

Area: Humanities  
 Dean: Lisa Aguilera Lawrenson  
 Phone: (916) 484-8653  
 Counseling: (916) 484-8572

American River College offers courses in English as a Second Language (ESL) designed to provide students with a command of the English language necessary to pursue both transfer and career goals.

**ESL 97 ESL Center: Integrated Topics in ESL .5-1 Units**

*Prerequisite: ESLL 20, ESLR 20, and ESLW 20 with grades of "C" or better; or placement through the assessment process.*

*Hours: 54 hours LAB*

This laboratory course enables English as a Second Language students placed at the novice-high through intermediate-high levels to develop, expand and reinforce multiple English language skills while working independently and/or in small groups. Coursework includes integrated study topics relative to vocabulary and study skills, reading and grammar use, idiomatic language study and application, TOEFL preparation and assorted integrated software programs. Students may register until the twelfth week of the semester as space permits and may earn .5 unit of credit for every 27 hours of work. ESL 97 is graded credit/no-credit and may be taken four times.

**ESL 181 ESL Center: Skills in ESL .5-1.5 Units**

*Prerequisite: ESLL 310, ESLR 310, and ESLW 310 with a grade of "C" or better or placement through the assessment process.*

*Advisory: Concurrent enrollment in at least one ESL course at the 320, 330, or 340 level.*

*Hours: 81 hours LAB*

Coursework consists of a variety of self-study modules on such topics as grammar, composition, reading, vocabulary, listening, pronunciation, study skills, and work place skills and is designed to develop and reinforce English language skills at advanced levels. Independent work on complex assignments will be required. Credit/No Credit grading only. May be taken for a maximum of 6 units.

Special studies offered in English As a Second Language

**ESL 350 Advanced Composition and Literature 4 Units**

*Prerequisite: ESLR 340 and ESLW 340 with grades of "C" or better*

*General Education: AA/AS Area II(b); CSU Area A3*

*Course Transferable to UC/CSU*

*Hours: 72 hours LEC*

This course covers reading and interpreting major types of literature, including poetry, drama and fiction. It includes study in critical thinking and essay writing and emphasizes reading, oral, and written analysis of major literary works. Attendance at a live theater production is encouraged. Students will be required to write at least 8,500 words.

**ESL - Grammar**

**ESLG 50 Intermediate-Mid Grammar 4 Units**

*Prerequisite: ESLW 40 with a grade of "C" or better, or placement through the assessment process.*

*Advisory: Enrollment in an ESL Listening and Speaking, Reading, and/or Writing course at the student's assessed level(s).*

*Hours: 72 hours LEC*

This course concentrates on the fundamental grammatical structures of English at the Intermediate-Mid Level. It focuses on grammatical structures in appropriate contexts. Oral and written practice with an emphasis on sentence structure and verb tenses is included.

**ESLG 310 Intermediate-High Grammar 4 Units**

*Prerequisite: ESLG 50 with a grade of "C" or better or placement through the assessment process.*

*Advisory: Concurrent enrollment in other ESL skills at the student's assessed level.*

*Course Transferable to CSU*

*Hours: 72 hours LEC*

This course focuses on further practice of the forms, meanings, and usage of grammatical structures of English at the intermediate-high level. Verbal practice in class reinforces the structures studied.

**ESLG 320 Advanced-Low Grammar 4 Units**

*Prerequisite: ESLG 310 with a grade of "C" or better, or placement through the assessment process.*

*Advisory: Concurrent enrollment in other ESL skills at the student's assessed level.*

*Course Transferable to CSU*

*Hours: 72 hours LEC*

This course focuses on practice in the forms and meanings of major structures used in writing with an emphasis on clause structure at the advanced-low level. Oral practice reinforces the structures studied. Assignments emphasize sentence structure in the context of longer written work.

**ESL - Listening**

**ESLL 20 Novice Listening and Speaking 4 Units**

*Advisory: One year of adult school and concurrent enrollment in ESL Reading and Writing courses at the student's assessed levels are highly recommended.*

*Hours: 72 hours LEC*

This course focuses on understanding and producing appropriate language utilizing learned phrases and expressions required for everyday communication. Basic clarification strategies will be demonstrated and practiced. English sounds and intonation patterns will be introduced. Credit/no credit grading only. May be taken twice for credit.

**ESLL 30 Novice-High Listening and Speaking 4 Units**

*Prerequisite:* Placement through assessment.

*Advisory:* Concurrent enrollment in an ESL Reading and/or Writing course at the student's assessed level.

*Hours:* 72 hours LEC

This is a course in listening comprehension and practical conversation for non-native English speakers who plan to take college courses. The sounds of American English, stress, rhythm, and intonation patterns will be introduced. Credit/no credit grading only. May be taken twice for credit.

**ESLL 40 Intermediate-Low Listening and Speaking 4 Units**

*Prerequisite:* ESLL 30 with a grade of "C" or better, or placement through assessment.

*Advisory:* Concurrent enrollment in an ESL Reading and Writing course at the student's assessed level.

*Hours:* 72 hours LEC

This is a course that develops the listening and speaking skills needed to succeed in college courses. Activities will focus on developing phrases and sentences to communicate ideas in familiar situations. The course includes group and individual listening and speaking activities, an overview of American English sounds, and practice in stress, rhythm, and intonation. May be taken twice for credit.

**ESLL 50 Intermediate-Mid Listening and Speaking 4 Units**

*Prerequisite:* ESLL 40 with a grade of "C" or better or placement through assessment.

*Advisory:* Concurrent enrollment in an ESL Reading and Writing course at the student's assessed level.

*Hours:* 72 hours LEC

This is a course to help students understand and be understood in both familiar and unfamiliar situations. Class activities will introduce academic listening and speaking activities and will continue to work on pronunciation skills. May be taken twice for credit.

**ESLL 97 ESL Center: Listening Skills in ESL .5-1 Units**

*Prerequisite:* ESLL 20, ESLR 20, and ESLW 20 with grade of "C" or better; or placement through the assessment process.

*Hours:* 54 hours LAB

This laboratory course enables English as a Second Language students placed at the novice-high through high-intermediate levels to develop and reinforce specific listening and speaking skills while working independently and/or in small groups. Coursework includes offerings in listening comprehension, conversational skills, pronunciation, vocabulary and oral grammar topics. Students may register until the twelfth week of the semester as space permits and may earn .5 unit of credit for every 27 hours of work. ESLL 97 is graded credit/no-credit and may be taken four times.

**ESLL 310 Intermediate-High Listening and Speaking 4 Units**

*Prerequisite:* ESLL 50 with a grade of "C" or better, or placement through assessment.

*Advisory:* concurrent enrollment in an ESL Reading and Writing course at the student's assessed level.

*Course Transferable to CSU*

*Hours:* 72 hours LEC

This is a course to further practice and develop listening and speaking for academic purposes, including comprehension of lecture, note-taking, and classroom discussion. This course covers a review of American English sounds with emphasis on understanding and producing stress, rhythm, and intonation patterns to communicate effectively. May be taken twice for credit.

**ESLL 320 Advanced-Low Listening and Speaking 4 Units**

*Prerequisite:* ESLL 310 with a grade of "C" or better or placement through assessment.

*Advisory:* Concurrent enrollment in an ESL Reading and Writing skill course at the student's assessed level.

*Course Transferable to CSU*

*Hours:* 72 hours LEC

This is a course with intensive practice in listening and active participation strategies for American college courses. Activities include listening to extended lectures from various subject areas, refining note-taking skills, participating in in-depth discussions, and giving oral presentations. Practice of pronunciation skills will continue. May be taken twice for credit.

**ESL - Reading**

**ESLR 20 Novice Reading 4 Units**

*Advisory:* One year of adult school and concurrent enrollment in ESL Writing and Listening/Speaking courses at the student's assessed levels are highly recommended.

*Hours:* 72 hours LEC

This course, intended for non-native speakers of English, focuses on literal understanding of basic vocabulary and readings at the Novice level. There is a focus on expanding basic vocabulary through readings, word parts, and word form activities. The concepts of using context and giving personal reactions to readings are introduced.

**ESLR 30 Novice-High Reading 4 Units**

*Prerequisite:* ESLR 20 with a grade of "C" or better or, for those not previously enrolled in ESLR 20, placement through the assessment process.

*Advisory:* Concurrent enrollment in an ESL Listening and Speaking and Writing course at the student's level.

*Hours:* 72 hours LEC

This course focuses on literal comprehension of words, phrases, sentences, and paragraphs in short texts at the Novice-High level. Topics include core vocabulary, spelling rules, and grammar necessary to understand short readings.

**ESLR 40 Intermediate-Low Reading 4 Units**

*Prerequisite:* ESLR 30 (Novice-High Reading) with a grade of "C" or better; or, for those not previously enrolled in an ESL reading course within the Los Rios District, placement through the assessment process.

*Advisory:* Concurrent enrollment in an ESL Listening and Speaking and Writing course at the student's assessed level.

*Hours:* 72 hours LEC

This course, intended for non-native speakers of English, focuses on understanding of vocabulary and readings at the Intermediate-Low level. There is an emphasis on developing reading skills, building vocabulary, and increasing fluency. Additional class activities include discussing and writing about readings.

**ESLR 50 Intermediate-Mid Reading 4 Units**

*Prerequisite:* ESLR 40 with a grade of "C" or better; or, for those not previously enrolled in an ESL reading course within the Los Rios District, placement through the assessment process.

*Advisory:* Concurrent enrollment in an ESL Listening/Speaking and an ESL Writing course at the student's assessed level.

*Hours:* 72 hours LEC

This course, intended for non-native speakers of English, focuses on the introduction of academic reading skills, with an emphasis on vocabulary development, and literal comprehension. Course activities include reading, analyzing, discussing and writing responses to ideas expressed in texts at the Intermediate-Mid level, as well as further practice with dictionary skills.

**ESLR 97 ESL Center: Reading Skills in ESL .5-1 Units**

*Prerequisite: ESLL 20, ESLR 20, and ESLW 20 with grade of "C" or better; or placement through the assessment process.*

*Hours: 54 hours LAB*

This laboratory course enables English as a Second Language students placed at the novice-high through intermediate-high levels to develop, expand and reinforce a variety of reading and vocabulary skills while working independently and/or in small groups. Coursework includes topics relative to the development of word parts and form, vocabulary expansion, dictionary skills, as well as comprehension, fluency, and summarization skills. Students may register until the twelfth week of the semester as space permits and may earn .5 unit of credit for every 27 hours of work. ESLR 97 is graded credit/no-credit and may be taken four times.

**ESLR 310 Intermediate-High Reading 4 Units**

*Prerequisite: ESLR 50 with a grade of "C" or better, or placement through assessment.*

*Advisory: Concurrent enrollment in other ESL skills at the student's assessed level.*

*Course Transferable to CSU*

*Hours: 72 hours LEC*

This course focuses on the introduction of academic reading skills with an emphasis on speed, vocabulary expansion, and comprehension of ideas, and introduces library use. Practice will be provided in understanding, paraphrasing, summarizing, and responding, either orally or in writing, to ideas expressed in reading.

**ESLR 320 Advanced-Low Reading 4 Units**

*Prerequisite: ESLR 310 with a grade of "C" or better or placement through assessment.*

*Advisory: Concurrent enrollment in other ESL skills at the student's assessed level.*

*Course Transferable to CSU*

*Hours: 72 hours LEC*

This course focuses on refining academic reading skills with an emphasis on speed, vocabulary development, and analytical comprehension. It also will include practice in research and synthesizing skills and extensive writing based on critical analysis of readings.

**ESLR 340 Advanced Reading Skills Through Literature 4 Units**

*Prerequisite: ESLR 320 with a grade of "C" or better, or placement through assessment.*

*Advisory: Concurrent enrollment in an ESL Listening and Speaking and Writing course at the student's assessed level.*

*Course Transferable to CSU*

*Hours: 72 hours LEC*

This course is designed to improve vocabulary and reading skills for the advanced ESL learner. Readings will include various forms of literature from a variety of cultural groups. It covers a wide variety of selections including essays, poetry, drama, short stories and novels. This course emphasizes critical thinking and reading skills needed for academic performance: (1) vocabulary development (2) analysis and comprehension skills (3) flexibility of reading rate. It also emphasizes the comparison contrast of universal and metaphoric themes, as applied in various cultures. AA/AS area 4B.

**ESL - Writing**

**ESLW 20 Novice Writing 4 Units**

*Advisory: One year of adult school and concurrent enrollment in ESL Reading and Listening/Speaking courses at the student's assessed levels are highly recommended.*

*Hours: 72 hours LEC*

This course focuses on the structure of English sentences including parts of speech and word order. Emphasis is on the production of clear, basic written sentences using common everyday vocabulary. Question formation will also be demonstrated and practiced. Credit/no credit grading only. May be taken twice for credit.

**ESLW 30 Novice-High Writing 4 Units**

*Prerequisite: ESLW 20; or placement through the assessment process.*

*Hours: 72 hours LEC*

This course covers novice-high-level writing in English for non-native speakers who plan to take college courses. It provides instruction and practice in writing simple sentences and paragraph structures within the context of topic assignments.

**ESLW 40 Intermediate-Low Writing 4 Units**

*Prerequisite: ESLW 30 with a grade of "C" or better or placement through assessment.*

*Advisory: Concurrent enrollment in an ESL Listening and Speaking and Reading course at the student's assessed level.*

*Hours: 72 hours LEC*

This course provides practice in writing focused paragraphs with a clear beginning, middle and end. Critical thinking skills and correct grammar in writing will be stressed.

**ESLW 50 Intermediate-Mid Writing 4 Units**

*Prerequisite: ESLW 40 with a grade of "C" or better, or placement through assessment.*

*Advisory: Concurrent enrollment in an ESL Listening and Speaking and Reading course at the student's assessed level.*

*Hours: 72 hours LEC*

This course covers techniques essential to essay writing. Control of sentence structure in longer pieces of writing will continue to be developed

**ESLW 86 Spelling 2 Units**

*Prerequisite: ESLR 40 and ESLW 40 with a grade of "C" or better or placement through the assessment process.*

*Hours: 36 hours LEC*

This course is designed for students who need to improve their spelling. It includes an introduction to the basic spelling rules and patterns of English. Activities will provide practice with homophones, suffixes and plurals. The course will foster competence in spelling. May be taken twice for credit.

**ESLW 97 ESL Center: Writing Skills in ESL .5-1 Units**

*Prerequisite: ESLL 20, ESLR 20, and ESLW 20 with grades of "C" or better; or placement through the assessment process.*

*Hours: 54 hours LAB*

This laboratory course enables English as a Second Language students placed at the novice-high through intermediate-high levels to develop and reinforce specific English language skills while working independently and/or in small groups. Coursework includes level-appropriate topics relative to all forms of written communication including grammar, sentence structure and punctuation, paragraph and essay formats, and related vocabulary and spelling. Students may register until the twelfth week of the semester as space permits and may earn .5 unit of credit for every 27 hours of work. ESLW 97 is graded credit/no-credit and may be taken four times.

**ESLW 310 Intermediate-High Writing 4 Units**

*Prerequisite:* ESLW 50 with a grade of “C” or better, or placement through assessment.

*Advisory:* Concurrent enrollment in other ESL skills at the student’s assessed level.

*Course Transferable to UC/CSU*

*Hours:* 72 hours LEC

This course further develops the ability to respond to a variety of essay assignments. Class discussions and written responses to readings and prompts will exercise critical thinking skills. Control of a range of sentence structures will be refined.

**ESLW 320 Advanced-Low Writing 4 Units**

*Prerequisite:* ESLW 310 with a grade of “C” or better or placement through assessment.

*Advisory:* Concurrent enrollment in other ESL skills at the student’s assessed level.

*Course Transferable to UC/CSU*

*Hours:* 72 hours LEC

This course exercises analytical and logical skills in the production of focused, developed and organized essays on a variety of topics. The course emphasizes sentence variety and the mechanics of English in the context of the essay. Essays will incorporate outside sources as well as personal experience.

**ESLW 340 Advanced Composition 4 Units**

*Prerequisite:* ESLW 320 with a grade of “C” or better for students continuing in ESL courses or placement through the assessment process for new ESL students.

*Advisory:* Concurrent enrollment in an ESL Reading and an ESL Listening and Speaking course at the student’s assessed levels.

*General Education:* AA/AS Area II(a); CSU Area A2

*Course Transferable to UC/CSU*

*Hours:* 72 hours LEC

This college composition course emphasizes reading analysis, writing, and critical thinking skills, while also addressing the specific language and cultural needs of non-native speakers. These skills are essential for successful completion of a two or four-year college program. Writing assignments include expository and argumentative prose based on analysis of a variety of assigned readings and original research. Students write a minimum of 8,500 words divided among 6-8 essays, including a fully documented research paper and in-class essays. This course satisfies the Written Expression Competency requirement for graduation and the English composition requirement of some California colleges and universities.