8508 is a hybrid course. This means that part of the course requirements must be completed online using ETUDES. You should anticipate 2.05 hours of additional online work each week. If you do not have access to a computer at home, computers/internet are available in the WLAC Library. The goal is for you to be a better reader, thinker and more confident writer by the end of this course. To be successful in this class it will be necessary to write clear and reasonably correct sentences that can be understood by the general reader, as well as develop and support main ideas in well-structured paragraphs and essays. You must keep up with assignments, follow deadlines and make use of all the information posted in the ETUDES site. Weekly participation in the course is mandatory.

Prerequisite: Level Placement by the ESL assessment or completion of ESL 4A with a "C" or better.

Required Texts and Materials:

Effective Academic English-Level 1 2nd Edition by Savage and Shafiei (ISBN 978-0-19-4323468)

Becoming a Master Student 15th Edition by Ellis (ISBN 97812855193892) (with Professor Narez-Acosta in PD 40)

English dictionary

Additional handouts will be used as supplemental materials

Student Objectives:

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

Employ prewriting techniques

Outline

Produce coherent paragraphs

Produce compound and complex sentences with syntactical accuracy

Use computers and software

Student Learning Outcomes and Institutional Learning Outcomes:

This course will facilitate the following Student Learning Outcome (SLO):

Produce focused formal essays of at least 400 words with multiple paragraphs

This course will facilitate the following Institutional Learning Outcomes:

“Critical Thinking: Analyze problems by differentiating fact from opinion, using evidence, and using sound reasoning to specify multiple solutions and their consequences.”

“Cultural Diversity: Respectfully engage with other cultures in an effort to understand them.”

“Ethics: Practice and demonstrate standards of personal and professional integrity, honesty and fairness; apply ethical principles in submission of all college work.”

#### Course Requirements and assignment guidelines

You must login every week to read about assignments, read class announcements, participate in class discussions, and send/read private messages. The instructor has the ability to see how often you login/use Etudes through the activity meter.

#### Writing Assignments

Homework assignments are due on the date listed. Late assignments will not be accepted. In exceptional cases (i.e. documented medical emergencies) missed assignments may be re-scheduled after meeting with the instructor.

All work done outside class should be typed, double-spaced and stapled on the top left corner. Include your name, class and date on the top right corner of the paper, and the title of your work in the center.

#### Discussion Questions

Each discussion question will have points. Please put some thought into your response and answer the question fully in order to receive the maximum points. Please check the discussion section for due dates as they will be locked on that date and no further submissions will be accepted.

#### Quizzes

Quizzes will be given regularly in class and online to ensure that you are keeping up with the reading/grammar assignments. Quizzes must be taken by their due dates.

#### Exams

In addition to written assignments, discussion questions and periodic quizzes, there will be one midterm and one final exam. Each exam must be taken on the scheduled date.

#### Grading

In ESL 5A grades will be based on successfully completing assignments and developing the skills necessary to write college-level papers.

Please see ETUDES Assignments/Test Section for due dates

Course Grading Scale: 90 – 100% A; 80 – 89% B; 70 – 79% C; 60 – 69% D; Below 59% F

Please save all essays, assignments and quizzes. The portfolio you put together of the work that you have done during the semester will be a record of your progress in writing. Portfolios will be reviewed the final weeks of the course.

#### Class Policies

Because class discussions and group work are an important part of this course, attendance is mandatory. Up to 3 absences are allowed. After three absences, you may be dropped. Students are expected to attend every class meeting, to arrive on time and stay throughout the class period. If you are absent, you must contact a classmate to find out what was covered in class.

Please silence all cell phones during class. There will be NO TEXTING DURING CLASS.

#### Dropping the class

It is your responsibility to drop the class if you are no longer planning to attend. Failure to withdraw may result in an "F" for the course.

#### College Policies:

##### Academic Integrity (Plagiarism)

In accordance with code 9803.28, academic dishonesty is prohibited and will not be tolerated in this class. Violations of academic integrity include, but are not limited to, the following actions: cheating on an exam, plagiarism, working together on an assignment, paper or project when the instructor has specifically stated students should not do so, submitting the same term paper to more than one instructor, or allowing another individual to assume one's identity for the purpose of enhancing one's grade. Academic dishonesty of any type, such as cheating or knowingly furnishing false information, provides grounds for disciplinary action by the instructor or college. In written work, no material may be copied from another without proper quotation marks, footnotes, or appropriate documentation.

Plagiarism will result in a zero for the assignment, possible dismissal from the class and disciplinary action from the college.

#### Campus Resources:

Office of Disabled Student Programs and Services (DSP&S)

Student Services Building, 3rd floor. Room 320 (310) 287-4450.

West Los Angeles College recognizes and welcomes its responsibility to provide an equal educational opportunity to all disabled individuals. The Office of Disabled Students Programs and Services (DSP&S) has been established to provide support services for all verified disabled students pursuing a college education. DSP&S students may qualify for: priority registration, registration assistance, special parking permits, sign language interpreters and assistive technology (WLAC College Catalog). If you have a disability, please let the instructor know.

#### Instructional Support (Tutoring) & Learning Skills Center

Library First Floor (HLRC) | (310) 287-4486

Improve your reading, language, vocabulary, spelling, math fundamentals and chemistry knowledge with convenient, self-paced computer-aided courses in the Learning Skills Center. Increase your knowledge and learning success: sign up for tutoring in various college subjects.

Distance Learning: TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

If you need any technical assistance with ETUDES, please contact the Distance Learning Center at (310)-287-4305 or go to the WLAC website: [www.wlac.edu/online](http://www.wlac.edu/online)

#### Important Dates to Remember

Last Day to Drop without a Fee: Sept. 12 Last Day to Drop without a "W": Sept. 12 Last Day to File Pass / No Pass: Sept 12 Last Day to Drop with a "W": Nov. 21 Final Examination Period: Dec. 15 to Dec. 21. Our final exam will be Dec. 17 at 10:15.

The instructor reserves the right to make changes to the syllabus as necessary.