

ACEN 110: Summer Academy 2016

Instructor: Dr. Samokhina
 Email: nsamokhi@ucsc.edu

Office: Cowell 103
 Office hrs: Tue&Thu 2-3 pm

Course Description

Advanced Academic English ACEN110 is a five-unit course focusing on advanced academic skills designed for students whose native language is not English. The main objective of this course is to raise the English language and cultural competence of international students who are concurrently taking mainstream, English-language courses at UCSC. Specific skills will focus on academic listening, reading and speaking, developing vocabulary, advanced level grammar, stylistic and editing skills needed for high level academic writing.

Course Learning Objectives

After taking this course, students should be able to:

- demonstrate improved cultural awareness and knowledge of American education and current events
- understand academic lectures and react to the content by applying the information, expressing opinions, and asking appropriate questions
- take detailed notes and summarize the main points of a lecture
- participate in academic discussions and give clear and effective oral reports
- summarize and paraphrase academic passages and videos, with a special focus on academic integrity
- identify and correct errors in written texts using a variety of editing strategies for second language learners
- apply academic study skills, including time management, organizing assignments, test-taking & goal setting

Required materials:

North Star 4. Reading and Writing, 4th edition. 2015. Pearson Publishing.

Additional materials to be provided by the instructor.

Grading criteria:

Course participation & Homework	30%	
Weekly quizzes	20%	
Oral presentations	20%	
Midterm and Final Exam	30%	(15% + 15%)

SUBJECT TO CHANGE

	Content Focus	Language Focus
Week 1	<p>Introductions; Overview</p> <p>NS: Ch.1 <i>Genius: Nature or Nurture?</i></p>	<p>Modal and semi-modal verbs</p> <p><i>Writing a summary paragraph: NS RW, pp.25-32</i></p> <p>Daily Listen: VOA news</p>
Week 2	<p>NS: Ch.2 <i>Facing Life's Obstacles</i></p> <p>Handout (Boardman & Frydenberg (2008). <i>Writing to Communicate 2: Paragraphs and Essays</i>)</p>	<p>Gerunds & Infinitives</p> <p>Overview of academic writing: Paragraphs; Essay types; Essay structure; Thesis statement and topic sentences; Supporting material</p> <p><i>Writing a biographical paragraph: NS RW, pp.55-60 Draft 1</i></p> <p><i>Individual presentations (due next week): Choose a person who has overcome an obstacle (RW p.60). Research this person on the internet. Prepare a 5-10 mins presentation.</i></p>
Week 3	<p>NS: Ch.3 <i>Making Medical Decisions</i></p> <p>Handout (Boardman & Frydenberg (2008). <i>Writing to Communicate 2: Paragraphs and Essays</i>)</p>	<p><i>Final draft due</i></p> <p>Real vs. unreal conditionals <i>Group discussion: How your life would have been different hadn't you come to the USA? How's the world would have been different hadn't a specific event happened?</i></p> <p>Adverbial Clauses; Sentence connectors; Using transitions and connecting words</p> <p><i>Individual presentations</i> Daily Listen: VOA news</p>
	MIDTERM EXAMINATION	TBA
Week 4	<p>NS: Ch. 5 <i>Too Much of a Good Thing</i></p>	<p><i>Final draft due</i></p> <p>Simple past, Present Perfect, Present Perfect Continuous</p> <p><i>Writing a descriptive essay: NS RW pp.147-151 Draft 1 due</i></p> <p>Daily Listen: VOA news</p>
Week 5	<p>NS: Ch. 8 <i>Making a difference</i></p>	<p><i>Final draft due</i></p> <p>Using concessions to express opinions</p>

	Handout (<i>Essays to research papers: Longman Academic Writing Series</i>)	Using and citing sources: MLA and APA formats <i>Writing a research mini-paper using APA</i> <i>Draft 1</i>
	FINAL REVIEW	

Final examination: TBA