

Course: Freshman English
Semester: Spring 2008
Instructor: Ms. Rebecca Tang
taiwantesol@yahoo.com
Room 229, Liberal Arts Building
Office Hours 10-12 Fridays and by appointment

Course Description:

This is a high-intermediate level general English class that seeks to build on the foundation of English knowledge students gained in high school and in the fall semester of this course. Students will receive instruction and assessment in all four language skills: reading, writing, listening and speaking. The building blocks of English, such as grammar, vocabulary, and pronunciation, generally will be taught in the context in which they are actually used. In many cases, grammar instruction will be approached as a review of previously learned material, so it will not dominate class time; however, grammar mastery is essential for success in the course. Attention will be given in class to those skills that are typically less developed in high school, including but not limited to understanding “real world” English, understanding native and non-native speakers of English, developing strategies and skills for academic writing and reading, and gaining overall confidence and competence in understanding and using English in a variety of contexts. Students must actively participate in class to succeed.

Required Textbooks:

- 1) *Summit: English for Today's World*, Level 1, by Joan Saslow and Allen Ascher (Pearson Longman 2006; ISBN 0-13-110625-2)—Pick it up in class from the class leader. (\$400)
- 2) *The Least You Should Know about Vocabulary Building: Word Roots*, 6th Edition, by Glazier, Friend, and Knight (Thomson Wadsworth 2008; ISBN 978-1-4130-2958-1)—Pick it up at Bookman Books across the street from NTU on Hsin Sheng South Road (\$298)

Recommended References:

- 1) *College Writing: From Paragraph to Essay*, by Dorothy E. Zemach and Lisa A. Rumisek (Macmillan 2003)
- 2) *Longman Advanced American Dictionary* (Pearson Longman) or another English-to-English dictionary for learners of English as a second/foreign language
- 3) *Understanding and Using English Grammar*, 3rd Edition, by Betty Schramper Azar (Pearson Longman)—Be sure to buy the answers for the exercises!

Academic Integrity and Plagiarism:

Language skills are developed within a language community, and for success students will need to learn to work well with others and negotiate meaning from the larger English language environment. *However, there will be no tolerance for overt cheating, copying, or plagiarizing in student work;* such action prevents students from developing their own skills

and knowledge and constitutes a violation of university standards of academic integrity. Students who desire to cite (quote, summarize, or paraphrase) outside sources, including Internet materials, books, magazines, or other spoken or written ideas of another person or group, are *required to use the Modern Language Association (MLA) format to document any cited materials.*

Course Requirements and Grading Policy:

- 30% Three Essays (10% Each; 1 Essay Exam)
- 30% Two Listening Exams (15% Each)
- 15% Vocabulary Roots Exam
- 15% Class Participation, Speaking Activities, Book Talks, Quizzes, Homework
- 10% Team Movie Project

Weekly Reading Homework and Book Talks: Students will have one hour of reading homework weekly for Classes 2-12. Each student will be required to read an English book of his or her choosing for a minimum of 45 minutes every week and then spend 15 minutes organizing notes for a 5-minute in-class Book Talk. Each student will give a 5-minute Book Talk every week in class to a small group of students, to the instructor, or to the whole class without additional notification.

Tentative Schedule:

	<i>Summit 1</i>	Major Assignment Due	Test
Class 1	Introduction		
Class 2	Unit 1		
Class 3	Unit 2		
Class 4	Unit 3	Movie Essay Due	
Class 5	Unit 4		
Class 6	Unit 5		
Class 7			Listening Exam 1 In-Class Essay Exam
Class 8	Unit 6		
Class 9	Unit 7		
Class 10	Unit 8		
Class 11	Unit 9	Reading Reflection Essay Due	
Class 12	Unit 10		
Class 13			Listening Exam 2

Class 14

Team Movie Projects

Class 15

Team Movie Projects

Class 16

Team Movie Projects

Class 17

Vocabulary Roots Exam