

Intermediate English 201

Towards Authentic Usage: Comprehensive Skills Reinforcement

Fall Semester 2019

Approved by the Program Academic Council
24.05.2019
Protocol # 3

Location: TBD

Instructor: Kevin Cancellaro – Room S304 – cancellaro@aol.com/Kcancellaro@nes.ru

Course Description and Goals

This 200 level course is designed to reinforce and improve upon the skills that students have learned at the 100 level or through previous study. The focus of the class will be on improving comprehensive skills, with an emphasis on developing oral fluency. In addition, the course will include regular reading, grammar and vocabulary components taken from authentic or semi/graded authentic materials. Students will also focus on improving their critical thinking skills through writing and discussion of the topics covered in class. Topics will cover a broad range of issues, from social and historical topics to political and economic themes in order to expand upon the students' knowledge of specialized vocabulary. Pre-discussion tasks will include vocabulary priming exercises, focused grammar practice, or authentic media presentations. Selected articles will be presented for analysis and discussion with further possible use as a writing topic.

The primary goal of this course, then, is as follows:

- (a) Students will improve their spoken English and critical thinking skills in discussions about topics taken from authentic or semi-authentic (rewritten to lower difficulty level) texts.
- (b) Students will acquire terminology and vocabulary related to the theme presented in class and incorporate these terms into their functional English vocabulary.
- (c) Students will consolidate and improve their basic grammatical knowledge as well as learn more advanced constructions.
- (d) Students will learn to synthesize class discussions and other media presentations and incorporate these ideas into their writing/speaking.

Course Outline

Please note:

The outline below is *tentative* and may be revised to better meet student and instructor needs. Readings and assignments may be added or updated to enhance students' understanding, and due dates may be changed to adjust to the pace of students' learning.

Readings: Readings will be determined by the instructor and will be relevant and timely articles taken from authentic/semi-authentic sources.

Topic/Activity	Format	Readings/Listening	Assignments
Class Introduction: goals, expectations, grades Listening 1: Grammar: VERB TENSE – PRESENT/PROGRESSIVE	Short Lecture Individual work Pair work	Current Trends	TBD
Grammar: VERB TENSE – PRESENT PERFECT/PAST	Short Lecture Individual work Pair/Group work	Topic: Sports Selected Reading TBD	TBD
Grammar: VERB TENSE – FUTURE	Short Lecture Individual work Pair/Group work	Topic: Technology Selected Reading TBD	TBD
Grammar: CONDITIONALS – FUTURE – OTHER MODAL VERBS	Short Lecture Individual work Pair/Group work	Topic: Society/Politics Selected Reading TBD	TBD
Grammar: CONDITIONALS – HYPOTHETICAL – PAST AND PRESENT	Short Lecture Individual work Pair/Group work	Topic: Economics Selected Reading TBD	TBD
Grammar: MODALS OF NECESSITY MODALS OF POSSIBILITY/PROBABILITY	Short Lecture Individual work Pair/Group work	Topic: REVIEW Of PREVIOUS TOPICS Vocabulary Consolidation	TBD
Grammar: REVIEW OF PREVIOUS POINTS	Short Lecture Individual work Pair/Group work	Topic: Art Issues Selected Reading TBD	TBD

Grammar: PAST TENSE MODALS	Short Lecture Individual work Pair/Group work	Topic: History Selected Reading TBD	TBD
Grammar: MODALS OF NECESSITY Grammar: PAST TENSE MODALS		Grammar: REVIEW OF PREVIOUS POINTS	
Present Perfect Progressive	Short Lecture Individual work Pair/Group work	Topic: Psychology Selected Reading TBD	TBD
Grammar: DEFINING AND NON –DEFINING RELATIVE CLAUSES	Short Lecture Individual work Pair/Group work	Topic: Religion/Philosophy Selected Reading TBD	TBD
Grammar: NOUN CLAUSES SUBJUNCTIVE NOUN CLAUSES	Short Lecture Individual work Pair/Group work	Vocabulary Consolidation	TBD
Grammar: ARTICLES AND DETERMINERS	Short Lecture Individual work Pair /Group work	Topic: Environment Selected Reading TBD	TBD
Grammar: COMPARISONS	Short Lecture Individual work Pair/Group work	Topic: Science Selected Reading TBD	TBD
Grammar: INFINITIVES AND GERUNDS Subject Verb Inversion	Short Lecture Individual work Pair /Group work	Topic: Controversial Issues Selected Reading TBD	TBD
Grammar: REVIEW OF PREVIOUS POINTS	Individual work Pair/Group work	Topic: REVIEW Of PREVIOUS TOPICS Vocabulary Consolidation	TBD
Review			

Course Load and Homework Responsibilities and Expectations

Students will be responsible for weekly reading and/or other assignments. In class debate and discussion depends on students' level of preparation. *It is extremely important that you prepare your discussion and/or vocabulary points before you come to class.* Students will be responsible for **all** new vocabulary introduced in class and included in the articles. Lateness will not be accepted and consistent lateness will count against your participation grade.

Exam Dates:

Midterm: (To Be Determined)

Final: (To Be Determined)

Evaluation Percentages:

Participation/Preparation 30% Quizzes 35% Final test 20% Midterm 15%

PASSING GRADE IS 65 – which is equal to a 4 in the HSE system

Participation/Preparation: Because the focus of the class is to improve students' oral fluency skills, class participation is extremely important, and for this reason is 35 % of the final grade. This includes attendance, participation in class pair work, group work, HW preparation, presentations and contributions to the class. Absences due to sickness or other official reasons must be documented. **MORE THAN 8 ABSENCES WILL RESULT IN AUTOMATIC FAILURE.** Each unexcused absences will also lower your participation grade.

Midterm and Finals: The midterm will consist of a vocabulary and grammar that is covered in the course. The final will also include an essay.

Make Up Final: Students who fail the course have the opportunity to take a make-up final. Twice. This final will be comprehensive and will include all types of writing that was included in the course including vocabulary from the readings and a speaking part.

Special Equipment and Software Support

The following software programs from local HSE network (by contract) will be used in class:

- Microsoft Windows 7 Professional RUS or
- Microsoft Windows 10 or
- Microsoft Windows 8.1 Professional RUS

The multi-media projector will be required for presentations as well.