

ESL 6A Grammar and Writing Spring 2014 LA Mission College

Sec. 0261

Mondays & Wednesday 8:50am-12:00pm

Room: CAI 230

Instructor: Michael Climo

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Office Hours and Locations:

Mondays and Wednesdays 12:05-1:35 either in CAI 230 or Faculty Office 3 in Instructional Building
Mondays and Wednesdays 5:45 to 6:45 either in CSB 208 or Faculty Office 3 in Instructional Building
Tuesdays and Thursdays 12:10-12:30 either in CSB 110 or Faculty Office 3 in Instructional Building
If you need an appointment outside these office hours, please let me know.

Required Texts:

Grammar and Beyond 4 student book and workbook (ISBN 978-107-65621-5)
The Mark of Zorro by Johnston McCulley, edited by Bill Blauvelt (ISBN: 1-59194-071-0)
Martin Luther King, Jr. *Warrior for Peace* by Tanya Savory (ISBN: 1-59194-202-0)
A Nation Created by Mark Thomas (ISBN: 1-59194-245-4)

Recommended Text: Oxford Collocations Dictionary w/CD Rom (ISBN: 978-0-19-432538-7)

Course content: This course will focus on advanced ESL vocabulary development, reading comprehension, grammar, and writing. (There is a 3 attempt limit on all classes - Ws included.)

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, and supporting details) and conclusions. Proofread and edit their own work for categorical errors. Write a simple narrative, argument, comparison/contrast, and expository essay.

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

Home Writings: 20% of grade.
In-Class Essays: 40% of grade.
Homework and Participation Activities: 15% of grade.
Editing Quizzes and Grammar Tests: 25% of grade.

Crucial Dates:

In-class Essays: 3/12, 4/2, 5/7 Final Exam: 6/9
Home Essays: #1 - 3/3; #2 - 3/24; #3 - 4/21; #4 - 5/19
Major Grammar Tests: 3/17; 4/28; 6/2
Editing Quizzes: 4/9; 5/12; 6/4

Student Learning Objectives: Upon completion of this course, students will

- 1) produce writing that incorporates high-advanced grammatical structures.
- 2) produce a 400 word essay on an academic topic which is well-organized and which adequately supports a thesis.
- 3) edit their own writing to correct grammar, spelling, and punctuation errors.

Holidays: Monday, February 17 (President's Day); Monday, March 31 (Cesar Chavez Day); April 7-12 (Spring Break); Monday, May 26 (Memorial Day).

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. Please do not make doctor's appointments, counseling appointments, or other schedules during our class time.
- 2) Tardiness - being late. If you are more than 10 minutes late to class, or come back from a break more than 5 minutes after it ends, you are tardy. Plan to come to class on time and return from the break on time.
- 3) **Stay focused on class.** Cell phone calls and texting should not be made during class time.
- 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 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 and reading books. Every week there will probably be homework. Make sure you get it done! **All in-class essays will be based on the books read in the class.**
- 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.
- 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 June 9. It will be an in-class essay. **Do not be absent.**
- 10) Laptops, tablets and smart phones. Bringing a laptop, tablet, or smart phone to class can help you with your learning. However, using them to check email or surf the web for non-English learning is not appropriate. Misuse of them can result in your technology being off-limits in class. Texting is not allowed! In addition, they cannot be used during in-class essays or editing work. On the dates of in-class essays and editing tests, only paper dictionaries will be allowed.
- 11) Students are expected to abide by the college's General Policies on pages 48-53 in the Spring 2014 Schedule of Classes.

An example of how to know your grade for this class:

IN-CLASS ESSAYS - 40% of grade		
DATE	POINTS	MY SCORE
#1	100	
#2	100	
#3	100	
#4	100	
TOTAL	400	
DIVIDE BY 10		

HOME ESSAYS - 20% of grade		
ESSAY	POINTS	MY SCORE
#1	100	
#2	100	
#3	100	
#4	100	
TOTAL	400	
DIVIDE BY 20	20	

You will need to make your own charts for the other parts of your grade.

Other important dates (from schedule of classes):

Last Day to Add: 2/21; Last Day to Drop and get a refund: 2/23 (online); Last Day to Drop and have a W 5/11. If you stop attending a class (or wish to drop a class), **YOU MUST DROP THE CLASS YOURSELF - OFFICIALLY** - on or before May 11, 2014 (by Internet only). Failure to do so may result in a grade of "F" in that class. (In this class, the grade would be N = no credit.)