Course Catalog

**FUNDAMENTAL ESL TOPICS**

ESL 101 – Language Concepts  
ESL 102 – Factors Affecting English Language Learners  
ESL 103 – Types of ESL Programs  
ESL 104 – Family and Community Involvement  
ESL 105 – Stages of Learning a Language  

**METHODS OF TEACHING ESL**

ESL 106 – Building and Activating Background Knowledge  
ESL 107 – Methods of Vocabulary Instruction  
ESL 108 – Common Language Difficulties  
ESL 109 – Appealing to Multiple Learning Styles  
ESL 110 – Using Self-Corrective Techniques  
ESL 111 – Reading Strategies for English Language Learners  
ESL 112 – Reading Activities for English Language Learners  
ESL 113 – Methods of Assessing and Checking Comprehension  
ESL 114 – Common Grammatical Difficulties  
ESL 115 – Classroom Management Strategies  
ESL 116 – Building a Supportive Classroom Learning Environment  
ESL 117 – Strategies for ESL Content Learning  

**Course Titles and Objectives**

**ESL 101 – Language Concepts**  
The participant will...  
- Define social language and identify its role in English language learning.  
- Define academic language and identify its role in English language learning.  
- Differentiate between social and academic language in the development of English language proficiency.  
- Identify the role of listening, reading, writing, and speaking in traditional foreign and second language classrooms.  
- Describe social and academic listening and speaking tasks.  
- Describe social and academic reading and writing tasks.  
- Name different models of second language teaching that integrate listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills.
ESL 102 – Factors Affecting English Language Learners
The participant will...
- Describe characteristics unique to English language learners.
- Discuss the role that prior learning experiences have on second language learning.
- Identify and discuss different social, cultural, and environmental factors that affect English language learners.
- Recognize individual learner characteristics that influence second language learning.
- Describe different learning styles and strategies of second language learning.

ESL 103 – Types of ESL Programs
The participant will...
- Learn about different factors that play a role in choosing an ESL program.
- Name the main characteristics of each type of program and distinguish between each of them.
- Define the terms related to different ESL programs (mainstream, immersion, etc.).
- Discuss the advantages and disadvantages of each type of ESL program.

ESL 104 – Family and Community Involvement
The participant will...
- Examine the role of the family of English language learners.
- Explain common barriers to communication between schools and families of English language learners.
- Discover ways that schools can improve communication and facilitate parent involvement.
- Learn measures that English language learners’ parents or guardians can take to foster their child’s academic development.
- Identify ways to access community resources to enhance English language learners’ education.

ESL 105 – Stages of Learning a Language
The participant will...
- Define the different components of language.
- Discuss the role of cultural competence in language learning.
- Explain the concept of language transfer.
- Name the levels of English language proficiency and describe how English language learners perform at each level.

ESL 106 – Building and Activating Background Knowledge
The participant will...
- Define different types of background knowledge.
- Explain the difference between activating and building on background knowledge.
- Identify and give examples of different techniques to activate background knowledge.
- Learn about different techniques that can be used to build background knowledge.
- Describe methods of working with text, video, and other media.

ESL 107 – Methods of Vocabulary Instruction
The participant will...
- Examine the importance of vocabulary in language learning.
- Define content words and examine strategies for teaching content words and helping students to use and retain them.
- List process and function words and learn techniques for teaching them.
- Discover why learning word parts can aid English language learners.
- Discuss techniques for working with suffixes, prefixes, and root words.
ESL 108 – Common Language Difficulties
The participant will...
- Identify some common language difficulties of English language learners.
- Examine figurative language and its challenges for ELLs.
- Describe problems that idioms may present for students.
- Learn about false cognates and the confusion they may cause for learners.

ESL 109 – Appealing to Multiple Learning Styles
The participant will...
- Describe different learning styles and the aspects of learning styles associated with second language learning.
- Learn tips and techniques to that appeal to visual learners.
- Identify strategies that appeal to auditory learners.
- Discover ways to reach tactile and kinesthetic learners.

ESL 110 – Using Self-Corrective Techniques
The participant will...
- Recognize when English language learners are requesting assistance.
- Determine when and how frequently to correct students’ errors.
- Learn how to help ELLs self-correct by employing nonverbal cues.
- Examine how to use rephrasing and reformulation techniques to help students self-correct.

ESL 111 – Reading Strategies for English Language Learners
The participant will...
- Review the role of background knowledge in reading comprehension.
- Identify five ways to help students process information.
- Describe different text structures and identify graphic organizers that can help students understand and identify text structures.
- Learn different note-taking strategies that will help students with reading comprehension.
- Describe strategies you can use with students to help them remember important information after reading a text.

ESL 112 – Reading Activities for English Language Learners
The participant will...
- Examine different types of classroom activities that can be used to engage English language learners in the reading process.
- Learn about cooperative learning strategies for ELLs and how the strategies can be applied to reading.
- Describe different strategies for ELLs’ independent reading activities.

ESL 113 – Methods of Assessing and Checking Comprehension
The participant will...
- Learn about and differentiate among types of assessments including formative, summative, portfolio, formal, and informal.
- Discover classroom techniques such as questioning, discussing, and summarizing to assess and check students’ comprehension.
- Discuss verbal and nonverbal responses such as body language, silence, and intonation that ELLs may have to instruction.
ESL 114 – Common Grammatical Difficulties
The participant will...
• Identify some common language difficulties of English language learners.
• Anticipate problems that count and noncount nouns may present for students.
• Learn about the use of articles the confusion they may cause for learners.
• Discover some tips and strategies for addressing grammatical difficulties.

ESL 115 – Classroom Management Strategies
The participant will...
• Discuss various elements of classroom management.
• Examine the role of pair and small group work in classroom management.
• Define and understand flexible grouping.
• Discover ways to manage uncomfortable silences.
• Identify ways to allow more processing time for students.

ESL 116 – Building a Supportive Classroom Learning Environment
The participant will...
• Learn about different types of anxiety that English language learners may experience in the classroom.
• Discover some of the sources of language learning anxiety.
• Learn about classroom strategies for building a supportive and engaging classroom environment.
• Describe technological methods for reducing learner anxiety.

ESL 117 – Strategies for ESL Content Learning
The participant will...
• Learn about and differentiate between content-based and sheltered ESL instruction models.
• Learn how these models can motivate students and prepare them for mainstream classes.
• Describe and give examples of content and language objectives.
• Recall different types of activities and student groupings and apply them to content area instruction.
• Review informal comprehension checks and understand how rubrics can be used to assess comprehension.