

ESL 260/460 38908
Course Syllabus

Instructor: Christopher Fathman
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Time: TR 6:30 – 7:45 PM
Office Hours: T/R 7:50-8:20 PM (Zoom)

WELCOME TO ESL 260B/460B!

ESL 260B (credit)/460B (noncredit) is designed to help you sound more fluent and understand spoken American English by learning important pronunciation features such as voicing, grammatical endings, linking, and sound change. You will also learn the proper articulation of troublesome consonant sounds. The goal is NOT to get rid of your accent (because your accent is an important part of your identity) but rather to help you communicate in English effectively.

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES (SLOs)

At the end of the course, you should be able to:

- Demonstrate knowledge of the sound system and patterns of spoken English.
- Comprehend and respond appropriately to the patterns of spoken English.
- Apply the knowledge of the sound system and patterns of spoken English by orally producing level appropriate speech that is intelligible and accurate.
- Demonstrate the ability to analyze one's own speech mistakes and correct these mistakes independently.

ADVISORY

ESL 251/451 and 255/455 with a grade of C or better, or a qualifying score on the ESL guided self-placement.

REQUIRED MATERIALS

- *Well Said*, Fourth Edition by Linda Grant (ISBN-13: 978-1-305-64136-5)
- Access to a device (computer, tablet, smartphone) with Internet connection, and video and audio capacities to attend class and complete assignments
- A small mirror and a rubber band

*The textbook must be new and not have any answers, and you must have your own book.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Whether you're taking the class for credit or noncredit, the course requirements are exactly the same.

Attendance: Even though the class is online, attendance is required. You must attend every class by logging into Canvas and going to Zoom for every scheduled class meeting. Points will be deducted from your participation grade for each absence. Being tardy twice

equals one absence. If you “come to class” late, please tell me and make sure that I erase the absent mark on the attendance record.

If you are going to be absent during the first 2 weeks of the quarter, you **MUST** notify me. If not, I will assume that you are not interested in the class anymore and drop you. You may be dropped from the course or fail the class if you miss more than three classes for any reason during the quarter.

Patience and Practice: Improving your pronunciation skills in English takes time, commitment, hard work and A LOT OF practice. I am here to help and support you in any way I can, but only you can do the work that will enable you to improve your pronunciation skills. Learning a language is like learning to swim. You can read about and watch people swimming and learn the skills necessary to swim, but you will never learn to swim until you actually jump into the pool and practice swimming.

Preparedness, Collaboration & Participation: In order to be successful in this class, you should:

- Attend every class.
- Join Zoom early and be ready by the class start time.
- Do assigned homework before you come to class.
- Bring your textbook to every class.
- Be actively engaged in what is going in class, e.g. not checking your cell phone, going on social media, surfing the internet, working, driving, etc.
- Work willingly and cooperatively with your classmates in pairs and groups.
- Take responsibility for your own learning process.
- Ask for help if you are not doing well in class (don't wait until the last minute!).

Homework (HW): There are two types of homework you need to do for this class:

Textbook exercises: Some of the exercises in the textbook must be done at home. These exercises will be related to in-class activities so please be sure to do your homework. If you don't do the homework before coming to class or participate in class activities, it will result in a lower homework/participation grade.

Pronunciation Power: In order to practice your pronunciation outside of class, you will be required to use a software program called Pronunciation Power; the school will give you access for free. I will give more information later.

Recordings: You will be required to submit recorded assignments throughout the quarter that will be evaluated for your pronunciation. I will not accept any assignment that is late.

Quizzes: You will have a few short quizzes throughout the quarter.

CANVAS: All homework assignments and material will be posted online. I recommend that you download the app on your phone/tablet for convenience.

GRADING CRITERIA:

Recordings 50%

Quizzes 40%

HW/Class Participation 10%

GRADING SCALE:

100 = A+ 78-79 = C+

94-99 = A 75-77 = C

90-93 = A- 68-74 = D+

87-89 = B+ 64-67 = D

84-86 = B 60-63 = D

80-83 = B- ≤ 59 = F

*You must get an overall grade of C (minimum of 75%) or higher in order to pass the class.

ACADEMIC HONESTY

Except for pair and group assignments, all assignments must be done BY YOURSELF. Any form of cheating will NOT be tolerated in any case. Cheating includes, but is not limited to: Copying from another student's homework, quiz, exam or any other material. Having someone else do your assignment and submitting it as your own. Submitting an assignment that you've done for another class. If you are repeating this class, you must redo the assignments. Any student caught cheating will receive an automatic 0 for the assignment and may even be dropped from the course and/or reported to the Office of Student Development. If reported, the incident may remain as part of your permanent college record. Students who help someone else cheat in any way will also receive an automatic 0 and may also be reported. Go to De Anza College's Academic Integrity for more information.

CLASSROOM ENVIRONMENT

Please be respectful of everyone and help create a comfortable environment for learning. Even though this is an online class, please dress appropriately, go to a quiet room where you will not be interrupted, and refrain from eating during class. If you have a child at home, make sure the child is occupied elsewhere. Anyone being distracting or disruptive will be asked to leave the class and reported to the Office of Student Development.

ENGLISH ONLY, PLEASE!

You are in this class because you want to improve your English skills. If you want to achieve your goal, then you must use English as much as possible. Although there may be other students that speak your language, use English only at all times in this class.

IMPORTANT DATES

January 6: First day of winter quarter

January 19: Last day to add 12-week classes

January 19: Last day to drop without a W

January 20: Martin Luther King Jr. Holiday - no classes, offices closed

February 14-17: Presidents' Holiday - no classes, offices closed

February 28: Last day to drop classes with a W

March 24-28: Final Exams

**The instructor reserves the right to alter any aspect of this syllabus throughout the quarter*