



Low Advanced Grammar, Writing, and Reading
ESL 265-02 In person Winter 2025
CRN 37526 for ESL 265 (Credit) 37596 for ESL 465 (non-credit)

Instructor: Cristin Boyd

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Phone: none available; please email

Class Hours: 10:30a- 1:20pm

Class Location: L24 Mondays & Wednesdays,
in person

Office Hours: MW 1:20p- 2:10p & by appointment;
Location: L Bldgs patio tables near classroom; Zoom
appts available.

** for all Google docs, add Cristin's DA email
cboyddeanza@gmail.com - Add as "Editor"

Welcome to my ESL 265/465 class! I am 100% committed to helping you improve and advance your reading, writing and editing skills! I have been an educator for 20+ years, and I love working with international students. We're going to have a Great quarter working together! 🍌Cristin

PREREQUISITES: A passing grade in ESL 255/455 **or** a qualifying placement per De Anza policies.

COURSE DESCRIPTION: ESL 265/465 will develop low-advanced skills for writing clear, organized, well-developed multi-paragraph compositions, grammar, sentence structure, reading comprehension, and vocabulary.

To be eligible to take ESL 272 and ESL 273, you must receive credit for ESL 261/461 and 265/465 and our place into this course via DSP and academic counseling.

WHAT WE ACTUALLY DO IN CLASS: *We read, write, revise, check grammar; read and write more; revise some more, check grammar again and repeat. Mostly, we write paragraphs and short essays. We also study writing, reading, and grammar skills and apply those skills.*

COURSE TIME COMMITMENT: Expect to spend two hours of outside preparation for each hour of class instruction. *To be clear, expect **10-12 hours** of homework each week for this class alone. See course catalog for hours commitment.*

CERTIFICATES OF COMPETENCY: Did you know that you can receive Certificates for your ESL achievements when taking non-credit courses? Please see the [DeAnza ESL webpage](#) for more information.

REQUIRED TEXTBOOK, MATERIALS & RESOURCES

- No textbook purchase required for this section of ESL 265/465! Yay! **All course content will be available through our Canvas course page.**
- Working wifi/internet access and a larger device for in-class writing.
 - o Cell phones are often too small to work with for in-class writing.

- o A free Chromebook can be borrowed for the quarter if needed. See “Need a Computer?” below.
- Reliable Canvas & Google Suite access.
- A Learners’ Dictionary- online, an app, or paperback version.
 - o Learner’s format for ESL students is best. Exp: *Merriam-Webster Learner Dictionary: www.learnersdictionary.com*).
 - o Some free online dictionaries may work Exp: *Dictionary of Contemporary English Online: www.ldoceonline.com*
- Paper & hand writing tools. Yes, we will do some writing by hand!

COURSE OBJECTIVES

- Read, comprehend, and analyze low-advanced level texts from a variety of cultural, societal, and personal perspectives using a variety of reading strategies.
- Write connected, multi-paragraph compositions that demonstrate analytical thinking in response to texts.
- Demonstrate low-advanced level sentence structure, grammar, and vocabulary.
- Expand academic vocabulary comprehension and usage.
- Evaluate, revise, and edit your own writing and the writing of classmates.

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES (SLOs): By the end of this class, you will be able to

- Write well-developed, connected, analytical paragraphs in response to reading materials.
- Evaluate your own writing for unity, coherence, clarity, development and rhetorical structure by means of revision and editing.
- Demonstrate understanding and usage of low- advanced grammar, sentence structure, and vocabulary in writing and reading.
- Demonstrate reading comprehension skills of low-advanced academic reading materials and fiction.
- Identify and analyze organization and rhetorical modes of extended reading materials.

COURSE ASSIGNMENTS (same for credit and noncredit students)

- 1.) **Process writing assignments:** including brainstorming, outlining, paragraphs, summaries, and short essays. **Most first drafts will be done in class and without access to Internet, GenAI, etc.**
- 2.) **Mid-term and Final Essay Exams** (in-class): Multi-paragraph writing assignments (short essays) written in class; these will be based on a reading. The mid-term is revised; the final exam is not revised. **No Make Ups for missed exams or in-class writing. Again, access to Internet, apps, AI tools, etc. will be prohibited.**
- 3.) **Peer reviews of classmates' writing assignments.** These are required and most often can not be made up if missed.
- 4.) **Reading, Writing & Vocabulary Journal:** You will keep a weekly journal.
- 5.) **Reading Leader Discussion Group Assignment:** This is a student-lead assignment based on assigned course readings. You will prepare your discussion notes and questions with other student-leaders outside of class time. Then come to class and lead one small group discussion.
- 6.) **Homework:** will include reading, textbook-style exercises, paragraph writing, essay writing and revision, and editing, etc. Homework assignments will be selected and graded "randomly."

- 7.) **Classwork and Active, Regular Participation:** Working with your classmates in pairs and small groups improves English proficiency. a) To be successful in this course, please arrive prepared with homework finished. b) Actively participate in the discussions, in-class activities, etc.
- 8.) **Quizzes** happen most often when students are not keeping up with class work and/or there is particularly important information covered in class. There are no make-ups for quizzes.

COURSE POLICIES

- **Attendance:** While attendance is not part of your grade, you will get the most out of this class by attending all class meetings. Please email me – in advance- if you must miss a class. **Please note, California law allows faculty to drop students - at any time- who have excessive absences.** If you miss more than two class meetings (one week of class), expect to be dropped from this course. Excessive late arrivals can lead to being dropped as well.
- **Arrive on time.** It can be very distracting to others to arrive late. Please talk to me if you must regularly arrive late.
- **Speak/Use English:** Please avoid using other languages in class and during breaks. The one language we share is English. The one language we are learning is English. Your English will improve *much more slowly* if you aren't using it very, very often!
- **Electronic devices:** can be soooo distracting! Please use yours only for class work.
- **Late Work Policy:** I understand that sometimes life is difficult and assignment due dates can not be met. For most major assignments, there is a 48-hour late policy. You can turn in the assignment, within 48 hours, but a late penalty will apply.
 - ★ 10% reduction in grade for each day late; Canvas automatically reduces grade.
 - ★ Assignments close after two days.
 - ★ **Please DO NOT WAIT until the last minute to turn in assignments. The Canvas clock determines deadlines.**
 - ★ If you know you're not going to make a deadline, please contact me at least one day before the assignment is due. Extensions are possible on (some) assignments.
 - ★ *Peer reviews of some major assignments are required. Most peer reviews occur during class time. If you miss a peer review, there are make ups.*
 - ★ *In-class activities, essays/writing tasks, the midterm and the final cannot be made up.*

Academic Honesty

Although I understand there are a lot of great tech tools and apps available to help you write these days, our job in this class is to develop "your" reading, writing and grammar skills. That is, the skills using your brain, knowledge, understanding, etc. rather than the brain of an algorithm, an app, device, etc.

Therefore, unless your instructor tells you in a very obvious way, all work must be created and completed **by you using your brain, your knowledge, & your developing skills.** Any form of cheating will earn a "zero" for that assignment; repeated incidents of cheating can cause an "F" for the course.

Cheating includes, but is not limited to, the following:

- Copying from another student's homework, OR allowing someone to copy your homework.

- Cheating on a quiz or exam.
- Having someone else do your assignment and submitting it as your own.
- Allowing another student to copy from your assignment, homework, etc.
- Copying from a published source without giving credit (see Plagiarism, below).
- Buying a paper that someone else has written.
- **Using generative AI, such as ChatGPT, Bing, Gemini, etc. to develop/brainstorm, create, write, revise and/or edit any part of of any assignments for this section of this course¹.**

DeAnza expects students to complete original work using their human brain. Faculty are strongly encouraged to report any cheating, which I do. [Policy for students](#) [Report Form for Faculty](#)

- **Plagiarism** means using someone else’s work as if it were your own -- without citing the source. Plagiarized work, if found, will receive an “F”
- **Turnitin via Canvas is used on all major assignments to help you understand what content might be plagiarized, have citation problems, or use generative AI.**
- You should review your Turnitin score & report before any assignments are due and revise your work if needed.
- Translation at higher levels of communication does not work efficiently. Translation is too slow and time consuming. Thus, you should avoid translation in general. Writing papers in your native language and using software or an App to translate into English is cheating!
- **Have Fun!** Learning, as much as possible, should be fun, so please don’t worry a lot about this course. Get the work done; do your best; ask for help if your grades are lower than you would like. Don’t worry as that only wastes brain power!

GRADES

Activity	% of total course
Process Writing Assignments	25%
Reading, Writing, & Vocabulary Journal & Reading Leader Discussion Assignment	25%
Homework, Classwork, Participation, Quizzes	10%
Mid-Term Essay Exam (in-class; required revision)	20%
Final Essay Exam (in-class; no revision)	20%
Total	100%

¹ DeAnza does not currently have an generative AI policy. However, instructors can have a policy. This is mine. I am happy to discuss my reasons if you would like to understand more.

Grading Scale

98-100%	= A+	77-79	= C+
93-97	= A	73-76	= C
90-92	= A-	<73	= No Pass
87-89	= B+		
83-86	= B		
80-82	= B-		

A minimum of 73% (C) is needed to pass the course for credit and non-credit students.

OTHER IMPORTANT INFORMATION

YOUR INSTRUCTOR! - *Students, I want you to learn and be successful! However, I cannot read minds. Therefore, please ask questions & ask me when you need help! Outside of class meetings and office hours, email is the best way to reach me. boydcristin@fhda.edu or superteach@cristinanderic.com I check my superteach account regularly every day*

☺ *Cristin*

CANVAS STUDENT HELP: There are lots of resources to help you use Canvas.

SUPPORT FOR LEARNING DISABILITIES/DIFFERENCES- Laws in the U.S.A. protect people with disabilities. As a student, you are protected by these laws and are often entitled to accommodations. You must, however, work with [DeAnza's Disability Support Services](#) to be sure your needs are met. Please let me know if you have accommodations.

STUDENT HEALTH SERVICES – DeAnza offers health, mental health and wellness services to students. Please visit this webpage to learn more.

NEED A COMPUTER? DeAnza has computers available for students to use during class hours. For more information, visit this webpage.

NEED TO PRINT AN ASSIGNMENT? You can buy access to campus printers using the ePRINTit! service. For more information, see ePRINTit info [here](#).

OTHER HELPFUL ACADEMIC RESOURCES- DeAnza offers many resources for students.

- Online tutoring is available through the [Writing and Reading Center \(WRC\)](#).
- Being able to speak clearly and be understood by others is extremely important for success in the USA. Please utilize all of the various resources at [DeAnza's Listening and Speaking Center](#).
- Free online tutoring is available from *Smarthinking* and *NetTutor* & study information for all content classes is available on [Student Success Center \(SSC\) Resources](#)
- Please ask me for help any time you have questions. Smart students ask questions in the USA, and most instructors/professors enjoy answering questions!