



**COURSE NAME:** ORAL COMMUNICATIONS - VI

**COURSE NUMBER:** ESL\*167 (formerly ESL 125)

**CREDITS:** 3 (Foreign Language Equivalent)

**CATALOG DESCRIPTION:** A speech improvement course to help advanced-level non-native speakers of English communicate more effectively in academic and professional settings. Focus is on accent reduction and developing communication strategies through listening discrimination and pronunciation exercises; self-analysis practice, peer observation and interaction, and oral presentations. One-hour laboratory/tutorial practice required per week.

**PREREQUISITES:** ESL\*150 or permission of instructor

### **General Education Competencies Satisfied:**

**HCC General Education Requirement Designated Competency Attribute Code(s):**

None

**Additional CSCU General Education Requirements for CSCU Transfer Degree Programs:**

None

**Embedded Competency(ies):**

None

**Discipline-Specific Attribute Code(s):**

None

### **Course objectives:**

**General Education Goals and Outcomes:**

None

## **COURSE SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES:**

1. To listen to taped or spoken language samples and identify features of the language (word ending, verb tenses, singular/plural, etc.)
2. To listen to language samples and discriminate between minimal pairs (sheep/cheap; sheep/ship; etc.)
3. To reproduce satisfactory approximations of minimal pair contrasts.
4. To produce correct inflections (plural endings, verb tense endings) in unrehearsed, guided conversations and formal presentations.
5. To dictate sufficiently clear sentences so that all class members can understand and reproduce the correct content and form.
6. To memorize and recite a poem of twelve lines or less, using appropriate stress, intonation, rhythm, and vowel and consonant pronunciation.
7. To prepare and present a formal informative speech; also a persuasive speech.
8. To evaluate his/her own speech for errors and ambiguous features in person, and on taped homework assignments.
9. To evaluate classmate's speech for errors and ambiguous features during class interaction and in formal presentations.
10. To demonstrate a significant measure of improvement in three personal areas of pronunciation and speaking difficulty.
11. To demonstrate a certain measure of control of communication strategies for specific speaking purposes.
12. To demonstrate greater confidence and fluency in formal and informal speaking.

## **COURSE CONTENT:**

### **A. Communications Strategies:**

1. Getting acquainted.
2. Interacting in class; Using appropriate language styles.
3. Maintaining a conversation; Encouraging communication.
4. Speaking to a group; Improving confidence and delivery; Using notes.
5. Making a group decision; Rights and obligations; Values; Opinions.
6. Developing a presentation; Assessing the speaking situation; Topics.
7. Taking a stand; Leading a group discussion; Ethical behavior; Positions
8. Solving a problem; Gathering information; Evaluating solutions.

### **B. Listening Discrimination and Pronunciation:**

1. Word stress
2. Past tense “-ed” sound
3. The final “-s” sound
4. Sentence stress

5. Rhythm and reductions
6. Linking within thought groups
7. Intonation patterns in questions
8. Consonants and vowels; clusters; diphthongs; contrasts
9. Stress-changing prefixes and suffixes
10. Compound nouns
11. Stress and noun-verb changes
12. Pronouncing unstressed syllables
13. Stress in long words
14. Expanding voice range

**Recommended Grading Standards:**

Daily class participation (class exercises, group discussions, partner practice, informal storytelling, dictations, peer evaluations, etc.) **40 percent**

Individual formal presentations in class **20 percent**

Weekly homework exercises and periodic speeches on cassettes **20 percent**

Self-analysis practice and individual pronunciation improvement (at least three individual practice and evaluation sessions with the instructor during office hours, recorded on a separate cassette) **20 percent**

**Note:** Most exercises will be graded by the instructor; a few, such as the formal speeches and peer dictations, will be co-evaluated by the other class members.

Date of Last Revision: 03/23/2017