

ESL 6A Grammar and Writing Fall 2012 LA Mission College
Sec. 0250 Monday & Wednesday 9:00am-12:10pm Room: CSB 102B

Instructor: Michael Climo Phone: (818) 364-7693 Email: climomj@lamission.edu
Office Hours: Mon, Weds 12:15-1:45pm & 5:45-6:45pm, Tues & Thurs 12:10-12:45pm
Office location: Either in the LRC or my office, Faculty Office 3 in the Instructional Building

Required Texts: Writing Clearly by Lane & Lange (978-1-111-35197-7)
Oxford Collocations Dictionary (978-0-19-432538-7)
Abraham Lincoln - A Giant Among Presidents by Savory (1-59194-180-6)
Making the Most of Your Life edited by Langan (9781591940906)
Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglas by himself (9781591940197)
A Nation Divided - The American Civil War by Thomas (1-59194-248-9)
Unexpected Blessings by Roxanne Black (9781591942382)

Optional Text: Understanding & Using English Grammar Workbook, 4th Edition by Azar, Koch & Hagen (0-13-241543-7)

Course content: This course will focus on advanced ESL vocabulary development, reading comprehension, grammar, and writing.

Prerequisite: Appropriate placement or completion of ESL level 5A.

Course description: Emphasizes skills leading to college-level reading and writing proficiency. There is intensive practice in writing and critical skills that students need in college courses.

Course objectives: Upon completion of course, students will: Write in-class essays of 250 words. Write outside class essays of 250-400 words. Analyze and understand the logic or lack of logic in written texts. Use a variety of idiomatic expressions correctly. Use Latin based vocabulary which is appropriate for academic writing. Produce varied sentence structures which include simple, compound and complex sentences. Punctuate sentences correctly. Use a variety of coordinating and subordinating conjunctions. Organize and produce an essay which contains an introduction (with a thesis), well-developed body paragraphs (that have topic sentences, statements with support and conclusions) and conclusions. Proofread and edit their own work for categorical errors. Write a simple narrative, argument, comparison/contrast, and expository essay.

Evaluation: Homework, writings and in-class activities will be evaluated.

Grading: To pass this course, a student will need 70% of the total points:

Home Writings: 20% of grade.
In-Class Writings: 40% of grade.
Homework: 20% of grade.
Participation and other: 20% of grade.

In addition, a student should pass the writing final to pass this course.

Crucial Dates: In-class Essays: 9/19, 10/10, 10/24, 11/7, 11/19, 12/3 Final Exam: 12/10, 8 - 10pm

Student Learning Objectives:

- 1) Make syntactical and lexical choices which are appropriate for the content and an academic audience.
- 2) Produce a 250 word essay on an academic subject. The essay will be well organized and have adequate support of the thesis.
- 3) Edit and correct grammar, spelling and punctuation errors.
- 4) Differentiate fact from opinion.

Holidays: September 3 (Labor Day) & November 12 (Veteran's Day)

Drop dates: Last day to drop **without** receiving a W is September 7 (in person) / September 9 (online). Last day to drop and get a refund of fees is September 10. There is a 3 attempt limit on all classes - Ws included.

The college provides numerous services for students with special needs through the Disabled Students Programs and Services. If you are disabled, welcome to my class. Let me know how I can assist you.

Additional class rules and policies:

- 1) Attendance. It is very important that you do everything possible to come to each and every class. You are allowed to miss two classes this semester. That's it. After missing more than two classes, I can drop you from this class. There are no excused absences. An absence is an absence. I understand that you can get sick, and you are allowed to miss two classes this semester. Please do not make doctor's appointments, counseling appointments, or other schedules during our class time. Every class I will take attendance twice - once at the beginning of class, and once after the break.
- 2) Tardiness - being late. If you are more than 20 minutes late to class, or come back from the break more than 15 minutes after it ends, you will be marked absent for half the class. Each class we will get a 20 minute break. Plan to come to class on time and return from the break on time.
- 3) Cell phones should not be in use during our class time. Feel free to make calls during the break, if necessary. I understand that some might need to keep their cells on silent mode in case of emergencies. If an **emergency** call comes, please leave the class quickly and answer it outside of the room. Return to class ASAP.
- 4) Plagiarism and completing your own writings. It is vital that you do all your writing for this class. Do not copy essays or writings. Do not have other people do your writings. I understand that you might have friends, classmates, or family members that might help you. Those people should not correct your grammar and sentences. They should only talk with you about the ideas in your writings and the organization of your writings.
- 5) Textbooks. You need to complete the homework from the textbooks. Every week there will be homework. Make sure you get it done! It is 20% of your grade.
- 6) Class participation. It is important that you participate in class discussions and activities. Only use English during class participation activities. I would like you to think of this room as an English zone. If someone asks you to translate for them, please don't. This is not a translation course. Participation is 20% of your grade. Using other languages in class will result in a lower participation score.
- 7) Respect for other students is important in this class. Please respect other people's opinions, life and ideas. It is OK to disagree.
- 8) Complete assignments on time and get the homework from your instructor or another student when you are absent.
- 9) Final Exam. There will be a final exam on December 10. It will be an in-class essay. **Do not be absent.**
- 10) Laptops. The Collocations Dictionary comes with a great vocabulary study tool that can help you write. In addition, we will have in-class vocabulary study activities regarding collocations. For these reasons, bringing a laptop to class can help you with your learning. **However, during in-class essays you will not be allowed to have internet access with your laptop.** Moreover, using your laptop to check email or surf the web during class lectures can result in a reduction of in-class participation points.
- 11) Disruptive behavior will not be tolerated in class. Side conversations and talking during lectures will result in a deduction of class participation points.

How to know your grade for this class:

IN-CLASS ESSAYS - 40% of grade		
DATE	POINTS	MY SCORE
9/19	100	
10/10	100	
10/24	100	
11/7	100	
11/19	100	
12/3	100	
12/10	200	
TOTAL	800	
DIVIDE BY 20	40	

HOME ESSAYS - 20% of grade		
ESSAY	POINTS	MY SCORE
Narrative Essay	100	
Cause-Effect Essay	100	
Comparison Essay	100	
Persuasive Essay	100	
TOTAL	400	
DIVIDE BY 20	20	

You will need to make your own charts for homework and participation grades.