

# DeAnza College

## Low Advanced Writing and Reading

ESL 265-03Y CRN 37527 and ESL 465-03Y CRN 37570

6.0 units Winter 2025

**Instructor:** Sharon Stranahan

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(preferred)

**Phone:** 408-966-7271 (cell)

**Class Hours:** Mondays and  
Wednesdays 1:30 p.m.-4:20 p.m.

**Class Location:** L31 (Mondays)

Online on Zoom (Wednesdays)

**Office Hours:** Mondays from 4:30-  
5:30 p.m. in L31. Or, email me for an  
online appointment at another time.

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**PREREQUISITES:** A passing grade in ESL 255/455 **or** the placement from the ESL Guided Self-Placement assessment. To be eligible to take ESL 272 and ESL 273, you must receive credit for ESL 261/461 and 265/465.

**COURSE DESCRIPTION:** Welcome! ESL 265/465 is a low advanced academic reading and writing course in which you will develop and practice how to write clear, organized and well-developed, low advanced essays that develop from one paragraph to essays. ***Set yourself the goal of asking questions, participating actively in class discussions with your classmates, and working together to become better readers and writers.*** If you have **ANY** questions or problems, please do not hesitate to email, to see me during my office hours, or to make an appointment at a time that is convenient. I will do my best to help you learn a lot in this class! 😊

### REQUIRED TEXTBOOK, MATERIALS, RESOURCES



**Textbook (paperback):** *Reading for Today TOPICS 5 (5<sup>th</sup> Edition)* by Lorraine C. Smith and Nancy Nici Mare ISBN-13: 978-1-305-58000-8  
Rent or buy. New or used. Find book online or through the De Anza bookstore <https://www.deanza.edu/bookstore/>

- A free online learners' dictionary. English to English only. Not bilingual. Try [Merriam-Webster](https://www.merriam-webster.com/) (<https://www.merriam-webster.com/>) or [Longman Dictionary of Contemporary English Online](https://www.ldoceonline.com/)

(<https://www.ldoceonline.com/>)

- Access to an Internet connection and a laptop computer (Mac or PC).
- Yellow highlighter
- 3" x 5" index cards (or use an online flashcard app like Quizlet)
- 8" x 10½" spiral notebook

## **COURSE OBJECTIVES**

- Read, comprehend, and analyze low-advanced level texts from a variety of cultural, societal, and personal perspectives using a variety of reading strategies.
- Write connected, low advanced essays that demonstrate analytical thinking in response to texts.
- Demonstrate low-advanced level sentence structure, grammar, and vocabulary.
- Expand academic vocabulary comprehension and usage.
- Evaluate, revise, and edit your own writing and the writing of classmates.

**STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES (SLOs):** By the end of this class, you will be able to

- Write well-developed, connected, analytical paragraphs in response to reading materials.
- Evaluate your own writing for unity, coherence, clarity, development and rhetorical structure by means of revision and editing.
- Demonstrate understanding and usage of low- advanced grammar, sentence structure, and vocabulary in writing and reading.
- Demonstrate reading comprehension skills of low-advanced academic reading materials and fiction.
- Identify and analyze organization and rhetorical modes of extended reading materials.

## **COURSE WEB PAGE**

Course assignments can be found on the learning management system called Canvas by Instructure.

**Canvas Login URL:** <https://deanza.instructure.com>

**Username:** Your Campuswide ID on MyPortal

**Password:** Your MyPortal password

You are responsible for regularly checking the course web page for updates and using it to submit assignments as explained in class.

## **COURSE REQUIREMENTS (for both credit and non-credit students)**

- 1.) **Summary/responses** with revisions (2): One paragraph of main ideas of article(s) and one paragraph of your reaction. Practice reading comprehension and paragraph writing.
- 2.) **Writing Assignment** with revision (1): Multi-paragraph assignment that leads to essay writing.
- 3.) **Mid-term and Final Exams** (in-class): Multi-paragraph low advanced writing assignments that are written in class. Only the mid-term will be revised. No make-ups for missed exams.
- 4.) **Quizzes:** Weekly assessment for you to check your understanding of vocabulary and grammar lessons. No make-ups for missed quizzes.
- 5.) **Vocabulary Cards:** The purpose of the cards is to practice retrieval and spaced repetition to learn new words. You may use a free online flashcard app, like Quizlet, or paper 3" x 5" index cards. You will be responsible to know all the assigned words, **but you don't need to include a word in the cards if you**

**already know it.** A minimum of 15 cards per chapter is required. See the detailed instructions on Canvas under the assignment.

- 6.) **Homework:** Homework assignments will include reading, textbook exercises, paragraph writing, and editing your own work to build your reading and writing skills and to prepare you for class. Students should expect to spend two hours of outside preparation for each hour of classroom instruction. Thus, expect an average of **12 hours** of homework a week for this class.
- 7.) **Classwork and Participation:** Working with your classmates in pairs and small groups is a key part of this class. To be successful in this learning community, you need to come prepared for class by having the homework completed and participating in the discussions and in-class assignments. Some in-class assignments will be graded and can't be made up.

## CLASS POLICIES

1. **Attendance:** You are expected to attend every class meeting. **If you have to miss a class for any reason, please email me.**
2. **Arrive on time.** It shows respect to myself and your classmates to arrive on time. Please talk to me if there is a reason you will have difficulty getting to class when it starts.
3. **Late Work Policy:** My expectation is that you will meet all assignment deadlines. However, I understand that this is sometimes difficult. Therefore, the Late Work Policy is that for selected major writing assignments (e.g. WA #1-#4 Final), you have **up to 12 hours after the due date** to submit your work with no penalty. This is called a "12-hour grace period" and will be noted in the instructions for the assignment. An assignment submitted within the 12-hour grace period will show "late" on Canvas, but not counted as late. After 12 hours, the assignment closes, and the assignment is late. A late assignment receives a "zero". **All other assignments are due at their scheduled due dates.** If you see that you will have difficulty getting an assignment in on time, please contact me.
4. **Academic Honesty.** Except for specific collaborative assignments, all work needs to be original and written by yourself. Any form of cheating will earn a "zero" for that assignment. Cheating includes, but is not limited to, the following:
  - Copying from another student's homework
  - Cheating on a quiz or exam.
  - Having someone else do your assignment and submitting it as your own.
  - Copying from a published source without giving credit (see Plagiarism, below).
  - Copying from ChatGPT or other generative AI software source
  - Using a translation software to translate your assignment from your native language to English (e.g. with Google Translate.)

**Plagiarism:** Plagiarism is taking someone else's ideas and using them as your own without giving the original source. **Plagiarized work will receive NO**

**credit.** Turnitin (TII), which is a part of Canvas, will report where your wording follows another source too closely. You should check your match rate score on Turnitin and revise your work where you have inappropriate matches before the due date. If used in this way, TII can identify where your paraphrasing needs to be improved and will help you avoid plagiarism. In addition, **TII scans for generative AI use** and I may use other AI detection software.

**Why not to use generative AI tools:** In this course, you are building your English skills in reading, writing and grammar. Generative AI tools, such as ChatGPT, Google Gemini, and Microsoft Bing, may help with these tasks, but they have many disadvantages like false information and cultural biases. Misuse of AI tools can negatively impact critical thinking, creativity, and authorship ethics. Grammarly, also an AI tool, is OK to use for spellchecking, but don't overuse it to rewrite your sentences. Its corrections don't result in better writing. And, you are not building your skills or expressing your writing "voice" by having generative AI write for you. **Therefore, generative AI use is prohibited in this class unless the assignment specifically allows its use.**

The first time cheating or plagiarism is suspected, the student will get a "zero" grade for the assignment until we have a chance to discuss the assignment and reach a resolution. Please be honest if you used AI or a translator and where you used it. You may be asked to revise the assignment until it meets the class's academic honesty standards. If you didn't use AI, you'll be asked to explain the process you used to complete the assignment. Repeated AI use will likely result in an incident report (a report of cheating) being sent to the Office of Student Judicial Affairs and will remain a part of your permanent record. For more info, see [DeAnza's Academic Integrity policy](https://www.deanza.edu/policies/academic_integrity.html) at [https://www.deanza.edu/policies/academic\\_integrity.html](https://www.deanza.edu/policies/academic_integrity.html)

5. All assignments **need to be original** for this class during this term. Work done for another class or this class in another quarter is not accepted.
6. **Electronic devices.** Please put your phone and computer away during class—off your desk and out of sight---unless they are used in the lesson.

7. **Grading.**

Activity	% of Grade
Summary/response (2)	15%
Writing Assignment (out-of-class & revisions)	20 %
Quizzes	15%
Vocabulary Cards	5 %
Homework, Classwork, and Participation	10%
Mid-Term Exam (in-class & revisions)	15 %
Final Exam (in-class. No revisions)	20 %
Total	100%

## Grading Scale

97-100	= A+	77-79	= C+
93-96	= A	73-76	= C
90-92	= A-	<73	= No Pass
87-89	= B+		
83-86	= B		
80-82	= B-		

A minimum of 73% (C) is needed to pass the course for credit and non-credit students. Students taking the class for credit will receive a letter grade, and non-credit students will receive a "Pass/No Pass".

Also, non-Credit students can receive the **Certificate of Competency in English as a Second Language-Low Advanced Level** when you successfully pass ESL 465 and ESL 461. Click [here](https://deanza.elumenapp.com/catalog/2024-2025/program/english-as-a-second-language-low-advanced-level-fall-2024) for more details (https://deanza.elumenapp.com/catalog/2024-2025/program/english-as-a-second-language-low-advanced-level-fall-2024).

**SPECIAL NEEDS-** Please let me know if you have a physical or learning disability that requires special accommodations. For further support, contact Disabled Student Services <https://www.deanza.edu/dsps/dss/>

**STUDENT HEALTH SERVICES** – <https://www.deanza.edu/healthservices/>

**NEED A COMPUTER?** DeAnza has computers available for students to use during class hours. For more information, see <https://www.deanza.edu/students/computers.html>

**NEED A PRINTER?** You can buy access to a printer on campus by using the ePRINTit! service. For more information, go to the ePRINTit app on MyPortal.

**HELP WITH ASSIGNMENTS--**On-line tutoring with a DeAnza tutor is available through the Writing and Reading Center (WRC) <http://www.deanza.edu/studentssuccess/wrc/>. Also, free online tutoring is available from *Smarthinking* and *NetTutor*, and study information for all classes is available on the Student Success Center (SSC) Resources Canvas site. Go to <https://www.deanza.edu/studentssuccess/onlinetutoring/>. In addition, I encourage you to come talk to me any time you have questions on the assignments or want more feedback.