RARITAN VALLEY COMMUNITY COLLEGE
ACADEMIC COURSE OUTLINE

ESLS 033 Academic English Grammar I

I. Basic Course Information

A. Course Number and Title: ESLS 033 Academic English Grammar I

B. New or Modified Course: Modified

C. Date of Proposal: Semester: Spring Year: 2013

D. Sponsoring Department: Communication and Language

E. Semester Credit Hours: 3, non-credit

F. Weekly Contact Hours: 3 Lecture: 3 Laboratory:

G. Prerequisites/Corequisites: By placement.

H. Laboratory Fees:

I. Name and Telephone Number or E-Mail Address of Department Chair: Kevin Hinkle, rhinkle@raritanval.edu, (908) 526-1200 x8568

II. Catalog Description

Prerequisite: By placement. This course presents fundamentals of English grammar, its structure and rules of use. Students will practice English grammar in a variety of academic contexts through controlled, communicative activities and short writings that oblige students to use the desired structures. By the end of this course, students should be able to demonstrate high-beginning proficiency in Standard English grammar in their writing and speaking abilities. Credit for this course does not apply to credit hours earned, grade point average or graduation requirements.

III. Statement of Course Need

A. The results of the ESL Placement Test have provided us with accurate and detailed information about the linguistic abilities of approximately 400 ESL students currently enrolled at RVCC. The test scores indicate a critical need for grammar training at all levels. There is an evident need for independent classes at each level dedicated specifically to this critical skill if ESL students at RVCC are to become fluent and proficient speakers and writers of English.
B. Please describe the transferability of this course.
   1. This course generally does not transfer.

IV. Place of Course in College Curriculum

   A. ESLS 033 Academic English Grammar I is the first of a five-level academic sequence in ESL. Students who place into Academic English Grammar I may also take an Academic English Reading and Writing course and an Academic English Speaking and Listening course (levels determined by placement test results).

   B. English as a Second Language courses are necessary for the entry into/completion of any college-level degree program.

   C. To see course transferability: a) for New Jersey schools, go to the NJ Transfer website, www.njtransfer.org; for all other colleges and universities, go to the individual websites.

V. Outline of Course Content

   A. Identifying basic parts of speech
      1. Nouns
      2. Verbs
      3. Adjectives
      4. Adverbs

   B. Basic sentence patterns
      1. English as a subject/verb/object language
      2. Introduce sentence boundaries (run-on, fragments, etc.)

   C. Nouns
      1. Plural forms
      2. Count/non count
      3. Articles
      4. Possessives

   D. Verbs
      1. Simple present and present progressive
      2. Simple past and past progressive
      3. Basic future expressions
         i. Will and be going to

   E. Questions
      1. Forming and answering yes/ no questions
      2. Forming and answering who, what, where, why and how questions
      3. Understanding instances where verb comes before subject
         i. There is/ there are

   F. Comparatives and Superlatives
      1. Adjectives
      2. Adverbs

VI. General Education and Course Learning Outcomes
A. General Education Learning Outcomes:

At the completion of the course, students will be able to:

1. Produce short paragraphs that demonstrate high-beginning proficiency in academic English grammar. (GE-NJ 1)
2. Make accurate comparisons of people and things (GE-NJ 1)
3. Ask and answer high-beginning level questions with grammatical accuracy (GE-NJ 1)

B. Course Learning Outcomes:

At the completion of the course, students will be able to:

1. Explain the differences between simple and progressive tenses in the present and past.
2. Edit sentences and passages with one error per sentence for verbs, nouns, adjective and adverb use at the high-beginning proficiency level.

VII. Modes of Teaching and Learning

A. lecture/discussion
B. small-group work
C. computer-assisted instruction
D. student oral presentations
E. simulation/role playing
F. independent study

VIII. Papers, Examinations, and other Assessment Instruments

A. Comprehension exercises: multiple choice, fill in the blank, etc.
B. Group and individual written and oral projects
C. Traditional exams
D. Quizzes
E. Formal and informal writing (both in and out of class)
F. Editing exercises and projects
G. Oral presentations
H. Homework exercises
I. Participation
J. Computer Assisted Learning

X. Grade Determinants

A. Exams
B. Quizzes
C. Homework
D. Oral presentations
E. Formal and Informal writing
F. Participation

X. Texts and Materials
   A. Focus on Grammar or other grammar textbook(s)
   B. Longman Basic Dictionary of American English
   C. Newspaper and magazine articles
   D. Online grammar practice
   E. Songs
   F. Video Clips

(Please Note: The course outline is intended only as a guide to course content and resources. Do not purchase textbooks based on this outline. The RVCC Bookstore is the sole resource for the most up-to-date information about textbooks.)

XI. Resources

   A. Academic Support Center (tutoring, ESL library and ESL software)
   B. Library (ESL section)
   C. Online resources (Focus on Grammar, other grammar websites)