



ESL 260B/460B AMERICAN ENGLISH PRONUNCIATION 2

(Spring 2025)

INSTRUCTOR: GRETCHEN HIMES

Contact: Text or use Canvas Inbox for the quickest response.

- **Mobile:** 408-239-3069
- **Email:** himesgretchen@deanza.edu

OFFICE HOURS:

- T and Th 11:45-12:10PM in L35 (if classroom is occupied by another class, you'll find me in L47)
- And by appointment

COURSE INFO:

- **Time:** Tu/Th 10:30 AM-11:45 PM
- **Place:** L35
- **Credit:** ESL 260B.01 CRN: 48330
- **No-Credit:** ESL 460B.01 CRN: 48333

WELCOME TO ESL 260B/460B!

ESL 260B (credit)/460B (noncredit) is designed to help you sound more fluent and understand spoken American English by learning important pronunciation features such as voicing, grammatical endings, linking, and sound change. You will also learn the proper articulation of troublesome consonant sounds. The goal is NOT to get rid of your accent (because your accent is an important part of your identity) but rather to help you communicate in English effectively.

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES (SLOS)

At the end of the course, you should be able to:

1. Demonstrate knowledge of the sound system and patterns of spoken English.
2. Comprehend and respond appropriately to the patterns of spoken English.
3. Apply the knowledge of the sound system and patterns of spoken English by orally producing level appropriate speech that is intelligible and accurate.
4. Demonstrate the ability to analyze one's own speech mistakes and correct these mistakes independently.

ADVISORY

ESL 251/451 and 255/455 with a grade of C or better, or a qualifying score on the ESL placement exam.

REQUIRED MATERIALS

1. ***Well Said, Fourth Edition*** by Linda Grant (ISBN-13: 978-1-305-64136-5). The textbook must not have any answers, and you must have your own book.

2. Access to a device (computer, tablet, smartphone) with Internet connection, and video and audio capacities to complete assignments
3. A small mirror (or cell phone camera) and a rubber band
4. A notebook, a pencil, and a red pen
5. An online advanced English-only, English learner's dictionary

CANVAS

All homework assignments and material will be posted online. Go to the De Anza website www.deanza.edu, click on **Canvas**, log in and then select **ESL 260B/460B**. You should be able to see weekly lesson materials and homework assignments.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

- ❖ **Attendance: Attendance is required.** You must attend every scheduled class meeting. Being tardy twice equals one absence. If you come to class late, please tell me and make sure that I erase the absent mark on the attendance record.
 1. **Plan to attend every class until the quarter ends.** If you are going to be absent during the first 2 weeks of the quarter, you **MUST** notify me. If not, I will assume that you are not interested in the class anymore and drop you. You may be dropped from the course if you miss more than two classes for any reason during the quarter.
- ❖ **Patience and Practice:** Improving your pronunciation skills in English takes time and hard work. I am here to help and support you in any way I can, but only **you** can do the work that will enable you to improve your pronunciation skills. Learning a language is like learning to play piano or a sport. You can only get better by practicing.
- ❖ **Preparedness, Collaboration & Participation:** In order to be successful in this class, you should:
 1. Attend every class.
 2. Come to class and be ready to start on time
 3. Do assigned homework before you come to class.
 4. Bring your textbook to every class.
 5. Be actively engaged in what is going in class, e.g. not checking your cell phone, going on social media, surfing the internet, working, etc.
 6. Work willingly and cooperatively with your classmates in pairs and groups.
 7. Take responsibility for your own learning process.
 8. Ask for help if you are not doing well in class (don't wait until the last minute!).
- ❖ **Homework (HW):** There are three types of homework you need to do for this class:
 1. **Textbook exercises:** Some of the exercises in the textbook must be done at home. They are often not graded, but they will be related to in-class activities so please be sure to do your homework. If you don't do the homework before coming to class or participate in class activities, it will result in slower improvement and affect your homework/participation grade.

2. **Tracking Logs:** Tracking assignments are designed to help you track your progress over time. You will do exercises multiple times and then evaluate your progress. These are skills that you can continue to use even when the quarter is over.
 - a. **Pronunciation Power:** One of the tracking logs will require the use of a software program called Pronunciation Power, to which the school will give you access for free. I will give more information later.
 3. **Contact Assignment:** In order to practice your pronunciation with real people, you will be required to participate in five workshops at the Listening and Speaking Center (LSC), The Writing and Reading Center (WRC) or in Cross Cultural Partners (CCP) Program (you will have to meet with your partner for five hours). You must keep a log as you attend the workshops.
- ❖ **Recorded Assignments:** You will be required to submit recorded assignments that will be evaluated for your pronunciation. I do accept late assignments without penalty until the late due date. After the late due date (usually 7 days past the assignment date) I will not accept assignments.
 - ❖ **Quizzes:** You will have a few short quizzes throughout the quarter. I do not accept late quizzes, but I will drop the lowest grade.
 - ❖ **Exams:** There will be one midterm and one final exam. A part of each exam will be to record your own pronunciation and submit it for evaluation. You must take the final to pass the class.

Make-up Assignments: There are **NO** make-up homework assignments, quizzes, exams, or presentations unless you have an emergency that can be documented, e.g. a receipt from your doctor's office.

GRADING CRITERIA:

Recordings	40%
Homework	15%
Participation	5%
Quizzes	10%
Midterm Exam	15%
Final Exam	15%

GRADING SCALE:

A: Excellent = 90%--100%	D: Less than Satisfactory= 60%--69%
B: Good = 80%--89%	F: Failing = 59% and below
C: Satisfactory = 70%--79%	

ACADEMIC HONESTY

Except for pair and group assignments, all assignments must be done alone and by you only. Any form of cheating will NOT be tolerated in any case. Cheating includes, but is not limited to:

- Copying from another student's homework, quiz, exam or any other material.
- Having someone else do your assignment and submitting it as your own.
- Submitting an assignment that you've done for another class.

Any student caught cheating will receive an **automatic 0** for the assignment and may even be dropped from the course and/or reported to the Office of Student Development. If reported, the incident may remain as part of your permanent college record. Students who help someone else cheat in any way will also receive an automatic 0 and may also be reported. Go to [De Anza College's Academic Integrity](#) for more information.

CLASSROOM ENVIRONMENT

Please be respectful of everyone and help create a comfortable environment for learning. Put away your phone and talk only when it is your turn. Anyone being distracting or disruptive will be asked to leave the class and reported to the Office of Student Development.

IMPORTANT DATES

❖ Sunday, April 20	Last day to add classes
❖ Sunday, April 20	Last day to drop without a W
❖ May 24-26	Memorial Day Holiday
❖ Friday, May 30	Last day to drop classes with a W
❖ June 19	Juneteenth Holiday
❖ Thursday, June 26	Final Exam 9:15 to 11:15am

OFFICE HOURS

Most successful students see their teachers outside their class to ask questions or get extra help on their assignments. I have set up weekly office hours in person, so I strongly encourage you to visit me at least once during the quarter, even just to say hello. If you're having any difficulty, come see me early in the quarter.

I am looking forward to getting to know each of you and helping you improve your English skills. If you have **ANY** questions or problems, please send a message via the Canvas inbox, see me during my office hours, or make an appointment. I will do my best to help you enjoy and succeed in this class!! 😊

RECOMMENDED ESL RESOURCES

DE ANZA RESOURCES

1. English Conversation Workshops and tutoring at the [Listening and Speaking Center](#)
2. [Cross-Cultural Partners](#) (CCP) Program in which you become friends and practice English with a fellow De Anza student who is a native or near native speaker.
3. [Guide to De Anza College's Student Services](#)
4. Any student who feels they may need an accommodation based on the impact of a physical or learning disability should contact me privately to discuss your specific needs and apply for the [Disability Support Services \(DSS\)](#) for support.

ONLINE RESOURCES

1. [Rachel's English](#) Free video lessons on a variety of American English pronunciation features.
2. [Randall's ESL Cyber ESL Lab](#) Many activities to practice your listening and speaking skills for everyday conversations that range from easy to difficult. Click on "First Time Users" to learn how to use the site.
3. [TED Talks](#) Influential videos from expert speakers from a variety of fields. You can practice your listening comprehension skills as well as see what good public speaking skills look like.
4. [NPR](#) (or any news organizations) Listen and watch videos to learn about current world events and improve your listening skills.

DICTIONARIES (PLEASE DO NOT USE A TRANSLATION DICTIONARY IN CLASS OR FOR HOMEWORK.)

1. [Longman Advanced American Dictionary](#) An excellent dictionary for English language learners that gives definitions as well as pronunciation. The app costs money, so use the website.
2. [Cambridge Dictionary](#) This one uses almost the same pronunciation symbols as the textbook.
3. [Merriam Webster Learners Dictionary](#) This is an easier version of Merriam Webster for English language learners.

WRITING EMAILS

The best way to get in touch with me is via Canvas Inbox. I will check my Inbox daily from Monday through Friday and I will do my best to respond to you within 24 hours. Emails sent after 5:00 PM on Friday will be replied on Monday. Please check your email often because I will send important messages via email, especially since the class is fully online.

Even though writing emails may seem less formal than academic writing, it is very important to write a grammatically correct and appropriately formatted email at work or school to make a good impression. If you don't, you can make a bad impression and even offend the receiver.

1. Write something short in the subject line to describe the main purpose of the email. For example, you can write *I'll be absent, Homework, Can I make an appointment?*

2. Always include a greeting and a comma. For example, *Dear Ms. Himes* or *Hi, Gretchen*. It is not polite to address your instructor only by their last name, e.g. *Dear Himes*.
3. Introduce yourself. For example, "This is John Smith from your ESL 260B class." Remember that your instructor has many students and some students have the same name. Also, some of you have an email address in a foreign language, so don't assume that your instructor can read it.
4. Grammar and spelling are also very important. If your email has a lot of errors, it will seem careless and can even offend the receiver (because you didn't care enough to correct your errors).
5. Always end your email with a complimentary closing with your name. For example, *Thanks* or *Thank you*.

To: himesgretchen@deanza.edu
Subject: Office hours
<p>Hi Gretchen,</p> <p>This is Wendy Nguyen from your ESL 260B.01/460B.01 class. I would like some help on the Chapter 2 homework. Can I see you during your office hours tomorrow at 11:45am to ask you questions?</p> <p>Thanks,</p> <p>Wendy</p>

Adapted from Pati Carobus' course packet.