



ESL 272/472-51Z Advanced Reading and Vocabulary (4 units) Winter 2025

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Office Hours: Mon 12:00-1:15 PM (L47 or Zoom)
Tue 11:30-1:15 PM (L47 or Zoom)
Wed 9:30-10:30 AM (L63 or Zoom)
By appointment and Email

Welcome to ESL 272/472!

ESL 272 (credit)/472 (noncredit) is an advanced-level course for students whose native language is other than English. It focuses on the development of academic reading, vocabulary, and critical thinking skills through extensive readings of college-level material in English.

Student Learning Outcomes (SLOs)

When you complete this course, you will be able to:

1. Demonstrate comprehension of literal and inferred meanings of fiction and nonfiction texts.
2. Identify main arguments and supporting ideas/examples of expository prose in selected readings.
3. Demonstrate critical analysis and evaluation of ideas, persuasive techniques, and/or validity of arguments found in readings through responsive writing.
4. Demonstrate in writing the understanding and use of academic vocabulary with few basic errors.

Prerequisites

ESL 261/461 and 265/465 with a grade of C or better; or placement by the ESL assessment.

Required Materials

1. ***Pathways 4: Reading, Writing, and Critical Thinking, 3rd edition*** by Mari Vargo, Laurie Blass, and Kristin Sherman (ISBN: 9780357980118)
2. ***Born a Crime*** by Trevor Noah (ISBN: 978-0399588198; original, not adapted for young readers) – Please get the paperback, not an electronic copy.
3. Access to a computer and the Internet to complete and submit assignments
4. An advanced English-only, English learner's dictionary (paper or online)

*You must have your own book, and it must be new and not have any answers.

Also, the De Anza Library has a few copies of both books in case yours haven't arrived yet. Go to the Circulation Desk to check them out.

Canvas

All course information, assignments and materials will be posted online. Go to the De Anza website www.deanza.edu, click **Canvas**, log in, select **ESL 272/472 > Home**. You should be able to see weekly lesson materials and assignments. I recommend that you download the app on your phone for convenience.

Course Requirements

All requirements and policies for noncredit classes are exactly the same as credit classes - including expectations, course content, assignments, and grading.

- ❖ **Independence, Time Management, and Engagement:** This is a **100% asynchronous class**, which means that we will not have any face-to-face or zoom meetings. Instead, you will be responsible for doing the coursework online independently. Please check Canvas at least a couple of times every week to see what is going on in the class, what you need to do and by when (check all deadlines carefully). You also need good time management skills; set aside enough time to do each assignment and start as early as possible. As this is a 4-unit class, you will need about **8-10 hours each week to do all the assignments, study, and take tests**.

Please don't wait until the last minute, just before something is due. Give yourself plenty of time to complete your assignments to the best of your ability.

Although we do not have any scheduled meetings, I expect everyone to stay engaged in the course. Research has proven that the more students are engaged with each other and with the instructor, the more likely they are to enjoy the course and be successful. In this course, one way to be engaged is to share ideas and opinions with each other via weekly online discussions in Canvas. Another way is to participate in group assignments. Be sure to participate in these important activities. You can also communicate with each other by using the Inbox in Canvas.

If for any reason you cannot continue with the course and decide to withdraw, please let me know AND drop the course yourself online through MyPortal to avoid receiving an F.

- ❖ **Assignments:** You will receive various assignments that must be submitted in Canvas. A couple of them are group assignments, so I will expect you to collaborate with each other. All writing assignments must be typed. Do not email me late assignments as I will not accept them.
- ❖ **Quizzes and Exams:** You will have weekly quizzes on *Pathways* and *Born a Crime*, a midterm and a final exam. If you miss any of them, you will not be allowed to make them up unless you have an emergency that can be documented, e.g. a receipt from your doctor's office.

General Course Schedule

This schedule is tentative and is subject to change.

	Lesson Topics
Week 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Course information • Class introductions • How to Be a Good Reader • Introduction to Born a Crime
Week 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pathways Unit 1 • Born a Crime Ch. 1-2 • Paraphrasing
Week 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pathways Unit 2 • Born a Crime Ch. 3-4 • Group Assignment: Paraphrasing
Week 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pathways Unit 3 • Born a Crime Ch. 5-6
Week 5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pathways Unit 4 • Born a Crime Ch. 7-8 • Individual Assignment: Paraphrasing
Week 6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pathways Unit 5 • Born a Crime Ch. 9-10 • Midterm
Week 7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pathways Unit 6 • Born a Crime Ch. 11-12 • Summarizing
Week 8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pathways Unit 7 • Born a Crime Ch. 13-14 • Group Assignment: Summarizing
Week 9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pathways Unit 8 • Born a Crime Ch. 15-16
Week 10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pathways Unit 9

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Born a Crime Ch. 17-18 • Writing a Summary Response
Week 11	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pathways Unit 10 • Individual Assignment: Summary Response
Week 12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Final Exam

Grading Policy and Criteria

Assignments are due by the due time and date indicated in Canvas. Unless there is an extenuating circumstance (e.g. illness, accident), late assignments will not be accepted. If there is an extenuating circumstance beyond your control, please email me as soon as possible.

Your final grade will be based on the following criteria and scale:

Pathways Online	10%				
Discussions, Other Assignments		A+	100% - 97%	C+	<80% - 77%
Born a Crime Quizzes, Online Discussions	15%	A	<97% - 93%	C	< 77% - 70%
Writing Assignments	15%	A-	<93% - 90%	D+	< 70% - 67%
Pathways Unit Quizzes*	20%	B+	<90% - 87%	D	< 67% - 63%
Midterm	20%	B	<87% - 83%	D-	< 63% - 60%
Final Exam	20%	B-	<83% - 80%	F	< 60% - 0%
<u>Total</u>	<u>100%</u>				

*The lowest score from the Pathways quizzes will be dropped.
You must get an overall grade of C or higher in order to pass the class.

Academic Integrity

Except for 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:

- Using **Google Translate** (or any technology) to translate any of the course material (books, lectures, Canvas content).
- Using any app, software or artificial intelligence (**AI**) to do a writing assignment (e.g. **ChatGPT, Gemini, Grammarly**). Please see **AI and Technology Policy** in Canvas.
- Getting too much "help" from **a person or technology** (e.g. **Internet, Grammarly, Google Translate**) on an assignment where the writing no longer looks like your own.
- Copying any amount of material from another source (e.g. the Internet, books, another student's work) without citing the source. This is called **PLAGIARISM** and is considered a serious crime.
- Having someone else do your assignment, quiz, or exam and submitting it as your own.
- Communicating with other people during a quiz or exam.
- Copying from another student's assignment, quiz, exam or any other material.
- Submitting assignments that you've done for another class, even if you're repeating the course.

Any student caught cheating will receive an **automatic zero** for the assignment and may even be reported to the Office of Student Judicial Affairs. Students who help someone else cheat in any way will also receive an automatic zero and may also be reported. If reported, the incident may remain as part of your permanent college record. Go to the Canvas course and [De Anza College's Academic Integrity](#) for more information.

Learning Environment

Let's create a positive learning environment for everyone. Be respectful of me as well as your classmates in all your communications, including emails and online discussions. Work willingly and

cooperatively with your classmates when asked to do so. Anyone behaving inappropriately will be reported to the Office of Student Judicial Affairs.

Important Dates

- Jan 19 Last day to add classes
- Jan 19 Last day to drop classes without a W
- Jan 20 Martin Luther King Jr. Holiday – Campus Closed
- Feb 14-17 Presidents’ Holiday – Campus Closed
- Feb 28 Last day to drop classes with a W
- Mar 26 Final Exam due by Wednesday 11:59 PM**

Getting Help

Most successful students get extra help on their assignments from their instructors. Please email me or come to my zoom office hours (or request an appointment if those times do not work for you), even just to say hello, and I’d be more than happy to help you in any way that I can. If you experience any difficulty in the course, come see me early in the quarter.

Writing Emails

The best way to get in touch with me is via email. I will check my email daily from **Monday through Friday** and I will do my best to respond to you within 24 hours. Please check your email often because I will send important messages via email.

Even though writing emails may seem less formal than academic writing, it is very important to write a grammatically correct and appropriately formatted email at work or school to make a good impression. If you don’t, you can make a poor impression and even offend the receiver.

1. **Please use the Inbox in Canvas** because it will automatically identify you and the class you’re in.
2. Write something short in the subject line to describe the main purpose of the email. For example, you can write *I’ll be absent, Homework, Can I make an appointment?*
3. Always include a greeting and a comma. For example, *Hi Professor Yee*, or *Hi Linda*. It is not polite to address your instructor only by their last name, e.g. *Hi Yee*.
4. Write your message.
5. Grammar and spelling are very important. If your email has a lot of errors, it will seem careless and make a poor impression.
6. Always end your email with a complimentary closing with your name. For example, *Thanks* or *Thank you. John*.

To: yeelinda@deanza.edu
Subject: Need help with homework
Hi Professor Yee,
I would like some help on the Unit 1 homework. Can I see you during your office hour tomorrow at 12:30pm to ask you questions?
Thanks.
John

Adapted from Pati Carobus’ course packet.

Let's Work Hard and Have Fun!

You are here because you want to improve your English skills, and you're more likely to succeed if you work hard and have fun. I'm here to help you achieve your goals, so if you have **ANY** questions or problems, please send me an email, see me during my office hours or make an appointment. I will do my best to help you enjoy and succeed in this class!! 😊

Resources

Useful De Anza Classes and Support Services

1. Take **ESL 274/474 Grammar and Proofreading for Academic Writing** to improve your grammar or **ESL 260/460 American English Pronunciation** to improve your speaking.
2. Sign up for free English Conversation Workshops, tutoring, and [Cross-Cultural Partners](#) (CCP) Program, and use computers in the [Listening and Speaking Center](#) (LSC)
3. Get free on campus or zoom tutoring at the [Writing and Reading Center](#) (WRC)
4. If you need an accommodation based on the impact of a physical or learning disability, please explain to me your specific needs privately and apply for the [Disability Support Services](#) (DSS) for support.
5. [Guide to De Anza College's Student Services](#)

Dictionaries

Please do not use a translation dictionary or Google Translate in class or for homework. If you want to improve your English, you must use an English only dictionary. Here are my recommendations:

1. [Longman Advanced American Dictionary](#)
An excellent dictionary for English language learners. Use this dictionary for homework and other assignments. The app costs money, so use the website. It has a thesaurus (a dictionary of synonyms) toward the bottom of each entry.
2. [Newbury House Dictionary of American Dictionary](#)
This dictionary is also for English language learners and also has a thesaurus.
3. [Merriam Webster Collegiate Dictionary and Thesaurus](#)
A very popular advanced dictionary for native speakers. (This is what I use all the time.) I recommend that you download the app (free) to your phone or tablet.
4. [Merriam Webster Learners Dictionary](#)
This is an easier version of Merriam Webster for English language learners.

Recommended Online Resources

1. http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/purdue_owl.htm
A very popular and useful academic writing resource from Purdue University.
2. <https://writingcenter.gmu.edu/writing-resources/writing-center-quick-guides>
Another excellent resource for academic writing and grammar, from George Mason University.
3. www.grammarly.com
You can use Grammarly to check your grammar and spelling but do NOT use it to change your wording.
4. <http://a4esl.org> - Activities for ESL Students
English grammar, vocabulary, and crossword puzzles.
5. www.eslcafe.com - Dave's ESL Café
Grammar lessons, idioms, phrasal verbs, and slang.
6. <http://Englishpage.com>
English grammar and vocabulary exercises.
7. www.vocabulary.com
185 lists of words categorized according to topics
8. npr.org (or any news organization)
Learn about current world events and improve your reading and listening skills.