

ESL 200/400: High Beginning ESL

Winter 2025

**Classroom:** ADM 103

**Time:** M-Th 10:00-12:15

**Instructor:** Matt Culver

**Email:** [culvermatthew@fhda.edu](mailto:culvermatthew@fhda.edu)

**Office Hours:** Mon/Wed.. LC 47 12:20-1:30

**Textbooks:**

- Focus on Grammar 1, 4th edition. Schoenberg, I and Maurer J.
- Reading for Today 1: Themes 4th edition. Smith, L and Mare, N.

**COURSE DESCRIPTION:** Development of English listening, speaking, reading and writing skills at the high-beginning level with an emphasis on explicit, direct grammar instruction. Practice in listening to basic forms of conversational English and speaking with comprehensible pronunciation. Development of basic reading comprehension and vocabulary. Practice in writing simple and basic compound sentences, short narratives, explanations, and descriptions.

**STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES (SLOs):**

- Comprehend and respond to high-beginning reading and listening materials.
- Write a group of topic-related sentences using high-beginning grammar and vocabulary.
- Demonstrate understanding and usage of high-beginning grammar and vocabulary in reading, writing, listening and speaking.

**COURSE OBJECTIVES:**

- A. Listen to and comprehend selected high-beginning listening passages such as simple dialogues, conversations, and narratives.
- B. Speak high-beginning American English in given situations.
- C. Read and comprehend high-beginning level reading passages.
- D. Write a group of topic-related sentences using high-beginning grammar, vocabulary, spelling and mechanics.
- E. Demonstrate high-beginning sentence structure and grammar.
- F. Develop vocabulary with emphasis on high-frequency words.
- G. Develop cultural competency by analyzing cross-cultural customs and attitudes, especially in contrast with the students' native customs and attitudes.

**COURSE POLICIES:**

**Attendance:** Plan to attend every class and always arrive a few minutes before class begins. Students who miss class any time during the first two weeks may be dropped. If you are absent or late, please check Canvas to find out what you missed.


**Academic Integrity:** Academic integrity is honesty concerning all aspects of academic performance and is part of the DAC Student Conduct Code. Academic dishonesty includes plagiarism. Plagiarism means to give the teacher someone else's writing and say that you wrote it. You will receive a zero on any work that you do not do yourself. Repeated plagiarism could result in failing the course.

**Late Assignments:** Try to complete all assignments on time since we will use the assignments for our class work. If you cannot submit an assignment on time, be sure to submit it anyway. Points will not be deducted for late work.

**Quizzes:** Quizzes and exams cover grammar points, vocabulary, listening, speaking and reading skills that we cover in class.

**Exams:** You will have a midterm and a final exam. Exams can be made-up if you make arrangements with me ahead of time.

**Grading Criteria:**

- |                                     |                          |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| A: 90-100%                          | Homework: 20%            |
| B: 80-89%                           | Midterm: 20%             |
| C: 75-79%                           | Final: 20%               |
| D: 60-74% (Does not pass the class) | Presentations: 10%       |
| F: 59 -0 %                          | Writing Assignments: 20% |
|                                     | Listening Log: 10%       |

**Important Dates**

**January 19:** Last day to add 12-week classes

**January 19:** Last day to drop classes without a W

**January 20:** Martin Luther King holiday – no classes; offices closed

**February 17:** President's day holiday- no classes; offices closed

**February 28:** Last day to [drop classes](#) with a W

**March 27: Final 9:15-11:15**

## **Student Support Services**

**Listening and Speaking Center (LSC):** <https://www.deanza.edu/studentsuccess/lsc/>

This center is only for ESL students, and it's wonderful! Using Zoom, you can participate in conversation workshops and tutorial sessions. You can also attend workshops on campus.

**Writing and Reading Center (WRC):** <https://www.deanza.edu/studentsuccess/wrc/>

Go here to get help with reading and writing. A teacher or tutor can check your vocabulary sentences for you via Zoom. You can sign up for a weekly tutor or you can drop-in during open hours. You can also get tutoring on campus.

**AMERICAN DISABILITY ACT (ADA):** Students with disabilities or students who need special accommodations can meet with Disability Support Services (DSS) to discuss their needs. Contact Disability Support Services at <https://www.deanza.edu/dsps/>  
Email: [dss@deanza.edu](mailto:dss@deanza.edu) | Phone: 408-430-7681. Please also discuss these with me so that I can better support you.