



University of Northern Virginia
10021 Balls Ford Road, Manassas, VA 20109

ENGLISH LANGUAGE PROGRAM

Handbook

□ Mission

The ESL Program at UNVA seeks to provide non-native English speaking students and professionals opportunities to improve their ability to use English to communicate competently. We will train these professionals in the speaking and writing skills needed to use their previously acquired knowledge and skills either in the English-speaking marketplace or to acquire further education in English-speaking colleges and universities. This will be accomplished through the development of conversation and writing skills and strategies, enabling students to possess the skills they need to continue progressing in English fluency after their time of formal study is completed.

□ Goals

1. To provide students with the conversation strategies in English needed in order to competently negotiate meaning with other English speakers.
2. To develop students' formal writing abilities such that they can make use of their previously acquired education and professional knowledge both in the English marketplace and in English colleges and universities in order to obtain further education.
3. To teach students vocabulary acquisition strategies that will enable them to continue to build their vocabulary after completion of formal study.
4. To develop students' listening and critical thinking skills as these skills are crucial to success both in English-speaking classrooms and job markets.

Level 1:***AESL 010 – Beginning Speaking & Listening***

This course provides a highly interactive class that develops beginning speaking and listening skills. Students will gain the vocabulary sufficient for handling simple, elementary needs and expressing basic courtesies and develop the ability to understand some short, learned utterances in English and comprehend some words and phrases. Listening and speaking skills are honed through targeted and free exercises. Students produce written work for assessment.

Prerequisite: None

AESL 011 – Beginning Grammar

This course assists students in beginning to acquire English grammar and produce it in real contexts, taking them from a beginning to a high-beginning level, so that students are able to begin expressing themselves in English. This is accomplished through presentation and practice that begins with controlled exercises and moves to free written and oral production. Students produce both oral and written work for assessment.

Prerequisite: None

AESL 012 – Beginning Reading and Writing

This course focuses on improving English learners' ability to recognize the symbols of the alphabet. This is accomplished through readings that make use of illustrations and pictures as well as vocabulary, comprehension, discussion and writing exercises that tie in with the reading assignments. Students produce written and verbal work for assessment.

Prerequisite: None

Level 2:***AESL 020 – High-Beginning Speaking & Listening***

This course provides a highly interactive class that continues developing beginning speaking skills to the high-beginning stage. Students will work on their ability to understand simple questions and statement that they hear most often and will be able to ask questions and make statements using the vocabulary and grammar they have already learned. Students produce both oral and written work for assessment.

Prerequisite: AESL 010, Full-Time English Level 1

AESL 021 – High-Beginning Grammar

This course focuses assisting beginning level students in using the grammar they already know in different situations as well as continuing to add to their grammar base. This is accomplished through presentation and practice that begins with controlled exercises and moves to free written and oral production. Students produce both oral and written work for assessment.

Prerequisite: AESL 011, Full-Time English Level 1

AESL 022 – Beginning Reading and Writing

This course focuses on improving English learners' reading instructions and directions, simple messages, phrases, or expressions, such as some items on menus, schedules, timetables, maps, and signs. Students will develop ability to write simple, memorized information such as that required on forms. This is accomplished through readings that tie in with the writing assignments. Students produce written work for assessment.

Prerequisite: AESL 012, Full-Time English Level 1

Level 3:***AESL 030 –Low-Intermediate Speaking and Listening I***

This course provides a highly interactive class that begins to develop low-intermediate speaking and listening skills such that students can understand sentences using familiar vocabulary and grammar. In terms of speaking, students can begin to ask and answer questions, start and reply to simple statements, and sustain face-to-face conversation. Students produce both oral and written work for assessment.

Prerequisite: AESL 020, Full-Time English Level 2

AESL 031 –Low-Intermediate Grammar I

This course assists students in developing the grammar skills necessary to begin creating simple sentences in both written and spoken expression. This is accomplished through presentation and practice that begins with controlled exercises and moves to free written and oral production. Students produce both oral and written work for assessment.

Prerequisite: AESL 021, Full-Time English Level 2

AESL 032 –Low-Intermediate Reading and Writing I

This course begins to develop students' abilities to understand main ideas and/or some facts from the simplest connected texts dealing with basic personal and social needs and to create limited statements and questions in order to fulfill practical writing needs. This is accomplished through readings that tie in with the writing assignments. Students produce written work for assessment.

Prerequisite: AESL 022, Full-Time English Level 2

Level 4:***AESL 040 –Low-Intermediate Speaking and Listening II***

This course provides a highly interactive class that further builds on the foundation already laid for their low-intermediate speaking and listening skills such that students gain even more ability to understand sentences using familiar vocabulary and grammar. In terms of speaking, students can grow in their abilities to ask and answer questions, start and reply to simple statements, and sustain face-to-face conversation. Students produce both oral and written work for assessment.

Prerequisite: AESL 030, Full-Time English Level 3

AESL 041 –Low-Intermediate Grammar II

This course continues to help students build the grammar skills necessary to create simple sentences in both written and spoken expression. This is accomplished through presentation and practice that begins with controlled exercises and moves to free written and oral production. Students produce both oral and written work for assessment.

Prerequisite: AESL 031, Full-Time English Level 3

AESL 042 –Low-Intermediate Reading and Writing II

This course continues to develop students' abilities to understand main ideas and/or some facts from simple connected texts dealing with basic personal and social needs and to create limited statements and questions in order to fulfill practical writing needs. This is accomplished through readings that tie in with the writing assignments. Students produce written work for assessment.

Prerequisite: AESL 032, Full-Time English Level 3

Level 5:***AESL 050 –Intermediate Speaking and Listening***

This course provides a highly interactive class that develops intermediate speaking and listening skills such that students are able to carry out a variety of simple tasks in straightforward situations in English. Listening, critical thinking skills, and presentation skills are honed through targeted listening and speaking exercises. Students produce both oral and written work for assessment.

Prerequisite: AESL 040, Full-Time English Level 4, TOEFL 450 or equivalent

AESL 051 –Intermediate Grammar

This course assists students in refining their productive grammar skills, taking them from a low-intermediate to intermediate level, so that students are able to carry out a variety of simple tasks in straightforward situations in English. This is accomplished through presentation and practice that begins with controlled exercises and moves to free written and oral production. Students produce both oral and written work for assessment.

Prerequisite: AESL 041, Full-Time English Level 4, TOEFL 450 or equivalent

AESL 052 –Intermediate Reading and Writing

This course focuses on improving English learners' paragraph structures to an intermediate level so students are able to meet a number of practical writing needs. This is accomplished through readings that tie in with the writing assignments, grammar activities that occur in the types of writings being taught, and writing assignments that challenge students to improve their writing through the use of peer-revision and self-editing. Students produce written work for assessment.

Prerequisite: AESL 042, Full-Time English Level 4, TOEFL 450 or equivalent

Level 6:***AESL 060 – High-Intermediate Speaking and Listening***

This course provides a highly interactive class that develops high-intermediate speaking and listening skills such that students are able to speak with ease and poise when in most normal situations of the Intermediate level in English. Listening, critical thinking skills, and presentation skills are honed through targeted listening and speaking exercises. Students produce both oral and written work for assessment.

Prerequisite: AESL 050, Full-Time English Level 5, TOEFL 475 or equivalent

AESL 061 – High-Intermediate Grammar

This course assists students in refining their productive grammar skills, taking them from an intermediate to high-intermediate level, so that students are able to speak with ease and poise when in most normal situations of the Intermediate level in English. This is accomplished through presentation and practice that begins with controlled exercises and moves to free written and oral production. Students produce both oral and written work for assessment.

Prerequisite: AESL 051, Full-Time English Level 5, TOEFL 475 or equivalent

AESL 062 – High-Intermediate Reading and Writing

This course focuses on improving English learners' paragraph structures to a high-intermediate level so students are able to meet all practical writing needs such as taking notes on familiar topics, writing uncomplicated letters, simple summaries, and compositions related to work, school experiences, and topics of current and general interest. This is accomplished through readings that tie in with the writing assignments, grammar activities that occur in the types of writings being taught, and writing assignments that challenge students to improve

their writing through the use of peer-revision and self-editing. Students produce written work for assessment.

Prerequisite: AESL 052, Full-Time English Level 5, TOEFL 475 or equivalent

Level 7

AESL 070 – Low-Advanced Speaking

This course develops students' abilities to speak in complicated tasks and social situations, such as elaborating, complaining, and apologizing. Students will learn to narrate and describe with some details, linking sentences together smoothly. They will increase their ability to communicate facts and talk casually about topics of current public and personal interest, using general vocabulary. Students will also learn how to cope with communication breakdowns through the use of communicative strategies, such as pause fillers, stalling devices, and different rates of speech. Students will produce oral work for assessment.

Prerequisite: AESL 060, Full-Time English Level 6, TOEFL 500 or equivalent.

AESL 071 – Low-Advanced Grammar

During this course, students will develop a good control of the morphology and the most frequently used syntactic structures, e.g., common word order patterns, coordination, subordination. Students will learn to use a limited number of cohesive devices, such as pronouns, accurately. This is accomplished through presentation and practice that begins with controlled exercises and moves to free written and oral production. Students produce both oral and written work for assessment.

Prerequisite: AESL 061, Full-Time English Level 6, TOEFL 500 or equivalent.

AESL 072 – Low-Advanced Reading and Writing

Through this course, students will be able to write everyday social correspondence and link sentences in simple communication of at least several paragraphs in length on familiar topics. Students will also gain the ability to take notes, write cohesive summaries and resumes, as well as narratives and descriptions of a factual nature and will grow sufficient writing vocabulary to express self simply. Students will develop the ability to read somewhat writings of several paragraphs with familiar sentence patterns and understand the main ideas. This is accomplished through readings that tie in with the writing assignments, grammar activities that occur in the types of writings being taught, and writing assignments that challenge students to improve their writing through the use of peer-revision and self-editing. Students produce written work for assessment.

Prerequisite: AESL 062, Full-Time English Level 6, TOEFL 500 or equivalent.

AESL 073 – Low-Advanced Listening

This course will enable students to develop their ability to listen and understand main ideas and most details of connected spoken discourse on a variety of topics beyond the immediacy of the situation including interviews, short lectures on familiar topics, and news items and reports primarily dealing with factual information. Listening and critical thinking skills are honed through targeted listening exercises. Students produce written work for assessment.

Prerequisite: AESL 063, Full-Time English Level 6, TOEFL 500 or equivalent.

Level 8***AESL 080 – Advanced Speaking***

This course expands students' abilities to satisfy the requirements of a broad variety of everyday, school, and work situations as well as to demonstrate a well-developed ability to compensate for an imperfect grasp of some forms with confident use of communicative strategies, such as paraphrasing and circumlocution. Students' vocabulary and intonation are diversified enough to communicate fine shades of meaning. Students will produce oral work for assessment.

Prerequisite: AESL 070, Full-Time English Level 7, TOEFL 525 or equivalent.

AESL 081 – Advanced Grammar

This course fine-tunes the grammar of the advanced English student so that the student can express him/herself with fluency and ease in most social and informal business contexts. This is accomplished through presentation and practice that begins with controlled exercises and moves to free written and oral production. Students produce both oral and written work for assessment.

Prerequisite: AESL 071, Full-Time English Level 7, TOEFL 525 or equivalent.

AESL 082 – Advanced Reading and Writing

Through this course, students will be able to write about a range of topics with fluency and ease and follow key points of very advanced writing in areas of special interest or knowledge. Students will develop their understanding of abstract and complex portions of texts whether on familiar or unfamiliar topics, as well as some appreciation of target-language culture when it appears in texts. An ability to make appropriate inferences will be another skill nurtured. This is accomplished through readings that tie in with the writing assignments, grammar activities that occur in the types of writings being taught, and writing assignments that challenge students to improve their writing through the use of peer-revision and self-editing. Students produce written work for assessment.

Prerequisite: AESL 072, Full-Time English Level 7, TOEFL 525 or equivalent.

AESL 083 – Advanced Listening

This course will enable students to develop their ability to understand the main ideas of most speech in a standard dialect and to show an emerging awareness of culturally implied meanings beyond the surface. Listening and critical thinking skills are honed through targeted listening exercises. Students produce written work for assessment.

Prerequisite: AESL 073, Full-Time English Level 7, TOEFL 525 or equivalent.

Note: Developmental English courses fulfill F-1 student visa enrollment requirements.

□ Placement Testing

Any student who has not submitted a TOEFL or IELTS score will need to be tested upon arrival in order to determine the level in which you will be placed. Please refer to the UNVA website for information on placement testing dates for the semester you wish to begin your studies.

▣ Fees

Application Fee	\$50.00
Tuition Per Credit Hour (all courses except AESL 007 and AESL 008)	\$110.00
Tuition Per Credit Hour (AESL 007 and AESL 008)	\$220.00
Registration Fee per Course	\$60.00
Late Registration Fee	\$60.00
Add/Drop Fee	\$60.00
Transcripts per Copy	\$5.00
Withdrawal Fee	\$25.00
Rush Transcripts per Copy (within 48 hours)	\$10.00

▣ Location and Contact

Please note the placement testing dates and plan to arrive in time to attend.

Address:

Office of Admissions/ESL
University of Northern Virginia
10021 Balls Ford Road
Manassas, VA 20109

Contact Details:

PHONE: (703) 392-0771
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