American River College offers courses in English as a Second Language (ESL) designed to provide non-native speakers of English with a command of the language necessary to pursue career, transfer and degree goals.

**English as a Second Language**

**ESL 97  ESL Center: Integrated Topics in ESL**

**.25-1 Units**

Prerequisite: ESL 20, ESLR 20, and ESLW 20 with grades of "C" or better; or placement through the assessment process.

Hours: 13.5-54 hours LAB

This course enables English as a Second Language students placed at the novice-high through intermediate-high levels to develop, expand and reinforce multiple English language skills while working independently and/or in small groups. Coursework includes integrated study topics relative to vocabulary and study skills, reading and grammar use, idiomatic language study and application, TOEFL preparation and assorted integrated software programs. Students may register until the twelfth week of the semester as space permits and may earn .25 unit of credit for every 13.5 hours of work. ESL 97 is graded credit/no-credit and may taken four times.

**ESL 181  ESL Center: Skills in ESL**

**.5-1.5 Units**

Prerequisite: ESLL 310, ESLR 310, and ESLW 310 with a grade of "C" or better or placement through the assessment process.

Advisory: Concurrent enrollment in at least one ESL course at the 320, 330, or 340 level.

Hours: 27-81 hours LAB

Coursework consists of a variety of self-study modules on such topics as grammar, composition, reading, vocabulary, listening, pronunciation, study skills, and work place skills and is designed to develop and reinforce English language skills at advanced levels. Independent work on complex assignments will be required. Credit/No Credit grading only. May be taken for a maximum of 6 units.

**ESL 350  Advanced Composition and Literature**

**4 Units**

Prerequisite: ESLR 340 and ESLW 340 with grades of "C" or better; General Education: AAIAS Area II(b); CSU Area A3

Course Transferable to UC/CSU

Hours: 72 hours LEC

This course covers reading and interpreting major types of literature, including poetry, drama and fiction. It includes study in critical thinking and essay writing. It also emphasizes reading and written analysis of major literary works. Writing assignments total at least 8,500 words. Field trips may be required.

**ESL - Grammar**

**ESLG 50  Intermediate-Mid Grammar**

**4 Units**

Prerequisite: ESLW 40 (Intermediate-Low Writing) with a grade of "C" or better; or, for those not previously enrolled in an ESL grammar or writing course within the Los Rios district, placement through the assessment process.

Advisory: Enrollment in an ESL Listening and Speaking, Reading, and/or Writing course at the student’s assessed level(s).

Hours: 72 hours LEC

This course focuses on the fundamental grammatical structures of English at the intermediate-mid level. It focuses on grammatical structures in appropriate contexts. Oral and written practice with an emphasis on sentence structure and verb tenses is included.

**ESLG 310  Intermediate-High Grammar**

**4 Units**

Prerequisite: ESLG 50 with a grade of "C" or better; or, for those not previously enrolled in an ESL grammar course within the Los Rios district, placement through the assessment process.

Course Transferable to CSU

Hours: 72 hours LEC

This course focuses on further practice of the forms, meanings, and usage of grammatical structures of English at the intermediate-high level. Verbal practice in class reinforces the structures studied.

**ESLG 320  Advanced-Low Grammar**

**4 Units**

Prerequisite: ESLG 310 with a grade of "C" or better; or, for those not previously enrolled in an ESL grammar course within the Los Rios district, placement through the assessment process.

Course Transferable to CSU

Hours: 72 hours LEC

This course focuses on practice in the forms and meanings of major structures used in writing with an emphasis on clause structure at the advanced-low level. Oral practice reinforces the structures studied. Assignments emphasize sentence structure in the context of longer written work.

**ESL - Listening**

**ESLL 20  Novice Listening and Speaking**

**4 Units**

Advisory: One year of adult school and concurrent enrollment in ESL Reading and Writing courses at the student’s assessed levels are highly recommended.

Hours: 72 hours LEC

This course focuses on understanding and producing appropriate language utilizing learned phrases and expressions required for everyday communication. Basic clarification strategies will be demonstrated and practiced. English sounds and intonation patterns will be introduced. Credit/no credit grading only. May be taken twice for credit.
ESLL 30  Novice-High Listening and Speaking  4 Units
Prerequisite: ESLL 20 or, for those who have not successfully completed ESLL 20 in the Los Rios District, placement through the assessment process.
Advisory: Concurrent enrollment in an ESL Reading and/or Writing course at the student's assessed level.
Hours: 72 hours LEC
This is a course in listening comprehension and practical conversation for non-native English speakers who plan to take college courses. The sounds of American English, stress, rhythm, and intonation patterns are introduced.

ESLL 40  Intermediate-Low Listening and Speaking  4 Units
Prerequisite: ESLL 30 or, for those who have not successfully completed ESLL 30 in the Los Rios District, placement through the assessment process.
Corequisite: Concurrent enrollment in an ESL Reading and Writing course at the student's assessed level.
Hours: 72 hours LEC
This is a course for non-native speakers that develops the listening and speaking skills needed to succeed in college courses. Activities focus on developing phrases and sentences to communicate ideas in familiar situations. It includes group and individual listening and speaking activities, an overview of American English sounds, and practice in stress, rhythm, and intonation.

ESLL 50  Intermediate-Mid Listening and Speaking  4 Units
Prerequisite: ESLL 40 with a grade of "C" or better or placement through assessment.
Advisory: Concurrent enrollment in an ESL Reading and Writing course at the student's assessed level.
Hours: 72 hours LEC
This is a course to help students understand and be understood in both familiar and unfamiliar situations. Class activities will introduce academic listening and speaking activities and will continue to work on pronunciation skills. May be taken twice for credit.

ESLL 97  ESL Center: Listening Skills in ESL  25-1 Units
Prerequisite: ESLL 20, ESLR 20, and ESLW 20 with grades of "C" or better; or placement through the assessment process.
Hours: 13.5-54 hours LAB
This course enables English as a Second Language students placed at the novice-high through high-intermediate levels to develop and reinforce specific listening and speaking skills while working independently and/or in small groups. Coursework includes offerings in listening comprehension, conversational skills, pronunciation, vocabulary and oral grammar topics. Students may register until the twelfth week of the semester as space permits and may earn .25 unit of credit for every 13.5 hours of work. ESLL 97 is graded credit/no-credit and may be taken four times.

ESLL 310  Intermediate-High Listening and Speaking  4 Units
Prerequisite: ESLL 50 or, for those who have not completed ESLL courses in the Los Rios District, placement through the assessment process.
Advisory: Concurrent enrollment in an ESL Reading and Writing course at the student's assessed level.
Course Transferable to CSU
Hours: 72 hours LEC
This intermediate-high-level course, intended for non-native speakers of English, develops listening and speaking for academic purposes, including comprehension of lectures, note-taking, and classroom discussion. It includes a review of American English sounds with emphasis on understanding and producing stress, rhythm, and intonation patterns to communicate effectively.

ESLL 320  Advanced-Low Listening and Speaking  4 Units
Prerequisite: ESLL 310 or, for students who have not taken ESLL courses in the Los Rios district, placement through the assessment process.
Advisory: Concurrent enrollment in ESL Reading and Writing courses at the student's assessed level.
Course Transferable to CSU
Hours: 72 hours LEC
This course provides intensive practice in listening and active participation strategies for U.S. college courses. Activities include listening to extended lectures from various subject areas, refining note-taking skills, participating in in-depth discussions, and giving oral presentations. Practice of pronunciation skills is also covered.

ESLR 20  Novice Reading  4 Units
Advisory: One year of adult school and concurrent enrollment in ESL Writing and Listening/Speaking courses at the student's assessed levels are highly recommended.
Hours: 72 hours LEC
This course, intended for non-native speakers of English, focuses on literal understanding of basic vocabulary and readings at the Novice level. There is a focus on expanding basic vocabulary through readings, word parts, and word form activities. The concepts of using context and giving personal reactions to readings are introduced.

ESLR 30  Novice-High Reading  4 Units
Prerequisite: ESLR 20 with a grade of "C" or better or, for those not previously enrolled in ESLR 20, placement through the assessment process.
Advisory: Concurrent enrollment in an ESL Reading course at the student's level.
Hours: 72 hours LEC
This course focuses on literal comprehension of words, phrases, sentences, and paragraphs in short texts at the Novice-High level. Topics include core vocabulary, spelling rules, and grammar necessary to understand short readings.

ESLR 40  Intermediate-Low Reading  4 Units
Prerequisite: ESLR 30 (Novice-High Reading) with a grade of "C" or better; or, for those not previously enrolled in an ESL reading course within the Los Rios District, placement through the assessment process.
Advisory: Concurrent enrollment in an ESL Reading course at the student's assessed level.
Hours: 72 hours LEC
This course, intended for non-native speakers of English, focuses on understanding of vocabulary and readings at the Intermediate-Low level. There is an emphasis on developing reading skills, building vocabulary, and increasing fluency. Additional class activities include discussing and writing about readings.

ESLR 50  Intermediate-Mid Reading  4 Units
Prerequisite: ESLR 40 with a grade of "C" or better; or, for those not previously enrolled in an ESL reading course within the Los Rios District, placement through the assessment process.
Advisory: Concurrent enrollment in ESL Reading and Writing course at the student's assessed level.
Hours: 72 hours LEC
This course, intended for non-native speakers of English, focuses on the introduction of academic reading skills, with an emphasis on vocabulary development, and literal comprehension. Course activities include reading, analyzing, discussing and writing responses to ideas expressed in texts at the Intermediate-Mid level, as well as further practice with dictionary skills.
ESLR 20  **Novice Writing**  4 Units  
Advisory: One year of adult school and concurrent enrollment in ESL Reading and Listening/Speaking courses at the student’s assessed levels are highly recommended.
Hours: 72 hours LEC  
This course covers novice-level writing in English for non-native speakers who plan to take college courses. It provides instruction and practice in writing simple sentences and paragraph structures within the context of topic assignments.

ESLR 320 **Advanced-Low Reading**  4 Units  
Prerequisite: ESLR 310 with a grade of “C” or better; or placement through the assessment process.
Hours: 72 hours LEC  
This course, intended for non-native speakers of English, focuses on refining academic reading skills with an emphasis on speed, vocabulary expansion, and comprehension of ideas. Practice is provided in understanding, paraphrasing, summarizing, and responding, either orally or in writing, to ideas expressed in reading.

ESLR 340 **Advanced Reading Skills Through Literature**  4 Units  
Prerequisite: ESLR 320 with a grade of “C” or better; or placement through the assessment process.
Hours: 72 hours LEC  
This course, intended for advanced non-native speakers of English, is designed to improve vocabulary and reading skills. Readings include various forms of literature from a variety of cultures, including essays, poetry, drama, short stories, and novels. This course focuses on further development of critical thinking and reading skills needed for academic performance: (1) analysis and comprehension skills, (2) research and synthesizing skills, (3) vocabulary development and (4) flexibility of reading rate. It also emphasizes the comparison and contrast of universal and metaphorical themes, as applied in various cultures, and includes extensive writing based on critical analysis of readings.

ESLR 86  **Spelling**  2 Units  
Prerequisite: ESLR 40 and ESLW 40 with a grade of “C” or better or placement through the assessment process.
Hours: 36 hours LEC  
This course is designed for students who need to improve their spelling. It includes an introduction to the basic spelling rules and patterns of English. Activities will provide practice with homophones, suffixes and plurals. The course will foster competence in spelling. May be taken twice for credit.
ESLW 97  ESL Center: Writing Skills in ESL  .25-1 Units
Prerequisite: ESLL 20, ESLR 20, and ESLW 20 with grades of "C" or better, or placement through the assessment process.
Hours: 13.5-54 hours LAB
This course enables English as a Second Language students placed at the novice-high through intermediate-high levels to develop and reinforce specific English language skills while working independently and/or in small groups. Coursework includes level-appropriate topics relative to all forms of written communication including grammar, sentence structure and punctuation, paragraph and essay formats, and related vocabulary and spelling. Students may register until the twelfth week of the semester as space permits and may earn .25 unit of credit for every 13.5 hours of work. ESLW 97 is graded credit/no-credit and may be taken four times.

ESLW 310  Intermediate-High Writing  4 Units
Prerequisite: ESLW 50 with a grade of "C" or better, or placement through assessment.
Advisory: Concurrent enrollment in other ESL skills at the student’s assessed level.
Course Transferable to UC/CSU
Hours: 72 hours LEC
This course further develops the ability to respond to a variety of essay assignments. Class discussions and written responses to readings and prompts will exercise critical thinking skills. Control of a range of sentence structures will be refined.

ESLW 320  Advanced-Low Writing  4 Units
Prerequisite: ESLW 310 with a grade of "C" or better or placement through assessment.
Advisory: Concurrent enrollment in other ESL skills at the student’s assessed level.
Course Transferable to UC/CSU
Hours: 72 hours LEC
This course exercises analytical and logical skills in the production of focused, developed and organized essays on a variety of topics. The course emphasizes sentence variety and the mechanics of English in the context of the essay. Essays will incorporate outside sources as well as personal experience.

ESLW 340  Advanced Composition  4 Units
Prerequisite: ESLW 320 with a grade of "C" or better for students continuing in ESL courses or placement through the assessment process for new ESL students.
Advisory: Concurrent enrollment in an ESL Reading and an ESL Listening and Speaking course at the student’s assessed levels.
General Education: AA/AS Area II(a); CSU Area A2
Course Transferable to UC/CSU
Hours: 72 hours LEC
This college composition course emphasizes reading analysis, writing, and critical thinking skills, while also addressing the specific language and cultural needs of non-native speakers. These skills are essential for successful completion of a two or four-year college program. Writing assignments include expository and argumentative prose based on analysis of a variety of assigned readings and original research. Students write a minimum of 8,500 words divided among 6-8 essays, including a fully documented research paper and in-class essays. This course satisfies the Written Expression Competency requirement for graduation and the English composition requirement of some California colleges and universities.