RARITAN VALLEY COMMUNITY COLLEGE  
ACADEMIC COURSE OUTLINE  

ESLS 043 Academic Speaking, Listening and Pronunciation I  

I. Basic Course Information

A. Course Number and Title: ESLS 043 Academic Speaking, Listening and Pronunciation I  

B. New or Modified Course: Modified  

C. Date of Proposal: Semester: Fall Year: 2015  

D. Effective Date: Fall 2015  

E. Sponsoring Department: Communication and Languages  

F. Semester Credit Hours: 3 non-credit  

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

H. Prerequisites/Co-requisites: By placement  

I. Laboratory Fees:  

J. Name and Telephone Number or E-Mail Address of Department Chair: Ellen McArdle: Ellen.McArdle@raritnaval.edu  

II. Catalog Description  

Prerequisite: By placement  
This is the first in a five-part series of ESL courses designed to prepare students for listening and speaking at the college level. This is a beginning level course in academic English speaking and listening skills for students whose first language is not English. Students will learn introductory academic language skills such as how to express opinions and to persuade. Credit for this course does not apply to credit hours earned, grade point average, or graduation requirements.  

III. Statement of Course Need  

A. Demographic data collected from a piloted ESL placement instrument indicates that half of the current ESL student population plans to continue in a university environment upon completion of ESL training and need academic aural/oral skills in order to be prepared to participate successfully in RVCC classes.  

B. Please describe the transferability of this course.
1. This course generally does not transfer.

IV. Place of Course in College Curriculum
   A. Academic English Speaking & Listening I is the first of a five-level academic sequence in ESL. Students who place into Academic English Speaking & Listening I may also qualify for an Academic English Reading and Writing course and an Academic English Grammar course (levels determined by placement test results).
   B. English as a Second Language courses are necessary for entry into/completion of any college-level degree program.
   C. To see course transferability: 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. Speaking Skills
      1. Basic conversation production
         a. Share experiences
         b. Express opinions
         c. Ask and answer questions
      2. Pronunciation
         a. Practice with vowel and consonant sounds
         b. Target trouble areas with rhythm, stress, and intonation
         c. Focus on grammatical endings (-s/-ed)
      3. Vocabulary
         a. Define and produce targeted vocabulary
      4. Grammar
         a. Incorporate grammatical structures needed for basic conversation production.
         b. Target grammar errors in speaking
   B. Listening Skills
      1. Basic listening tasks
         a. Follow instructions
         b. Respond to questions
         c. Complete simple dictation tasks
      2. Develop strategies to comprehend listening
         a. Apply contextual clues to comprehend meaning
         b. Understand targeted vocabulary
         c. Use graphic organizers to identify main ideas and details
   C. Information Technology
      1. Use Lion’s Den as a class tool
      2. Use e-mail to communicate with instructor
      3. Find information on the RVCC website
VI. General Education and Course Learning Outcomes
   A. General Education Learning Outcomes:

   At the completion of the course, students will be able to:
   1. Use basic American English pronunciation and grammar in speaking. (GE-NJ1)
   2. Express experiences and opinions in basic spoken English. (GE-NJ1, *)
   3. Demonstrate the ability to ask and answer questions in basic English. (GE-NJ1, *)
   4. Verify comprehension of basic English academic listening. (GE-NJ1)

   *embedded critical thinking

   B. Course Learning Outcomes:

   At the completion of the course, students will be able to:
   1. Pronounce basic American English with some degree of clarity
   2. Produce a basic conversation in English about their experiences and opinions using appropriate grammar
   3. Demonstrate comprehension of basic lectures, stories and/or programs

   C. Assessment Instruments:
   A. Comprehension exercises: multiple choice, fill in the blank, dictation, etc.
   B. Group and individual oral projects such as formal presentations, role-plays, and interviews.
   C. Traditional exams
   D. Quizzes
   E. Homework exercises
   F. Computer Assisted Learning
   G. Videotaping
   H. Audiotaping

   VII. Grade Determinants:
   A. Exams
   B. Quizzes
   C. Homework
   D. Oral presentations

   Modes of teaching and learning:
   A. discussion
   B. small-group work
   C. computer-assisted instruction
   D. student oral presentations
   E. simulation/role playing
   F. student collaboration
VIII. Texts and Materials
   A. Listening and Speaking texts such as *NorthStar 1 Listening and Speaking*
   B. Publisher-produced audio tapes/CDs
   C. Publisher-produced Internet sources

(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.)

IX. Resources

   A. Evelyn C. Fields Library at Raritan Valley Community College
   B. Academic Support Center (tutoring)
   C. Online resources such as NPR