

J. Sargeant Reynolds Community College
Course Content Summary

Course Prefix and Number: ESL 51

Credits: 6

Course Title: Composition III

Course Description: Prepares for college-level writing by practice in the writing process, emphasizing development of thought in essays of greater length and complexity and use of appropriate syntax and diction. Credits are not applicable toward graduation.

Prerequisite: Requires competency in the English language and ability to write short essays in understandable English, as indicated by a placement test and writing sample, or by teacher recommendation from a previous ESL writing course. **Prerequisite or Co-requisite (recommended):** ESL 42. Lecture 6 hours per week.

General Course Purpose: To provide the writing and grammar skills needed to advance to the high advanced level of writing instruction or possible entrance into English 111.

Course Prerequisites and Co-requisites:

Prerequisite: Requires competency in the English language and ability to write short essays in understandable English, as indicated by a placement test and writing sample, or by teacher recommendation from a previous ESL writing course. (Recommendation of department following satisfactory completion of ESL 41 and ESL 32, or appropriate placement test.)

Prerequisite or Co-requisite (recommended): ESL 42.

Student Learning Outcomes:

Upon completing the course, the student will be able to

- a. Write a basic five-paragraph essay with clear introduction, support paragraphs, and conclusion;
- b. Use subordination and a variety of sentence structures;
- c. Use the full range of English tenses and modals and make distinctions between active and passive voice;
- d. Use verbals: gerunds, infinitives, and participials;
- e. Use proper word classes and participial adjectives; and
- f. Use commas correctly in most situations and some semi-colons.

Major Topics to Be Included:

- a. Language: Review and extend knowledge of English sentence structure, grammar, and vocabulary
- b. Rhetoric: Responding to the rhetorical situation—ideas and information; the needs of writer and reader; matching knowledge and approach to readers' knowledge, interests, and needs
- c. Composing: Drafting, rethinking, peer review, and revision

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