

American Language Writing Sequence

AMLA 42W: American Language Intermediate Writing (4 units)

Course Description:

Intermediate grammar and writing for non-native speakers.

Lecture Topical Outline:

1. The paragraph as a group of related ideas
2. Pre-writing techniques such as clusters or graphic organizers
3. Topic sentence, supporting details, and conclusion
4. Developing and combining ideas with appropriate support and transitions
5. Original sentences and paragraphs with consistent grammatical accuracy
6. Global and local error editing
7. Model paragraphs looking at structure, vocabulary, and ideas
8. Written logical response to a prompt or text
9. Avoiding plagiarism
10. Final exam

Course Measurable Objectives:

1. Construct original sentences (simple, compound, complex) with consistent accuracy while utilizing level-appropriate grammar scope and sequence
2. Write paragraphs on a variety of topics with topic sentences, supporting details, and conclusions.
3. Interpret and write logical responses to level-appropriate texts or multi-media prompts.
4. Apply pre-writing techniques to construct and evaluate ideas for use in level-appropriate writing.
5. Analyze texts to incorporate level-appropriate language concepts, vocabulary, transitional phrases, and ideas in original writing.
6. Apply knowledge of level-appropriate global and local errors to edit writing.

Course Methods of Evaluation:

1. Fourteen to eighteen written sentences to paragraphs over the course of the semester of varying but level-appropriate lengths. (7-9 of these major 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 reasons why you are studying English. Then choose two or three reasons to explain. Use these reasons to write two or three paragraphs of 10-20 sentences explaining why you are studying English. Develop each reason into its own paragraph.
2. Read the following paragraph from the textbook. Then add at least five pieces of information to make the paragraph more interesting. Use a variety of sentence structures.