

ESL 041 0438 Writing & Reading I

PICTURED ABOVE: SPRING 2011 ESL STUDENTS WRITING IN CLASS

THE FUNDAMENTALS OF GOOD WRITING

Welcome to ESL 041

I am your instructor, Dr. Gunder (or you may call me, Dr. Paula)

Course Description

This is the **first** of a four-semester writing sequence. This **basic** first level course introduces new students to the fundamentals of written English. This course will help you learn the basic rules for constructing good sentences and composing an academically structured paragraph.

As the description in the schedule of courses asks, "Would you like to learn how to become an efficient writer and reader of English? Would you like to research and share information with your community regarding all the excellent degrees and certificates Los Medanos College offers? Then, this is the class for you."

Course Opportunities

In this course, you will have the chance to learn the rules of writing that good writers know. As you learn those rules, you will become a good writer yourself, and by the end of the semester, I know you are going to be more confident in your ability and proud of how much you have learned and are able to do.

You will also have the chance to read! We have a plan to go to the Library and find out about all of the ESL books they have available for you to check out. You will be able to choose a book you are interested, read it, write about it, and share the information and your opinion with your classmates.

I hope you have a wonderful semester!

COURSE INFORMATION

Instructor: Dr. Paula A. Gunder

Classroom: MA2 206

Class Days/Times: T Th 11-12:50

Office Hours: M 1-2, TTh 1-2:30, W 3-4

Email: pgunder@losmedanos.edu

Office Phone: 925-439-2181 ext. 3390

Office Location: CC2-224

SUCCESS STRATEGY

Make it a point to come see me during my office hours!! I'm here to help you :]

Books and Materials

1. *Fundamentals of Academic Writing*, by Linda Butler. ISBN: 0-13-199557-X (2007 Longman)
2. Pencils, pens, **highlighters**, & erasers
3. College-ruled notebook paper
4. A three-ring binder/folder –with pockets and dividers
5. English-English dictionary

Course Student Learning Outcomes

This Level One Writing & Reading I course is designed to help non-native English speaking students in the following ways:

1. Understand, recall, and apply orally as well as in writing information regarding narrative texts on familiar and concrete topics at the novice/basic level
2. Build an active lexicon for writing and speaking by identifying and labeling new vocabulary words according to parts of speech, word roots, and words in context at the novice/basic level.
3. Write focused, grammatically correct, unified paragraphs which include a topic sentence as well as strong supporting details that use general vocabulary on familiar topics and edit student's own work at the novice/basic level.
4. Write description, explanation, interview, imagination, and routine pieces that incorporate appropriate grammar and syntax rules for writing.



A COURSE REMINDER

Classroom activities will include individual, pair and group tasks **IN ENGLISH**. I know that sometimes you may need to use your first language to gain understanding and clarification; however, before simply using your first language, you **MUST** commit to trying to communicate your needs **IN ENGLISH** first, and to making use of the communication strategies you know and learn. Your daily grade will reflect your efforts to this commitment.

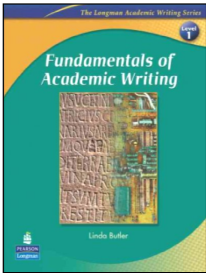


Class Policies

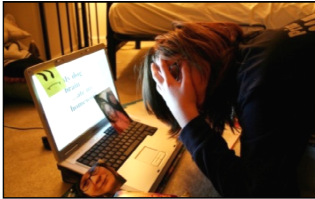
All of these guidelines are in place to help everyone in our class have the best experience possible and succeed!

- ✓ **Come to class:** Attending class is the way to succeed in this course. Do not miss class and come prepared to participate every class meeting! If you must miss class, contact another student to find out what you missed. Come to my office hours to ask questions and get missed information and assignments.
- ✓ **Come to class on time:** We all have busy lives and hectic schedules, but you must make coming to class on time a priority. Coming in late is disruptive to my teaching and other's learning.
- ✓ **Get the most out of in-class work:** We will do a LOT of work in class, and if you do not fully participate, your English skills will not improve. Pay attention, follow all instructions, ask and answer questions, practice the skills and strategies, and listen and read with care.
- ✓ **Do your homework:** Homework is not a punishment; it is a chance for you to take the time you need to work through an assignment and see how much you understand. If you need help, see an ESL Tutor, work with a classmate, or go to the Center for Academic Support.
- ✓ **Be honest:** I want to see *your* work and what *you* can do, so please do not cheat or plagiarize. Have faith in your ability and challenge yourself to do your own work!
- ✓ **Show respect:** All students shall conduct themselves according to the Student Code of Conduct - <http://www.losmedanos.edu/student-services/PDFs/studentCC.PDF>. Please do not disrupt the class with side conversations, rude behavior, texting /emailing. Students who behave inappropriately will be asked to leave class.

EVALUATION



In-Class Work = 20%



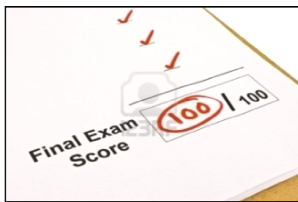
Homework = 20%



Writing Assignments and Journal = 25%



Chapter Quizzes = 10%



Final Exam = 25%

GRADING

A – excellent	100-90
B – very good	89-80
C – successful	79-70
D – needs more work	69-60
F – unsuccessful	59-0

SUCCESS STRATEGY

Make it a point to keep track of your own progress and your own grades for each of the above items throughout the semester. I will help you!





Weekly Schedule

THIS IS OUR PLAN FOR THE SEMESTER. IT MAY CHANGE, SO I WILL UPDATE AND POST THE MOST CURRENT VERSION EVERY WEEK. PLEASE BE AWARE THAT WE DO NOT COVER ALL OF THE CHAPTERS IN OUR TEXTBOOK, BUT THAT DOESN'T MEAN YOU CAN'T DO THEM BY YOURSELF. **SUCCESS STRATEGY:** Write, write, write, and then write some more. Write every day. Write notes, lists, love letters, emails to each other, text messages about homework and how much fun this class is! Write anything!!

Wk	Date	Unit and Chapter	Important College Dates (more dates online)
1	T 1/24 Th 1/26	Introduction Chapter 1 – Introducing Yourself	
2	T 1/31 Th 2/2		2/3 – Last day to add full-term class
3	T 2/7 Th 2/9		
4	T 2/14 Th 2/16	Chapter 2 Describing Your Morning Routine	2/16 Last day to drop full terms classes w/out a « W » on transcript & be eligible for a fee refund or credit
5	T 2/21 Th 2/23	HOLIDAY – No class	
6	T 2/28 Th 3/1		
7	T 3/6 Th 3/8	Chapter 3 Every Picture Tells a Story	
8	T 3/13 Th 3/15		
9	T 3/20 Th 3/22		
10	T 3/27 Th 3/29	Chapter 4 Saturdays	
11	T 4/3 Th 4/5	Spring Break – No class Spring Break – No class	4/2-4/8 Spring Break – No classes
12	T 4/10 Th 4/12		
13	T 4/17 Th 4/19	Chapter 5 What's Going On	
14	T 4/24 Th 4/26		4/27 Last day to withdraw from full term classes w/ a « W » on transcript
15	T 5/1 Th 5/3		Check online for Fall 2012 registration information – register as soon as you can!
16	T 5/8 Th 5/10	Chapter 6 Your Hometown	
17	T 5/15 Th 5/17		
18	Th 5/24	FINAL EXAM 10-12	5/19-5/25 FINAL EXAM S