

**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, you 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.

8/31/09

III. INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS FOR STUDENT

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

IV. COURSE REQUIREMENTS

- A. Take-home drills
Your instructor will assign specific drills that must be performed 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
Complete all your assignments on time. Your teacher may reduce late assignments by one (1) letter grade for each late day. Since all exams are oral, you must be present for all examinations. If you have an emergency, you must have a doctor's note or a note that has been cleared through the Director of International Student Services on Central Campus or some predesignated authority at another site. Otherwise, you will receive a zero for that test grade. You are also expected to keep a notebook listing words that are troublesome. Also, you are expected to speak only in English within the class.
- D. Class Participation:
 - 1. Attendance: Unlike schools in other countries, 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. The final decision rests with the instructor. Your instructor may choose to lower your grade or recommend disciplinary action for excessive tardiness
 - 2. Length of class: Class begins on **August 31, 2009**. It ends on **December 10, 2009**. If you arrive late or leave class early, it will count as a tardy/absence unless it's an emergency and it has been verified with the

Director of International Student Services on Central Campus or some predesignated authority at another site. It is your responsibility to know the dates of class and to be here.

V. EXAMINATIONS

- A. There will be two major exams given: a midterm and a final. Both will be oral exams with dictation sections.
- B. There will be a minimum of 6 oral checks and dictations.
- C. The final exam will be given on **December 10, 2009**. 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 late.

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. **Also, your instructor will give you a set of tapes with which to practice during the semester. Those tapes must be returned prior to the final exam in order for you to take your exam. If you have lost the tapes or there is some special circumstance, your instructor will refer you to the Department Chair.**

Attendance	20%	(3 for each day present)
Group dialogues	10%	(Group work and orals checks will drop one
Oral Checks	20%	letter grade on assignment for each day late)
Midterm Exam	20%	
Final Exam	<u>30%</u>	
	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 Form 59). 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 7 th week
8-week session	Friday of the 6 th week
6-week session	Friday of the 4 th week
5-week session	Friday of the 3 rd 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 placed 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): Students requiring accommodations for disabilities are responsible for notifying the instructor. Reasonable accommodations will be granted in full compliance with federal and state law and Central Texas College policy.
- 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 back ground information on sound formation, list 6 major elements that influence correct pronunciation.
 - Given a 3 sentences with the sound of Ys, Es, and As, read each sentence enunciating these sounds clearly.

2. Learning Activities

- a. Read children's book to class as part of miscue analysis
- 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 and Speechmasters videotapes
- b. Tape/CD players

5. Lesson Outline

Class	Skill	Materials
1	Overview of speech, Facial exercises, Y-E-A	Text, pp. 1.0-1.10, Videotape 1: <i>Tonal Action, CD 1</i>

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 and Speechmasters videotapes
- b. Tape/CD players

1. Lesson Outline

Class	Skill	Materials
2	Alphabet, Long vowels	Text, pp. 2.25 – 2.29, CD 2
3	Short vowel sounds, Schwa sound	Text 2.4-2.9, CD 2 Videos: <i>Structural Action and Neutral Vowels</i>
4	Miscue Analysis	Children's book
5	Miscue Analysis	Children's book
6	Voiceless Consonants: Stopped	Text, pp. 5.4, CD 5, Video: <i>Consonant Action</i>
7	Voiceless Consonants: Continuant	Text, pp. 5.5.18, 5.26, CD 5, Video: <i>Consonant Action</i>
8	Voiceless Consonants: Sibilant	Text, pp. 5.4, CD 5, Video: <i>Consonant action</i>
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 tags 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 and Speechmasters videotapes
- b. Tape/CD players

5. Lesson Outline

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