

PROGRAMS

ESL - CERTIFICATE

ESL - Certificate

The Certificate of Proficiency in English as a Second Language at Mission College serves students who are non-native speakers of English as a second language. The program prepares students of all ages and backgrounds who want to improve English to earn a college degree, improve their employment opportunities, and participate in their local communities. The program provides students with the skills needed to achieve their academic, career, and lifelong-learning goals. Courses provide instruction in English as a second language at six different proficiency levels from high-beginning to advanced. The certificate is earned upon completion of the advanced level courses of ESL 970LS (Listening/Speaking), ESL 970GW (Grammar/Writing), and ESL 970RV (Reading/Vocabulary).

ESL Course Offerings

The English as a Second Language Department offers a total of 15 core and 10 elective lecture courses that span six levels of language proficiency, from high-beginning to advanced, to one level below transfer. These courses teach the English language skills of writing, reading, listening, speaking, grammar, and pronunciation.

Courses are usually offered twice a week, Monday/Wednesday or Tuesday/Thursday, in day or night sessions. Each course has a number of set 'units', ranging from three to five units. Each unit represents the number of hours in class time each week over the course of a 16-week semester. For example, a three unit course meets for an hour and a half twice a week. There are two online courses of Listening and Culture at the high-beginning and low-intermediate levels.

Many of our listening/speaking and pronunciation courses offer practice in our fully-equipped, state-of-the-art multimedia ESL Language Laboratory. There is an ESL Open Lab, where students can practice ESL language skills independently with the assistance from a lab instructor.

Program Learning Outcomes:

- Students will identify and use the grammatical elements of collegelevel Standard English to write an essay using academic vocabulary.
- Students will read a novel at the adult level and respond orally and in writing to fictional elements such as character, plot, and theme.
- Students will write an outline for and answer detailed questions about academic lectures and news broadcasts and summarize lectures, literary and non-literary works orally and in writing.
- Students will participate in a group discussion using appropriate social and linguistic forms to join an ongoing discussion, add information, disagree, agree, and summarize in both academic and professional settings on a variety of concrete and abstract topics.
- Students will produce speech which is intelligible and accurately articulated.

To earn this certificate, students must complete the minimum required courses with a grade of C (or P) or better.

Core Curriculum Courses (Required):

Code	Class	Units
ESL 970LS	Advanced Listening and Speaking (3.0 Lecture)	3.0
ESL 970GW	Advanced ESL Composition and Grammar (5.0 Lecture)	5.0
ESL 970RV	Advanced Reading and Vocabulary (3.0 Lecture)	3.0

Units Required

	Units
Total Required Units	11.0

Career/Transfer Opportunities:

Many ESL students continue to study at Mission College in Career Technical Education, certificate programs and transfer majors. Popular courses of study are accounting, business, graphic arts and/or design, nurse assistant, child development, hospitality management, and the flagship LVN to RN program.

* Federal Financial aid may not apply to this certificate program. Consult the Financial Aid Office for more information.