CENTRAL TEXAS COLLEGE
SYLLABUS FOR DSLA 0340
ACCENT REDUCTION (ESL)

Semester Hours Credit: 3
(Not Transferable)

INSTRUCTOR: _____

OFFICE HOURS: _____

I. INTRODUCTION

A. This course is designed for non-native speakers of English who, despite knowledge of English, experience difficulty in pronouncing words and phrases correctly. It consists of exercises to shape and articulate correct consonant and vowel sounds in words and linked phrases using English rhythm, intonation, and pitch patterns. This course will not result in accent-free speech, but it will improve the speaker's clarity and phrasing so that English speakers will more readily understand the non-native speaker.

B. This course is designed for intermediate to advanced English speakers who wish to improve the clarity of their speaking.

C. N/A

D. Prerequisites: Enrollment in, completion of, or exemption from Level 2 or 3 in the English as a Second Language Program. A degree of fluency is required.

II. COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES

Upon successful completion of this course, the student will be able to utilize a phonic system, detailing lip and tongue articulation to speak more clearly; articulate vowel and consonant sounds effectively; and apply intonation, rhythm, and pitch patterns to connected speech for a more natural sound.

III. INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS FOR STUDENT

The instructional materials identified for this course are viewable through http://www.ctcd.edu/books

IV. COURSE REQUIREMENTS

A. Take-home drills

Your instructor will assign specific drills that must be practiced several times a day. Weekly dictations and oral checks will be given on assignments. The teacher will grade some dictation and oral exercises.

B. Lab

There is no lab for this course.

C. Class Performance

1. Assignments

   Hand in all assignments on time. Your teacher may reduce late assignments by one (1) letter grade for each late day.

2. Examinations

   a. Be present for all examinations. All missed exams must be cleared **BEFORE** the exam. If you have an emergency, you must have a doctor's note or a note that it has been cleared through the Director of International Student Services or site personnel in an equivalent position. Otherwise, you will receive a zero.

   b. If you are late for a major exam, announced quiz, or a major presentation, you will lose 10 pts. for that grade. If you are more than 15 minutes late for a test, you will not be allowed to take the exam and a make-up exam will be scheduled for you.

   c. All make-up exams will be given on one day that will be determined by the department.

   d. Cheating or any form of dishonesty will result in a zero on the exam and possible dismissal from school. Any incidents of cheating will go on your permanent school record. **All electronic devices such as cell phones and iPADs must be turned off and put away out of sight while student is taking a test.**

   e. Try not to speak in your native language. Speak English as much as possible within the classroom.

D. Class Participation:

1. Attendance: Unlike some other schools, CTC requires that you attend class. The CTC Catalog states that you may be administratively withdrawn from any class when your absences exceed a total of 4 class/ meetings in the spring and fall semesters and 3 class/meetings in the summer.

   Students entering the classroom after class begins, leaving during class, or leaving before the class ends, disrupt the educational process. For this reason, instructors may choose to lower the student's grade for being tardy and/or leaving early an excessive number of times.

2. Length of class: Class begins on **August 24, 2015**. It ends on **December 3, 2015.** If you arrive late or leave class early, it will count against you as an absence unless it's an emergency and it has been verified with the Director of International Student Services on Central Campus or some pre-designated authority at another site. It is your responsibility to know the dates of class and to be in attendance.

V. EXAMINATIONS

A. There will be two major exams given: a midterm (which includes written, dictation, and an oral assessment) and a final (which includes dictation and an oral assessment).

B. There will be a minimum of 3oral checks and 3 dictations.

C. The final exam will be given on **the last day of class** (which includes the dictation and oral assessments). You are required to be here at that time. You may not take your exam early unless you are 1) being deployed overseas or 2) moving out of the area and not coming back. This is a departmental policy. Emergencies may be cleared with your instructor who will make arrangements for you to take your exam at a later date.

VI. SEMESTER GRADE COMPUTATIONS

You will be contracting for your grade in this course. Listed below are the requirements you must complete to make an A, B, C, or N (No-pass) in this course. Since this course focuses on oral skills which must be developed and assessed in class, attendance is extremely important and plays a major role in your grade.

Attendance	20%
Group dialogues	10%
Oral Checks	20%
Midterm Exam	20%
Final Exam	30%
	100%

The following grades will be assigned:

90-100	A	Superior
80-89	B	Above Average
70-79	C	Average
below 70	N	Needs to raise performance to acceptable level
	X (N)	Unacceptable performance due to poor attendance or incomplete activities
	W	Withdrawal from course (by student)

VII NOTES AND ADDITIONAL INSTRUCTIONS FROM THE INSTRUCTOR

A. Course Withdrawal: It is the student's responsibility to officially withdraw from a course if circumstances prevent attendance. Any student who must or desires to officially withdraw from a course after the first scheduled class meeting must file a Central Texas College Application for Withdrawal (CTC Form59). The withdrawal form must be signed by the student.

CTC Form 59 will be accepted at any time prior to Friday for the 12th week of classes during the 16-week fall and spring semesters. The deadline for sessions of other lengths is

10-week session	Friday of the 7th week
8-week session	Friday of the 6th week
6-week session	Friday of the 4th week
5-week session	Friday of the 3rd week

A student who officially withdraws will be awarded the grade of "W" provided the student's attendance and academic performance are satisfactory at the time of official withdrawal. Students must file a withdrawal application with the College before they may be considered for withdrawal.

A student may not withdraw from a class for which the instructor has previously issued the student a grade of "N" or "XN" for nonattendance.

If you have been place in a DSLA course due to the CELT, THEA, TOEFL, or other college placement tests, and you are taking other college-level courses, you will not be allowed to withdraw from the developmental course. Also, even though you may pass the THEA or TOEFL during the semester, you must remain in the developmental course for the remaining semester. If you withdraw under these conditions, the college may totally withdraw you from the program.

B. Administrative Withdrawal: An administrative withdrawal may be initiated when the student fails to meet College attendance requirements. The instructor will assign the appropriate grade on CTC Form 59 for submission to the registrar.

C. Incomplete Grade: The College catalog states, an incomplete grade may be given in those cases where the student has completed the majority of the coursework but, because of personal illness, death in the immediate family, or military orders, the student is unable to complete the requirements for a course. Prior approval from the instructor is required before the grade of XN (Incomplete) is recorded.

D. Cellular Phones, Beepers, and Children: Cellular phones and beepers will be turned off while the student is in the classroom or laboratory. Children are not allowed to sit in class due to the liability issue.

E. Americans With Disabilities Act (ADA): The Disability Support Services Program provides services to students who have appropriate documentation of a disability. Students requiring accommodations for class are responsible for contacting the Office of Disability Support Services (DSS) located on the central campus. This service is available to all students, regardless of location. Review the website at www.ctcd.edu/disability-support for further information. Reasonable accommodations will be given in accordance with federal and state laws through the DSS office.

F. Instructor Discretion: The instructor reserves the right of final decision in course requirements.

G. Civility: Individuals are expected to behave in the classroom with politeness courtesy, and respect toward the instructor and other students in the room. Failure to act with civility can result in disciplinary action up to and including expulsion from CTC.

VIII. COURSE OUTLINE

A. Unit One: *Elements of Getting the Correct Sound*

1. Learning Outcomes:

- Given background information on sound formation, list the 5 long and short vowels that influence correct pronunciation.
- Given readings that emphasize the major vowels in paragraph context, enunciate these sounds clearly.

2. Learning Activities

a. Read a children's book to class as a diagnostic tool
b. Enunciate Ys, Es, and As in initial and final positions through drill

3. Equipment and Materials

a. Instructor prepared handouts
b. Hand mirrors

4. Audio-Visual Materials

a. American Accent Guide CDs
b. SpeechMasters DVDs

5. Sample Lesson Outline

Class	Skill	Materials
1	Overview of speech, Facial exercises, Y-E-A	Text, 1.1-1.10, DVD 1: *Tonal Action, CD 1*

B. Unit Two: *Neutral Vowels, Regular Vowels, and Consonants*

1. Learning Outcomes:

- Given a list of 20 words emphasizing short/long vowel sounds, and specific single consonant sounds, pronounce each word correctly with 70% accuracy.

- Given 20 words through spoken dictation, correctly write each word with 70% accuracy.

- Given one paragraph with 15-20 words with troublesome sounds, read the paragraph with 70% accuracy.

2. Learning Activities

a. Distinguish between neutral and parent vowels
b. Form stretch vowels
c. Form voiced and unvoiced cognates
d. Form continuant consonants
e. Form sibilant consonants
f. Distinguish between sustained sounds and unsustained vowels in intonation
g. Stretch key muscles and form correct shapes with mouth, lips, and cheek muscles

3. Equipment and Materials

a. Instructor prepared handouts
b. Hand mirrors

4. Audio-Visual Materials

a. American Accent Guide CDs
b. SpeechMasters DVDs

1. Sample Lesson Outline

Class	Skill	Materials
2	Alphabet, Long vowels	Text, 2.25 – 2.29, CD 2
3	Short vowel sounds, Schwa sound	Text 2.4-2.9, CD 2 Videos: *Structural Action and Neutral Vowels*
4	Miscue Analysis/diagnostic	Children's book
5	Miscue Analysis/diagnostic	Children's book
6	Voiceless Consonants: Stopped	Text, 5.4, CD 5, Video: *Consonant Action*
7	Voiceless Consonants: Continuant	Text, 5.5.18, 5.26, CD 5, Video: *Consonant Action*
8	Voiceless Consonants: Sibilant	Text, 5.4, CD 5, Video: *Consonant Action*
9	Three Phonics Rules: VC, CV, CVC	Handouts
10	Two Phonics rules: CVCE, CVVC	Handouts
11	Review	Handouts
12	Midterm Exam	Exam

C. Unit Three: *Diphthongs, Blends, Digraphs, Reductions, Contractions, and Stressed and Unstressed Syllables*

1. Learning Outcomes:

- Given a list of 20 words emphasizing diphthongs, blends, digraphs, reductions, contractions, and stressed and unstressed syllables, pronounce each word correctly with 70% accuracy.

- Given 20 words through spoken dictation, correctly write each word with 70% accuracy.

- Given one paragraph with 15-20 words with troublesome sounds, read the paragraph with 70% accuracy.

2. Learning Activities

a. Distinguish between soft and hard c and soft and hard g
b. Recognize and pronounce voiced syllables with no cognates
c. Form consonant blends
d. Form digraphs
e. Practice intonation in tag questions, lists, emotions
f. Practice step and glide inflections
g. Recognize and pronounce sounded and unsounded *ed* syllables

h. Pronounce correct final *s* sounds
i. Practice final *ng*
k. Connect sounds in reductions and contractions

3. Equipment and Materials

a. Instructor prepared handouts
b. Hand mirrors

4. Audio-Visual Materials

a. American Accent Guide CDs
b. SpeechMasters DVDs

5. Continued Sample Lesson Outline

Class	Skill	Materials
13	Remaining Voiced Consonants	Text, 7.8 – 7.21, CD 7
14	Remaining Voiced Consonants	Text, 7.8 – 7.21, CD 7
15	Blends and Digraphs	Text, 7.1-7.18, CD 7 Video 5: *More Consonant Action* XX
16	*Sh/ch/s* and *ph/p*	Text, 6.3, CD 6 Handouts Video 5: *More Consonant Action* XX
17	*r/l* and *v/w*	Text, 7.1-7.2 and 7.15-7.16, CD 7, Video: *Consonant Action*
18	Dipthongs: *aw, ow, oi*	Text, 2.25-2.32, CD 2, Videos: *Structural Action and Neutral Vowels*
19	Review games	Handouts
20	Sounded/unsounded *–ed* and suffixes *tial, cial*	Text, 5.11-5.12, CD 6, DVD 5: *More Consonant Action*
21	Rhythm/Intonation	Text, 4.1-4.14, CD 4
22	Diphthongs *long oo* and *short oo*	Text, 2.18-2.22, CD 2, DVDs: *Structural Action and Neutral Vowels*
23	Final *s*	Text, 6.8-6.9, CD 6,
24	Reductions/contractions	Text, 4.15-4.20 and 4.20-4.28, CD 4
25	-ng	Text 7.22-7.24, , CD 6
26	Review	Handouts
27	Review	Handouts
28	Final Dictation and Oral	Exam (Departmental Final)