

LEARNING SKILLS 4: THE MECHANICS OF SPELLING

David Kobosa, Instructor

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Office Hours: The hour after class, in the classroom.

Tues. 5:45-6:45 pm, Inst 1013

COURSE SYLLABUS

Student Learning Outcomes: 1.) Students will apply principles of phonics to decode and reproduce words with vowel and consonant sounds. 2.) Students will apply spelling rules to compensate for visual- and auditory-centered problems. 3.) Students will identify and remediate a set of personal spelling troublemakers. 4.) Students will effectively use dictionary resources to sound out and spell words.

Based on diagnostic assessment, students will receive group and individualized spelling instruction, designed to improve spelling skills to the level at which each student will be able to succeed in college/vocational coursework. Study skills, especially those pertaining to students' individual learning challenges, will be emphasized. There will also be an emphasis on vocabulary building and writing coherent paragraphs and short essays, using the spelling words in the text. The course is designed as a supportive help in attempting college-level academic work and current and/or future vocational work.

There are no exams. Grades of Credit/No Credit are based on attendance. An attendance of 75% over the course will result in a grade of Credit. During the standard fifteen week semester, a student would need to attend a minimum of eleven times to achieve a grade of Credit and earn one unit. Absences of over 75% may be excused after a discussion with the instructor, and a grade of Credit and one unit may still be earned. The course may be repeated for credit to a maximum of three times.

Office hours are the sixty minutes immediately after class, in the classroom. Arrangements can be made for an office conference prior to each class. In rare circumstances, a week in advance appointment may need to be made.

Students may add this class on a first come, first served basis. Students may add as long as there are seats available, up to the last day to enroll, as stipulated in the Schedule of Classes. All LA Mission College students are welcome to enroll in this class, not just the students from the DSPS department.

The text for this class is "Barron's E-Z Spelling", Linda Eve Diamond, Francis Griffith, and Joseph Mersand, Barron's Educational Series, Inc., NY. It may be purchased in the Eagles' Landing Bookstore on campus, or online at www.barronseduc.com.

Each class meeting will consist of reviewing lessons in the text, and other remedial academic work, based on student need. Typical topics include alphabet sounds, consonant blends, long and short vowels, silent "e", digraphs, "ie" and "ei", final "y", spelling rules and tips, vocabulary building and dictionary use.

Assessment will be based on student work samples and instructor observation. These assessments will be used for teacher and student information only, and will not be graded.

This class and instructor adheres strictly to the non-discrimination policy set forth by the Los Angeles Community College District. Please report to me any suspected occurrence of discrimination or harassment, and you may be certain that I will do my utmost to see that the proper actions are taken.

Let me help you! If you're anxious, I don't feel I'm doing my job.

**NOW,
LET'S HAVE FUN!**