

ESL 6A ESL Writing and Grammar

WLAC Fall 2013 Section 8542

Instructor: Michael Tracey ([HYPERLINK "mailto:traceym@wlac.edu"](mailto:traceym@wlac.edu)

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)

Course Description: ESL 6A is an advanced grammar and writing course in ESL. It emphasizes the development of writing skills and grammar necessary for college level writing. Section 8542 is a hybrid course. This means that part of the course requirements must be completed online using ETUDES and Focus on Grammar Interactive. 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 access code for our class in Focus on Grammar 4 Interactive is **TRACEY383726F**.

This class will build on prior understanding of sentence and paragraph structures to help students construct clear and coherent academic essays. It will help you develop ideas and arguments and start to use outside evidence to support claims. 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.

Prerequisite: Completion of ESL 5A, English 20A or higher with a grade of “C” or better or appropriate placement level demonstrated through ESL assessment.

ESL 6A Course Objectives (as stated in the Course Outline of Record)

Show ability to use the following grammar structures:

- Complex sentences
- Adjective clauses
- Phrasal verbs (verb + preposition combinations)
- Gerunds
- Second Conditional
- Passive voice

Demonstrate knowledge of the following grammar structures:

- Third conditional
- Fragments and run-on sentences
- Quotations and reported speech

Introductions:

- Write general-to-specific, story-type, and question-type introductions

Thesis statement:

- Produce good thesis statements and place them correctly in essays

Body paragraphs:

- Write three to five body paragraphs
- Use transitions to get from one body paragraph to the next

Conclusion:

- Generate a concluding paragraph, with a final comment from the author
- Use a transition to clearly identify the conclusion

Produce different types of essays:

- Narrative
- Compare/contrast
- Argumentative

Write a summary of a reading

Write a short research paper based on library and/or internet research

- Produce a simple resources list

Take final exam

Upon successful completion of this course the student will have the following skills:

1. Ability to use brainstorming, listing, clustering and pre-writing techniques.
2. Ability to use peer and/or teacher feedback to improve subsequent drafts of essays.
3. Ability to recognize and use content and grammar editing symbols.
4. Clear knowledge of paragraphing techniques, including introductory and concluding paragraphs.
5. Ability to use thesis statements that control the content and organization of essays.
6. Ability to use most verb tenses correctly.
7. Significant control of English sentence structure, compound and complex sentences.
8. Ability to spell most of the words in their active vocabulary correctly.
9. Demonstrated knowledge of spelling rules.
10. Significant control of most basic punctuation conventions.
11. Ability to use a word processor to compose, edit, and revise work.
12. Ability to use the Internet as a research tool with discrimination.

ESL 6A Student Learning Outcomes

1. Communicate in a variety of written forms with purpose, meaning, and grammatical corrections.
2. As a skilled reader, comprehend and analyze a variety of passages and content to construct meaning.
3. Work effectively in groups and/or in teams.
4. Use English language to communicate, plan, and resolve issues related to one's work, studies, family and community involvement.

ESL 6A will help students meet the following institutional learning outcomes:

A: "Critical Thinking: Analyze problems by differentiating fact from opinion, using evidence and sound reasoning to specify multiple solutions and their consequences."
(Students will analyze differing viewpoints of controversial topics in order to form their

own opinions and express them in class discussions and writing assignments.)

B: “Cultural Diversity: Respectfully engage with other cultures in order to understand them.” (In class discussions and assignments students will analyze readings from a multicultural perspective.)

C: “Ethics: Practice and demonstrate standards of personal and professional integrity, honesty and fairness; apply ethical principles in submission of all college work.” (Students will demonstrate paraphrasing and citation skills to correctly give credit to outside sources in their writing.)

COURSE TEXTS AND MATERIALS:

1. Effective Academic Writing (IAW) by Savage and Mayer (ISBN: 978-0-19-432347-5)
2. Focus on Grammar 4 (FOG) Interactive by Fuchs and Bonner (ISBN: 9780138145781)
3. Additional handouts will be used as supplemental materials.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS:

1. There will be 5 paragraph and essay assignments, 3 of which will be revised at home. These will form the core of students’ portfolios. There will also be 4 ETUDES discussion and response posts.
2. There will be 3 grammar quizzes based on based on topics covered in FOG.
3. There will be a midterm and a final exam consisting of grammar questions and essay writing.

METHODS OF EVALUATION:

In ESL 6A your grade will be based on how much you improve your writing, and how well you are prepared to write college-level papers. Grades for this course will be calculated as follows:

| | |
|------------------------------------|-------------|
| Writing assignments (5 x 100) | 500 points |
| Revision and post at home (3 x 25) | 75 points |
| Discussion on ETUDES (4 x 25) | 100 points |
| Quizzes (3 x 25) | 75 points |
| Midterm | 50 points |
| Final Exam | 200 points |
| TOTAL | 1000 points |

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 FORMAT AND ATTENDANCE:

This class will be conducted in a workshop format. We will spend our class time talking about grammar and writing. Because you will learn by doing in-class activities and in-class writing, attendance is critical. If you are absent more than 2 times, this can affect your grade and/or cause exclusion from this course. Please arrive to class on time. If you consistently arrive late to class, this may be counted as an absence.

HOMEWORK POLICY:

Homework assignments are due on the date listed. Late assignments will not be accepted. In exceptional cases (i.e. 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.

HONOR POLICY:

Students must adhere to the Los Angeles Community College District Standards of Student Conduct regarding plagiarism and cheating. The first instance of cheating or plagiarism will result in a 0 for that assignment. The second instance of cheating or plagiarism will result in a 0 for that assignment, a report will be filed according to LACCD Student Discipline Procedures, and it could lead to an F for the course overall. In addition, here are some specific guidelines that must be followed for assignments in ESL 6A:

1. All homework assignments, journals, and writing assignments must be completed individually.
2. In-class writing assignments must be written during class. (No pre-written assignments)
3. No copying or sharing of answers during quizzes and exams.

COURSE ACCESSIBILITY:

West Los Angeles College wants to make sure the campus and all courses are accessible to students with disabilities. Disabled Students Programs and Services (DSPS) provides guidance and support for students including tutoring, specialized equipment, and other accommodations for eligible students. Please visit the following link to learn more information: HYPERLINK "<http://www.wlac.edu/dsps/>"

Cell Phone Policy: Please turn off all cell phones during class. There will be NO

TEXTING DURING CLASS.

Important Dates:

| | |
|--------------------------------|---------|
| Last day to drop without a fee | Sept. 6 |
| Last day to drop without a W | Sept. 6 |
| Last day to drop with a W | Nov.15 |

COURSE SCHEDULE (Note: this is a tentative schedule subject to change)

Week 1 (8/26 – 8/28)

Introductions, Course Overview, Diagnostic Testing, Intro to Online Learning; Intro Effective Academic Writing (EAW) Unit 1 “Paragraph to short Essay”; Focus on Grammar (FOG) Parts I & II (verb tense review)

ETUDES DISCUSSION POST #1 (introduce yourself + 2 responses)

Week 2 (9/4 no class Monday Labor Day)

Intro parts of speech and types of sentences; continue EAW Unit 1 and FOG Parts I & II (verb tense)

Week 3 (9/9 - 9/11)

Continue EAW Unit 1; continue FOG Parts I & II

QUIZ #1 (parts of speech and types of sentences)

Week 4 (9/16 – 9/18)

EAW Unit 2 “Descriptive Essays”; FOG Part III (negative and tag questions)

ETUDES DISCUSSION POST #2 (description)

Week 5 (9/23 – 9/25)

Continue EAW Unit 2; FOG part IV (Gerunds and Infinitives)

IN CLASS WRITING ESSAY #1 (description)

Week 6 (9/30 - 10/2)

Intro EAW Unit 3 “Narrative Essays”; continue FOG part IV

ETUDES DISCUSSION POST #3 (story)

Week 7 (10/7 - 10/9)

Continue EAW Unit 3; FOG part V (Phrasal Verbs)

ESSAY #2 (Narrative)

Week 8 (10/14 - 10/16)

Intro EAW Unit 4 “Comparison-Contrast Essays; FOG part VI (Adjective Clauses)

Quiz #2 (Focus on Grammar)

Week 9 (10/21 - 10/23)

Continue EAW Unit 4; continue FOG part VI

IN CLASS WRITING ESSAY #3 (Compare Contrast)

Week 10 (10/28 - 10/30)

Intro EAW Unit 5 "Opinion Essays"; FOG part VII (Modals)

MIDTERM

Week 11 (11/4 - 11/6)

Continue EAW Unit 5; FOG part VIII (Passive)

ETUDES DISCUSSION POST #4 (argument)

Week 12 (11/13 no class Monday Veterans Day)

Continue EAW Unit 5; FOG part IX (Conditionals)

Week 13 (11/18 - 11/20)

Continue EAW Unit 5; FOG part X (Indirect Speech)

IN CLASS WRITING ESSAY #4 (opinion/ argument)

Week 14 (11/25 - 11/27)

IAW Ch 10 continued; FOG catch up and review

Quiz 3# (Focus on Grammar)

Week 15 (12/2 - 12/4)

Review and preparation for the final exam

IN CLASS WRITING ESSAY #5 (portfolio evaluation)

The course outline, syllabus and schedule are subject to change based on the instructor's discretion. **Final Exam will take place Wed. Dec. 11 from 10:15 to 12:15.**