

Cuyamaca College
English as a Second Language
Spring 2008

ESL 106 English as a Second Language IV
Section 0820

Alicia Muñoz
5 units

Tuesday 9:30 – 12:20
Thursday 9:30 – 10:20
10:30 – 12:20

Room # B 258
Computer Lab # B154
Room # B 258

Prerequisites: ESL 103 or equivalent.

1. Course Description

ESL 106 is a sixteen-week course that develops and adds to skills learned in ESL 103. This is the fourth core course in the study of English reading, writing and grammar designed for students whose first language is other than English. The course includes advanced reading, paragraph and essay writing, grammar, and sentence structure.

2. Course objectives

- Students will utilize the writing process to write four basic essays with a strong focus on revision and peer editing. Students will learn to incorporate well-organized paragraphs with topic sentences, supporting details, and transitions into complete essays with thesis statements.
- Students will spend one hour a week in the computer lab using software designed to reinforce reading, writing and grammar skills introduced in class.
- Students will keep a journal to practice writing skills and reflect on reading assignments.
- Students will read one novel and participate in class discussions on the content.
- Students will apply the rules for the formation, meaning and use of grammatical structures studied in Level IV when writing in English. These structures will include using subordination, compound-complex sentences, adjective and adverb clauses, correct punctuation usage, and sentence variety.
- Grammar skills include a review of the verb tenses, passives, and conditionals, and correct usage of nouns, verbs, pronouns, adjectives, adverbs, conjunctions, and prepositions. Also, rules for pronoun reference agreement and subject-verb agreement will be mastered.

3. Course Requirements

- Completion of various homework assignments that will include reading, grammar and writing exercises.
- Eight journal entries
- Four essays
- Two quizzes
- Chapter summaries
- In-class midterm and final exam
- Final Portfolio Project

4. Textbooks:

Oshima, Alice and Ann Hogue. Writing Academic English. 4th. edition. New York: Pearson Education, 2006.

Romek, David. Because of Romek: A Holocaust Survivor's Memoir. San Diego: Vincent Press Publishing Company, 1996.

5. Supplies

- a. Students will need a binder with three separators to keep class handouts that will be distributed throughout the semester.
- b. A folder to submit final essays, pre-writing, outlining, and edited drafts.
- c. English language dictionary

6. Classroom policies

Attendance

You should attend all class meetings because the textbooks will not cover everything that will be discussed in class. In addition, exams will be based on the material that is covered in class, with a particular focus on the questions students may have in class. Finally, your final grade includes attendance and participation. Invariably, good attendance and class effort will make a positive difference on the grade, while poor attendance and class participation will definitely have the opposite effect. Attendance counts and makes a difference!

If you miss four classes, or the equivalent of two weeks of instruction, you may be dropped from class. I understand that we all have complicated lives and sometimes our best plans are insufficient to handle unanticipated circumstances. If you should have a problem that prevents you from coming to class, please call me to let me know that you will miss class. In addition, please contact another class member so you can keep up with assigned work. **You are responsible for all assignments regardless of your absence.**

Tardiness

Tardiness is disruptive for both the instructor and students, so please make every effort to arrive on time. Three tardies will be considered one absence and six absences will lead to dismissal from class.

Cheating (also known as borrowing other people's work.)

The institution seriously frowns on this activity, so don't do it. Using other people's work benefits no one, particularly the student who does so. Learning English is the single most important reason that brings you to Cuyamaca College. When you use other people's work to replace your own, you can't possibly learn or achieve your goal. Do yourself a favor; don't cheat.

7. Course Assignments

Quizzes and exams

Quizzes and exams cannot be made up, so please don't miss class on a day when a test is scheduled. **There will be no exception to this rule.**

You will have two grammar quizzes, pop reading quizzes, a midterm, and a final exam, which together will equal 60% of your grade. All exams will include true/false and multiple choice questions, fill-in-the blanks, and written questions. The exams will focus on grammar and reading.

Lab Hour

ESL 106 is considered a composition course so you will be expected to complete one hour of lab a week. In the lab, you can complete the grammar exercises that come with our textbook or do your written assignments. The lab hour is mandatory, even if you do have a computer at home. If you prefer to do your written assignments at home, you should use the lab hour to finish the grammar exercises and/or submit your journal entries. Attendance is taken so if you miss the lab hour you will be considered absent.

Journal Entries

The journal entries will be your thoughts and opinions on the novel Because of Romek. I will give you specific instructions on how to respond to the journal topic. Don't rephrase the reading or tell me what the story is about. Rather, I want to know your opinions, thoughts, reflections are on the novel. When you write your journal you will need to do

two things:

- Summarize the chapters you are writing about. The summary should be brief, approximately 5 sentences long. To accomplish this, try to summarize by asking Wh questions. Who is the story about? What is happening? How are the characters feeling to what is happening?
- Comment on the chapters you have read. The key to whether you are fulfilling the assignment is whether the length of your comments exceeds the length of your summary. In other words, to receive full points, your comments need to be longer than the summary. To accomplish this, try selecting a quote or a phrase from the book that caught your attention and comment on it.

Essays

You will be expected to write four full essays (2-3 pages) following MLA format. I will give you the assigned topic a month before the essay is due, along with indications of how the essay will be graded, so you can have sufficient time to develop it. Two of the essays will be based on the novel.

In class, we will discuss and practice

- pre-writing strategies to help you get started;
- work on peer-editing and revision as you develop the first drafts of your essays;
- discuss the importance of transitional devices in essay organization

The essays will cover the following rhetorical modes:

- Description or example
- Comparison/contrast
- Cause/effect
- Argumentation

The fourth essay is an argument essay supported with outside research which is documented in a Works Cited page. This is the culminating project for this class and is worth twice the number of points of the first three essays.

Final Portfolio

At the end of the semester, you will be expected to submit a portfolio of your best work. The portfolio should include examples of completed assignments which you feel represent your best work. The portfolio should include selections from various writing assignments throughout the semester, including but not limited to journals, pre-writing exercises, outlining, revisions, and final drafts. In addition to selecting different writing exercises for your portfolio, you will need to write a reflection paragraph in which you explain why you consider those items to be your best work, describe what you learned from the assignments and how you grew as a writer because of them. The grade you receive on your portfolio will take into account the depth and seriousness of your reflection and analysis as a learner.

8. Support Services

ESL Lab and ESL Tutors

If you need help completing the assignments or if you would like ideas on how to develop your essays, you can get it by going to the Learning Skills Center located in B 167. Writing is a complex and challenging process, and all students can benefit from extra help. For this reason, I encourage you to sign up for supervised writing tutoring in B167. All Supervised Tutoring sections are free to you. You need only to enroll to receive services – no units or grades are given.

9. Method of Evaluation

Attendance and class participation	(50 points)
Final Portfolio Project	(50 points)
Homework	(300 points)
Essays	(300 points = 50 points each, final essay worth 150 points)
Chapter Summaries	(50 points)
Binder	(50 points)
Grammar Quizzes	(100 points = 50 points each)
Midterm	(100 points)
Final	(100 points)

A	=	90 - 100%	1091 – 1100 points	Superior	(Passing)
B	=	80 - 89%	981 – 1090 points	Good	(Passing)
C	=	70 - 79%	871 – 980 points	Average	(Passing)
D	=	60 - 69%	761 – 870 points	Below Average	(Not passing)
F	=	50 - 59%	760 and below	Fail	

Note: This course adheres to the policies outlined in the Cuyamaca College catalogue. For further information, see Academic Policies stated in the catalogue.

10. How to get a hold of me:

Office Hours: **Monday, Wednesday** **10:00 – 11:00 AM**
 Tuesday, Thursday **1:00- 2:30 PM**

Office: **B-175**
Telephone: **(619) 660-4230** **E-Mail:** **alicia.munoz@gccd.edu**