Instructor: Susana McNeely  
Office: 427B  
Office Hours: MW 8:35-9:30 & by appointment.  
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Class Section: 73636  
Class Time: MW 9:30-12:30  
Class location: 411  
Final Exam: Wed. December 14 7:00-9:50am  
Grade: Letter Grade or (P/NP)

Course Description

This class is an ESL Low Intermediate English Development through the Study of Natural Science. This class uses natural science as a context to develop low intermediate reading, writing, listening, and speaking skills in order to increase fluency in English and prepare students for future course work. You will write a minimum of 4500 graded words in paragraph, summary and essay form using narrative, descriptive, and persuasive modes in relation to themes found in natural science content covered in class. This class will help you develop your writing, reading comprehension, as well as listening, speaking and critical thinking skills; it will also help to further develop your vocabulary and note taking skills. We will cover basic tenses such as simple present, present progressive, past and future tenses and we'll practice identifying parts of speech within the context of our reading and writing.

Required Textbooks and Materials

- 1-11/2 3-ring binder with 8½”X 11” paper that is NOT spiral bound.
- Divider tabs for the assignment portfolio binder (5-6)
- (2) Two pocket folders
- Pens (blue, red, black)

Recommended


Learning Outcomes

1. Compose descriptive, narrative, and persuasive paragraphs using a word processing program demonstrating clarity of expression, cohesion and correct paragraph form in relation to natural science.
2. Compose a basic three paragraph persuasive essay using a word processing program demonstrating clarity of expression, cohesion and correct paragraph form in relation to natural science.
3. Demonstrate comprehension of lower intermediate reading passages in relation to natural science by writing clear and concise summaries using the proper format.
4. Demonstrate comprehension of main ideas found in lower intermediate listening selections in relation to natural science.

Course Content

1. **Class Participation:** Participate fully in all class activities, and encourage each other. This is your opportunity to practice and learn English!

2. **Attendance:** Since class participation affects the majority of your grade, it’s essential that you attend class regularly. Cabrillo’s policy on absences: After three absences, a student may be dropped from the class. Please let me know if you are unable to attend class. If you are absent, it is your responsibility to check to see what is due so you can come ready to class. You should call a classmate or email me to get the next assignment or handouts that you may have missed.

3. **Quizzes/Tests:** Every week at the beginning of class, there will be a short quiz, mostly on vocabulary, reading comprehension or listening from the class and assigned readings. Part of your testing for this class includes in-class timed writing. There will be no make-up quizzes or tests, so you must come prepared to take the quiz on the scheduled date. If you have an emergency, please send me an email as this is the best way to reach me.

4. **Journals:** Each student will create writing and reading journals. Guidelines for this assignment will be given in class.

5. **Portfolio:** You are required to maintain a portfolio of all 202NS work in a three ring binder. Please organize your work according to the type of assignment by using divider tabs. You should have the following categories in your binder: Journals, Vocabulary, Readings/Handouts, Writing, Quizzes, etc.

6. **Homework Assignments:** All homework should be completed with care and turned in on time. No late homework will be accepted after the due date, unless you have a medical excuse. Unless specified, all class work not completed in class automatically becomes homework. Before you leave class, please be sure to check the right hand side of the board for additional instruction or homework.

If you do miss a class, it is your responsibility to contact your classmates or your instructor to get the assignments for the following day. Please write 3 names below:

Classmate#1_________________________________________Phone:______________________

Classmate#2_________________________________________Phone:____________________

Classmate#3_________________________________________Phone_____________________

**PLAGIARISM:** If you present another’s work as your own, or copy sentences, phrases, or passages from any source and do not cite it, you will automatically fail the assignment and may be dropped from the class.
Disabilities: I would appreciate knowing any disabilities you may have. This information will not be shared with anyone, but it will help me teach you. As required by the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), accommodations are provided to insure equal opportunity for students with verified disabilities. If you need assistance with an accommodation, please contact Disabled Student Services @ 479-6379 or Learning Skills Program @ 479-6220 in Aptos.

You will be expected to:

- Come to class on time. It is very disruptive and confusing to all of us when a student comes in late. Time is lost and so is the late student.
- Take notes. Listening and note taking are essential basic skills; use this class to develop them. You may have an unannounced quiz from your notes at any time.
- Turn in written work that is neat, organized, and the best that you can do. The quality of your work tells me a lot about how you feel about yourself.
- Do not ask if it’s OK for you to leave to keep an appointment more than once or twice a semester. I understand that once in a great while, an emergency happens, but frequent request are unacceptable. Make arrangements to do other things at other times.
- Check the time that the break begins and do not wait for me to come outside and tell you when it’s time to come back in. And by the way, hats, sunglasses, cell phones and texting, and CD players are for outside use and are not acceptable in this classroom.
- Finish your homework at home and have it carefully stapled in their proper order before you come to class. It is never acceptable to do your homework in class. Unless I tell you otherwise, your homework will always be due at the beginning of each class period.
- Do not wait to see me until it’s too late to talk about anything that might jeopardize your grade. Please let me know if/when you’re confused about something or if you need extra help or more information, so I can help you.

Important Notes about writing homework:

1. I’ll always want to see all of your revisions, so when you rewrite anything (paragraph, summary or essay), please turn it in with all the revisions and comments for that paper with the newest on top. Never throw any of your writing away. I’ll never expect a perfect paper the first time you write it. Writing is a process that almost always gets better each time anything is rewritten.
2. As well as my responses to your writing, you’ll get ideas from other students in the class. Working together in pairs or small groups, you’ll have the opportunity to help each other. Responding thoughtfully to another student’s writing will help you better understand your own writing. Take a look below at the 8 steps of writing.
The Eight Steps of Writing

1. Prewriting: To record initial reactions, feelings and thoughts on paper; to generate ideas by brainstorming, listing, free writing, clustering, discussion, visualization and other methods.

2. Drafting: To discover the topic or points of focus; to develop or discard parts of your writing and determine the scope of the draft.

3. Peer or other evaluation: To get feedback from classmates, the instructor or the writing lab.

4. Rewriting: Reworking the draft while using the feedback and responses of your peers. Rethinking, revising and reevaluating the draft.

5. Editing: To focus on the audience/purpose and how the writing sounds or affects others, to consider words choice (diction), grammar, tone, style and other matters of presentation.

6. Proofreading: To examine grammar, spelling, typing; to work on sentence clarity, precision and accuracy.

7. Evaluating: To see what may still need revision--a final review before presenting the work to an audience.

8. Printing/Publishing: To print/rewrite in pen and offer to a public audience.

Your final grade will be based on the following:

- 20% faithful on-time attendance and active class participation
- 20% homework (Journals, readings, etc.)
- 30% in-class writing and improvement and revisions homework
- 15% midterm exam and quizzes (some unannounced)
- 15% final exam-TBA

A FINAL NOTE: If you work hard, I guarantee that by the end of this class, you will be a better reader, writer, listener and speaker. Improving these skills does not come without effort. If you put maximum effort into your work, you will be surprised at how much progress you can make. Don’t worry; you don’t have to do it alone. Your classmates and I are here to help you. Together we can accomplish great things. So, let’s get busy, work hard, and enjoy the process! 😊