

SSC 106-01  
ESL – English as a Second Language  
Lees-McRae College  
Fall 2007  
T 6:00 – 8:20  
Room: Bowman Science Building Room 214

**Instructor:** Rebekah Graham  
**Office Number:** Bowman 222  
**Office Phone Number:** 898-8755  
**Email:** [grahamr@lmc.edu](mailto:grahamr@lmc.edu)

**Office Hours:**  
Tuesday: 3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.  
Wednesday: 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.  
Thursday: 11:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

**Required Text:** Atwan, Robert. American Now: Short Readings from Recent Periodicals Seventh Edition. Bedford/St. Martin's: Boston, 2007.

**Recommended Text:** English Dictionary

**Course Description:** This course is designed for advanced students whose first language is not English, and offers individual practice in reading, composition, pronunciation, classroom listening and note-taking, conversation and communicative tasks, effective word choice, and offers insight into American idioms and culture.

**Language Objectives:** This course is designed to prepare students who are non-native English speakers for reading, writing, listening, and speaking in classroom, professional, and social settings.

**Content Objectives:** Through readings, discussions, class activities, and service projects, students will hone their skills in academic writing and presentation.

**Course Outcomes:** The following are outcomes for the course. By the end of the course you will have achieved the following:

1. To be able to see your own improvements in written and spoken English.
2. To be able to learn how to write clearly and coherently both in and out of the classroom.
3. To be able to be given insight into American idioms and culture.
4. To be able to think critically in a second language.

**Grading:** *Grades given are A,B, C, and F.*

This I Believe essays – 30%

Service-learning Project Presentation – 30%

Homework – 20%

Exit Assessments – 10%

Participation – 10%

**Assignments:** The assignments given are to help cultivate your reading, writing, listening, and speaking skills in English. Rubrics for each of these assignments will be given.

*This I Believe essays* – You will write three (3) This I Believe essays based on your service-learning experiences.

*Service-learning Project Presentation* – You will complete a few service projects this semester. You will present information on the topic of the projects during a community hour at the McRae House.

*Homework* – Homework includes readings and assignments as needed.

*Exit Assessment* – You will complete an exit assessment on English on the last day of class. It will be similar the assessment I gave at the beginning of the semester.

**Supplemental Instruction:** Because this course is partially designed to help students with their English skills in academic settings, students are encouraged to bring assignments from other courses that they may need assistance with. I will set aside a time at the end of each class meeting for you to ask questions, review papers, etc. for your other class assignments. I am also available during my office hours and by appointment.

**Attendance:** You are required to be in this class, and students are expected to attend every meeting of this class. Because class participation is important to practice communication in the target language, attendance is crucial. The college's attendance policy allows for a total of three (3) absences before your grade is affected. Please keep in mind that an absence occurs when you are not in class, with all your materials, and for any reason (illness, work, legitimate, or otherwise). If you miss this class more than three (3) times, you will fail the course. Use your absences wisely.

The classroom experience is vital to your learning, in other words, you need to be here. Any day that you do miss, it is YOUR RESPONSIBILITY to catch up, find out missed assignments, work, etc. You can email me, call me, or contact one of your fellow classmates.

Also, please be on time. Punctuality is important in a class like this, as every late person is a disturbance to the class. Be on time.

**Participation:** Participation in class is critical. We will be discussing very relevant, interesting topics, and discussions should be engaging and lively. Please contribute! The best way to contribute is to be prepared for class by having read all assignments and completed any homework. Through collaboration and sharing of ideas, we should generate plenty of discussion. This allows you the opportunity not only to be heard, but also to learn from one another.

**Course Policies:** Late assignments will be knocked down one letter grade. Assignments more than three days late (without an extension) will not be accepted. All papers **MUST** be typed. All papers must have research and the required amount of secondary sources, documented in accordance with MLA. We will go over MLA style, which will apply to all papers.

**Plagiarism:** Plagiarism will not be tolerated. If I suspect that you are turning in work that is not your own, the college's policy regarding plagiarism and academic integrity will be implemented. Please be advised that the academic integrity governs what happens to students who are turned in for such offenses (failing grades, suspension, expulsion, etc). Cheating, of any kind, on any level, for any assignment, will result in immediate failure of the course. It is your responsibility to maintain the college's high standards of learning.

**Disability Services:** If you are a student who has been diagnosed with a learning disability i.e. dyslexia, ADHD, etc. we can provide various accommodations for you at LMC. Schedule an appointment with Tami Tressler-Blewitt, Coordinator of Disability Services, ext. 2561, for more information. I strongly encourage you to take advantage of this service, especially if you received services and accommodations in high school.

**Academic Services Available:** The Burton Center offers a variety of academic services to assist you in becoming a successful student at LMC. We offer tutoring in various subjects including mathematics, writing, World Civilization, Introduction to the Bible, and Spanish. If you have a need for tutoring in an area we do not have available, we are committed to finding a tutor for you. We also offer academic advising, disability services, and other academic support. If you wish to take advantage of one or more of these services, please come by our offices in 219 Bowman Science.

## **Course Calendar Outline:**

*(This Calendar is tentative and subject to change by the instructor)*

**Please be sure to check the Sakai site for more detailed instructions on assignments!**

[www.myclass.lmc.edu](http://www.myclass.lmc.edu)

August 28: Who are you?

**Homework:** Attend Convocation/Read Chapter 6 in America Now/Check Sakai site under assignments

September 4: America Now Chapter 6 – Do Words Matter?

**Homework:** Read link on September 11 Attacks

September 11: Significance of September 11, 2007

**Homework:** Read link on Hunger

September 18: Preparing for service-learning

**Homework:** Attend CROP Walk

September 25: Reflection on service-learning

**Homework:** Finish This I Believe Essay

October 2: Dinner Etiquette

**Homework:** Write Donna and Bill a thank you letter

October 9: Business Letter Writing

**Homework:** Finish writing letter to inquire about position for internship

October 16: **Fall Break!!!**

October 23: Service-learning reflection on Alternative Fall Break trip

**Homework:** Attend Soup Lunch/Meet with your advisor to pick classes for next spring/Finish This I Believe Essay

October 30: Voting and American Government

**Homework:** Register for Spring semester/Visit Voting Booth with Donna

November 6: Service-learning (Food Drive)

**Homework:** Finish This I Believe Essay

November 13: Service-learning presentation workshop

**Homework:** Work on your presentation

November 20: NO CLASS MEETING

**Homework:** Work on your presentation

November 27: Service-learning presentation workshop day

**Homework:** Be at the McRae House by 9:45 a.m. December 4 and ready to give your presentations on service-learning!!!!

December 4: *Morning* – Service-learning Presentations (meet at the McRae House)

*Evening* – Exit Assessments (meet in the computer lab)

**Homework:** Meet to go to Donna and Bill's house for Christmas Dinner

December 11: **EXAM DAY** Christmas Dinner