

American Language Writing Sequence

AMLA 41W: American Language Basic to Low-Intermediate Writing (4 units)

Course Description:

Basic to low intermediate grammar and writing for non-native speakers.

Lecture Topical Outline:

1. Sentence clusters
2. Pre-writing techniques such as brainstorming, clustering, journaling
3. Groups of sentences with simple, compound, and time clause elements
4. Original sentences with consistent grammatical accuracy
5. Global and local error editing
6. Sentence elements, parts of speech, and word forms
7. Sentences in affirmative, negative, and question/answer formats
8. Sentence patterns
9. Model sentences looking at structure, vocabulary, and ideas
10. Critical thinking strategies by paraphrasing key ideas from level-appropriate sources
11. Final exam

Course Measurable Objectives:

1. Create sentence clusters while utilizing level-appropriate grammar scope and sequence.
2. Combine groups of sentences using basic sentence structures, compound sentences, and time clauses.
3. Compose complete sentences in affirmative, negative, and question and answer formats.
4. Apply knowledge of global and local errors to edit sentences.
5. Apply pre-writing techniques to construct and evaluate ideas for use in level-appropriate writing.

Course Methods of Evaluation:

1. Fourteen to eighteen written sentence clusters over the course of the semester of varying but level-appropriate lengths (7-9 of these assignments must be written in class)
2. Objective exams with multiple choice, completion, matching, short answer, and true/false prompts relating to grammatical structures and sentence formulation

Sample Assignments:

1. Make a list of ten adjectives that could be used to describe you. Then pick three and write a sentence about yourself with each of the three adjectives.
2. Write five sentences to describe what you see in a given pictures. Underline the subject in each sentence.