

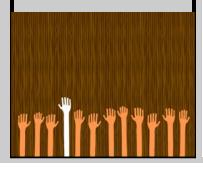
# Good News

English as a Second Language

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IF I got correct goals, and if I keep pursuing them the best way I know how, everything else falls into line. If I do the right thing right, I'm going to succeed.

Author Unknown





JUNE 2011, VOLUME 5, ISSUE 2

As another school year winds down, I'd like to congratulate all students on completing another semester here at Mt. San Antonio College. This is a great time to reflect upon and validate your experiences from the past semester. A time to look back on the connections you've made both inside and outside of the classroom, recognize the sacrifices you made, and acknowledge your commitment to improving your English. Speaking of validation, the ESL program is currently in the process of something called "WASC Accreditation". The

purpose of accreditation is to make sure the programs we offer are of the highest quality possible. Some of you have even participated in the accreditation process by participating in a satisfaction survey earlier this semester. Your survey responses indicated that students; (1) improve their English skills, (2) believe that the ESL program has great instructors, and (3) feel that Mt. SAC is a comfortable place to learn. We want to continue to provide you with a high quality program, and if you have any suggestions on how we can improve please share your ideas with us. While working on the accreditation, I wanted to share some information with you about the ESL program:

Nearly 1,700 new students take the ESL placement test every year.

The ESL program enrolls over 1,300 students into level classes every semester. Approximately 8 out of 10 students advance to the next level each semester. This data shows that ESL is a high quality program and that students want to come to Mt. San Antonio College to study English. It also shows how committed you are to improving your English skills. With all the other family and/or work responsibilities that you have to juggle, I applaud and admire you for your continued commitment to furthering your education. In addition to validating your experiences, this is also a great time to celebrate your accomplishments and prepare for the future.

For those of you who are completing your educational journey with us, I wish you luck in all your future endeavors and hope that the connections you've made with your classmates, teachers, and staff becomes life-long relationships. I also hope that the language skills you've acquired, in your time in ESL, open countless doors of opportunities. To the students who will be taking a break from classes, I wish you a relaxing and joyful summer. We look forward to your return in the fall or in the near future. For the students who will be continuing in the summer, don't forget that classes start on Tuesday July 5<sup>th</sup>.

Deejay Santiago, Ed.D. Matriculation Coordinator, ESL

"I've always believed that if you put in the work, the results will come."

-Michael Jordan

#### **DID YOU KNOW?** 2:5 Class Repeatability Rule

2: Students can repeat a <u>Level class</u> up to <u>2 times</u> 5: Students can repeat a <u>Skills class</u> up to 5 times

# **CAREER DEVELOPMENT**



Make an appointment with one of the members of the ESL Counseling Team and get the Career Brief of your choice!



**Certified Public Accountants** Also Called: CPA's, Public Accountants

Certified Public Accountants provide accounting and tax services to other businesses and to the general public on a fee basis. The services they provide include financial and operational audits, management consulting (including advising on accounting systems), and tax preparation and representation. The audit function is a unique service the CPA renders. They plan the audit, select procedures to use, examine the books and financial records, and give an opinion whether the business statements fairly represent the financial situation of the company or business. Some specialize in preparing tax returns while others design accounting systems. Still others evaluate computer systems and others specialize in security controls.

Personal Characteristics:

- Communicate both verbally to explain procedures and in writing to obtain clients
- Direct the work of staff
- Write reports, prepare tax returns and financial statements
- Write legibly and effectively
- Perform mathematical calculations quickly and accurately
- Use physical strength to carry work papers and records
- Talk, hear, and focus on close things
- Analyze and interpret records, and to evaluate a recordkeeping system
- Organize work, observe detail and find errors easily
- Stick to a problem until it is solved
- Have many projects going at the same time
- Work under the stress of deadlines
- Negotiate with others
- Work with people and get along well with them
- Adhere closely to established rules of ethical conduct
- Make judgments using knowledge or experience



Current Monthly Wage Data (2010) from				
Entry/Low	Average	Тор		
\$4,388	\$6,107	\$7,112 & up		

Would you like to learn more about these careers and their requirements? Make an appointment to see a member of the ESL Counseling Team. Ask for Michael Ngo, John Pellitteri or Bertha Rodriguez.

## **GOOD NEWS**

# Air Traffic Controller

Also Called: Station Air Traffic Controllers

Air Traffic Controllers are responsible for directing air traffic in to and out of airports. They coordinate the movement of aircraft to prevent accidents and delays while taking off, flying, and landing. Controllers use two-way radios to issue clearances, effect aircraft separation, give traffic and weather information, monitor electronic landing and navigational aids and airport lights. They use radar to monitor aircraft, determine traffic information, and issue radar vectors.

Personal Characteristics:

- Learn and understand procedures
- Use words to speak quickly, clearly, and precisely when giving directions to pilots
- Use numbers
- Visualize how objects fit together
- Check the accuracy of written and spoken information
- Use color discrimination
- Use hands and fingers to reach
- Do precise work accurately
- Make rapid decisions based on facts and experience
- Accept responsibility and give directions to others
- Perform work in stressful situations
- Reach, see, and hear
- Move often form one task to another using different skills work according to set standards



Current Monthly Wage Data (2010) from California Labor Market Information (LMI)

Entry/Low	Average	Тор
\$6,143	\$9,550	\$12,857 & up

# Alcohol and Drug Treatment Counselors

Also Called: Addiction Specialists, Drug Treatment Counselors, Substance Abuse Counselors

Alcohol and Drug Treatment Counselors help people deal with chemical or substance abuse and dependency. They use a variety of therapies from behavior modification to interpersonal techniques. They may administer and evaluate initial tests to help in diagnosis and the progress of the client. They maintain records and oversee living arrangements for clients. They work closely with other professionals, such as Medical Social Workers ,Mental Health Counselors, Psychologists,, and Rehabilitation Counselors, and may make referrals.



Personal Characteristics:

- Use words
- Work well with a variety of people
- Make decisions based on data and experience
- See details with accuracy
- Move frequently from one task to another and to use different skills

speak and write clearly and concisely

Current Monthly Wage Data (2010) from						
<u>California La</u>	California Labor Market Information (LMI)					
Entry/Low	Average	Тор				
\$2,298	\$3,126	\$3,629 & up				

# ENGLISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE

# **STUDENT WRITINGS**

Our 11th Annual ESL Career Conference has proven to be, once again, a success! Although many would like to



have this event take place over a week's time or to have each session be longer, the ultimate goal is always to provide information which is helpful to you, no matter the time limitations.

We would like to thank all the students who submitted their articles for our writing contest. We received dozens and dozens of entries and had a very difficult time deciding on only two winners! After a long and difficult decision process, the following articles best captured the spirit of the conference.

This years winners are SANDRA MEZA and LYDIA HSUEH.

#### Congratulations Sandra and Lydia!



Writing is a lot like walking-You have to keep practicing until you get the hang of it! Author Unknown

#### 11th Annual ESL Conference

On April 27, I went to a Career Conference, and they gave us the opportunity to know what this school offers.

In my opinion it was interesting because it can motivate us to keep going learning English, start looking for a career and help us to complete our goals.

I got the information that I was looking for long time.

Sometimes we stay at the same place because we don't have information, we don't know where can we go to get it.

I attended two topics, but there were more so I think almost everything was good but we're missing time to attend all of them. Maybe they can come back in the future.

I think the conference offer good opportunity to study more and learn something new. I saw a lot of people in this conference. I feel lucky that I had chance to attend in ESL Career Conference; I got useful information that can help me to suces in my future careers.

Sandra Meza Level 3



# **STUDENT WRITINGS**

#### ESL Career Conference (April 2011)

There was a career conference at school for ESL students in the morning. The speakers were teachers, counselors, and students at the college. The topic included how to complete a college application, how to write a great resume and careers in Nursing. They also spoke about how to become a teacher, careers in computers or the AMLA program. I picked three presentations.

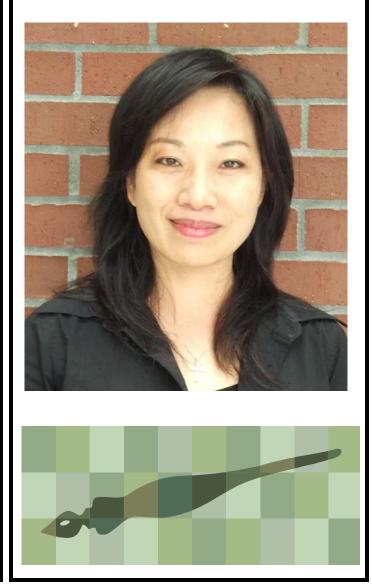
The first presentation was about how to do a great interview. The speaker was Darma Paden, who has brown hair, and wore a pair of long pants with a red suit. Her smile looked very nice. Therefore, she got my attention a lot because I always admire the people who can give a great speech as a professional, and she does. She said that we should think that when we talk to 500 people it would be the same as if we were talking to one person. It meant we need more confidence in ourselves. That was a new idea to me.

The second presentation was about how to do a career search. The speaker was a counselor at the college. She asked us to analvsis our specific situation use swot (strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, threats) to prepare for interviews and write cover letters. First of all, we have to think about the strengths we have such as: I like outdoor activities, learning new things, and I am concerned about others. Also I think that I am a hard working person. All are worthy things to me. Second, what are our weaknesses? For me they are: staying alone for a long time, fear of darkness and talking to native English speakers. All are problems I have to overcome. Third, what are the opportunities from the company? For instance, how long will I take for training? The last one that we have to think about what the threats would be. Some people think that machinery is a threat to their jobs, so it will be a very important them to think about.

The last presentation I attended was Agriculture Sciences at the college. She talked very fast, but I still asked her for some information about how to take an ornamental horticulture class in the college, and how to find a job on a farm because I have enjoyed growing plants since I was a child. Also I have learned flower arranging for many year. For the rest of my life, I hope I can have a chance to work with flowers, vegetables and fruits. I felt interested in the class and I had a chance to ask some questions.

All in all, the career conference was helpful for the ESL students. It was an extraordinary experience for me. I learned a lot of valuable things from it, but the most important thing was I really enjoyed myself there. I am glad that I attended the conference.

Lydia Hsueh Level 5



## **ENGLISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE**

# WELLNESS CENTER

Students, did you know that there is an exercise facility known as the Wellness Center located just two minutes from our ESL Building?

The Wellness Center houses a variety of exercise equipment including treadmills, stationary bikes, ellipticals, stairmasters, rowing machines, exercise balls, Bosu balance trainers and Cybex/Paramount strength training equipment.





The aerobic room has a beautiful hardwood shock absorbent floor that can accommodate up to fifty people. A variety of classes are offered 7 days a week including yoga, cardio dance, cardio hoop, step, body contouring and kickboxing.

Also, the Wellness Center offers a variety of fitness testing services including body composition testing (hydrostatic weighing and skinfold measurements), resting metabolic testing, VO2 Max testing, strength testing, and flexibility testing.

If you are interested, stop by the Wellness Center in building 27A (next to the swimming pool) or call (909) 274-4625.



# Strategies From Other Students



"From my personal experience, I've learned that test-taking can be easier with a few simple tips. First, always study in a quiet environment that is well lit. Studying should begin at least ten days in advance. Give yourself manageable sections to study each day. This way, it will not be overwhelming. Know ahead of time exactly what to study for. The professors often give ideas as to what the test will be like. Take advantage of this. Quiz yourself on the material you studied, without using your books or

notes. Doing this will give you an idea of how you will do on the test. Allow yourself a fifteen to twenty minute break for every hour of studying. During this time relax with a walk or a conversation with a friend. Before the exam, eat properly and have plenty of rest. Following these tips will help you when it comes to test time." - By Joanne Hornstrom

"Are your grades as good as you want them to be? Are your notes worth reviewing? Notes are phrases and abbreviations that we hurriedly jot down while trying to follow a lecture. Later, when we go back to review our notes, there are times when we can't seem to understand or remember what those key words and phrases meant; sometimes we can't even read our own handwriting. Here is a note-taking study tip that has proven to be effective. After you have finished class, immediately rush to the nearest computer lab and retype your notes. You need to rewrite those phrases as complete thoughts and sentences; dot your I's, cross your T's and use "cut and paste" to put your notes into some type of a logical sequence. While retyping your notes you are using several modalities: you review as you read your notes aloud, you use your hand to type, and you reread again as you proof read what you have typed. Research indicates that 80% of new material can be recalled if you review notes within the first 24 hours of presentation. Also, clean typed notes are easier to read and highlight as you study. If you retype your notes daily, you will keep the task from becoming overwhelming, you will learn good study habits that aid in memory retention and, at the same time, improve your grades." - By Jack Jenkins





The most important advice I can give to you is to make sure you attend your classes. Attendance in class enhances the chance you'll get a passing grade in a course. In addition to attending class, it is important to brush up on your note-taking skills to really achieve optimum success. Some general recommendations for improving note-taking skills are to: Read all textbook ma-

terial relevant to the topic being covered prior to attending class. Make sure you take notes in class. If you fail to take notes, much of what you learn from the lecture will be forgotten in a few days. If you have something written down on paper, you can always refer to the material later. Ask professors who lecture too fast if you can tape record their lecture. You'll generally find that many professors are willing to assist you in your efforts to gain as much from their lecture as possible. By attending class and utilizing the note-taking techniques just described, your chances for success in college will increase significantly. - By Kiran Misra

www.academictips.org

ENGLISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE





registration opens: may 17 • credit classes begin: july 5 • noncredit classes: p. 71

Are you interested in taking Credit Classes at Mt. SAC? For the Summer or Fall term? If yes, then follow the steps below:

- 1. Credit Application
- 2. Assessment
- 3. Orientation
- 4. Counseling/Advising
- 5. Online Registration
- 6. Pay Fees

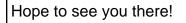
# Would you like assistance with this process? Make an appointment to see a member of the ESL Counseling Team. Ask for Michael Ngo, John Pellitteri or Bertha Rodriguez.

Do you want to practice learning English outside your classroom? Then why not stop by the <u>Language Learning Center</u> also known as the LLC, located in the Learning Technology Building (Bldg. 6).

The <u>Language Learning Center</u> has a large variety of language learning software, videos, DVD's and recordings to improve listening, speaking, and pronunciation skills.

To find out more you can also visit the website and see the number of audio, video, internet and software resources available for the different levels by clicking in the Resource Link and selecting the LLC Materials/ ESL. www.llc.mtsac.edu

To use the <u>Language Learning Center</u>, you must register at the ESL Registration Counter in Building 66 and you will also need to have your Mt. SAC Student ID Card.





## April 2011

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May 2011

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# June 2011

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31						

LEGEND	
May 30 - Holiday - Campus Closed	$\bigcirc$
Jun. 13 to 17 - Final Exam Week	
Jul. 4 - Holiday - Campus Closed	$\bigcirc$
Jul. 5 - Summer Session Begins	
Note: Special Days = Campus Closed =	Ο

**GOOD NEWS**