

**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. Prerequisite: Requires ability to express ideas clearly in writing without a consistent pattern of grammatical errors as indicated by a placement exam or teacher recommendation from a previous level. Credits are not applicable toward graduation. 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: Requires ability to express ideas clearly in writing without a consistent pattern of grammatical errors as indicated by a placement exam or teacher recommendation from a previous level. Recommendation of department following satisfactory completion of ESL 20 or appropriate placement test

**Student Learning Outcomes:**

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 comparatives and superlatives;
- 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

**Date Created/Updated** (Month, Day, and Year): January 28, 2019