

Noncredit ESL

Noncredit ESL Instruction

The goal of adult education in California is to provide citizens of every age and educational level the opportunity to develop civic responsibility, a realization of the human potential, effective human relationships, and economic self-sufficiency. This broad goal forms the basis for the courses and programs MiraCosta College offers in each of the authorized categories of tuition-free noncredit instruction, including English as a Second Language (ESL).

At MiraCosta College, Noncredit ESL offers students a variety of learning opportunities to achieve proficiency in the English language and attain personal, academic, vocational, and/or civic goals. The program offers citizenship, workplace ESL, conversation, computer and digital literacy, and reading/writing classes, as well as open-entry distance learning classes. Specific information about the program is available on the Noncredit ESL webpage.

Contact Information

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Full-Time Faculty

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Certificates

Certificate of Competency

Beginning Noncredit ESL

This entry-level certificate is designed to help students communicate in everyday life situations they will encounter in the community and at home, school, and work so they can meet their personal, academic, and career goals. Students earn this certificate by successfully completing at least two noncredit beginning-level ESL courses. Students must successfully complete the highest core course and at least one elective course to help them progress through the sequence and transition into intermediate-level courses or employment.

Program Student Learning Outcome Statement

- ▶ Upon completion of the program, students will be able to demonstrate the English language skills needed to communicate in everyday life situations they will encounter at home, at school, at work, and in the community.

Core Courses

Students must earn a passing grade in at least one core 96-108 course from the following list:

NCESL 10	English as a Second Language, Level 1
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NCESL 21	English as a Second Language, Level 2
NCESL 22	English as a Second Language, Level 3 *

Elective Courses

Students must earn a passing grade in at least one 48-108 elective course from the following list:

NCESL 20	Noncredit ESL Conversation Skills for Beginning Students
NCESL 23	Reading and Writing for Beginning Level Students
NCESL 81	Basic Computers and Digital Literacy (BCDL) for ESL Students (Beginning Level)

Total Hours **144-216**

* Students must complete the highest core course in order to earn this certificate.

Certificate of Competency

Intermediate Noncredit ESL

This intermediate-level certificate is designed to help students build on their abilities to communicate in English and to progress through the noncredit ESL program. Students earn this certificate by successfully completing at least two noncredit intermediate-level ESL courses. Students must successfully complete the highest core course and at least one elective course to help them progress through the sequence and transition into advanced-level courses or employment.

Program Student Learning Outcome Statement

- ▶ Upon completion of the program, students will be able to demonstrate the English skills necessary to successfully progress through the program to the advanced levels.

Core Courses

Students must earn a passing grade in at least one core 96-108 course from the following list:

NCESL 31	English as a Second Language, Level 4
NCESL 32	English as a Second Language, Level 5 *

Elective Courses

Students must earn a passing grade in at least one 48-108 elective course from the following list:

NCESL 30	Noncredit ESL Conversation Skills for Intermediate Students
NCESL 33	Reading and Writing for Intermediate Level Students
NCESL 62A	Workplace English as a Second Language (Intermediate)
NCESL 65	English as a Second Language, Citizenship **
NCESL 81	Basic Computers and Digital Literacy (BCDL) for ESL Students (Beginning Level)

Noncredit ESL

NCESL 82	Computers and Digital Literacy (CDL) for ESL Students (Intermediate/Advanced Level)
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Total Hours **144-216**

* Students must complete the highest core course in order to earn this certificate.

*Students may earn a passing grade in this course by completing a minimum of 48 hours.

Certificate of Competency

Advanced Noncredit ESL

This advanced-level certificate is designed to help students build on their abilities to communicate in English and to progress through the noncredit ESL program. Students earn this certificate by successfully completing at least two noncredit advanced-level ESL courses. Students must successfully complete the highest core course and at least one elective course to help them progress through the sequence and transition into Adult High School/GED courses, credit courses, or employment.

Student Program Learning Outcome Statement

- ▶ Upon completion of the program, students will be able to demonstrate the English skills necessary to successfully transition to ABE/Adult High School/GED, credit classes, or employment.

Core Courses

Students must earn a passing grade in at least one core 96-108 course from the following list:

NCESL 40	English as a Second Language, Level 6
NCESL 45	English as a Second Language, Level 7

Elective Courses

Students must earn a passing grade in at least one 48-108 elective course from the following list:

NCESL 30	Noncredit ESL Conversation Skills for Intermediate Students
NCESL 33	Reading and Writing for Intermediate Level Students
NCESL 62A	Workplace English as a Second Language (Intermediate)
NCESL 62C	Bridge to College and Career ESL (Advanced)
NCESL 65	English as a Second Language, Citizenship **
NCESL 82	Computers and Digital Literacy (CDL) for ESL Students (Intermediate/Advanced Level)

Total Hours **144-216**

* Students must complete the highest core course in order to earn this certificate.

*Students may earn a passing grade in this course by completing a minimum of 48 hours.

Courses

NCESL 10: English as a Second Language, Level 1

Prerequisites: None

Lecture 6 hours.

Course Typically Offered: Fall, Spring

Level 1 ESL is designed for students with little or no previous background in English. Non-literate or students with extremely low English skills are placed at this level. This integrated skills course provides students instruction in speaking, listening, reading, and writing English.

NCESL 15: Multilevel Beginning English as a Second Language

Prerequisites: None

Lecture 4.25 hours.

Course Typically Offered: Fall, Spring, and Summer

This beginning multilevel course is designed for students with little ability in English. It focuses on the speaking and understanding necessary to satisfy routine social demands and limited work requirements. Students in this level learn to comprehend high-frequency words in context, use learned phrases and sentences to communicate needs, and read and write simplified materials.

NCESL 20: Noncredit ESL Conversation Skills for Beginning Students

Prerequisites: None

Lecture 3 hours.

Course Typically Offered: Fall, Spring, and Summer

This course promotes listening comprehension and provides conversation practice. Students acquire the skills needed to have basic conversations with native speakers of English. Instruction focuses on beginning-level speaking and listening skills appropriate for conversational English.

NCESL 21: English as a Second Language, Level 2

Prerequisites: None

Lecture 6 hours.

Course Typically Offered: Fall, Spring, and Summer

This course is designed for students with very little ability in English. It focuses on the speaking and understanding necessary to satisfy routine social demands and limited work requirements. Students in this level learn to comprehend high-frequency words in context, use learned phrases and sentences to communicate needs, and read and write simplified materials.

NCESL 22: English as a Second Language, Level 3

Prerequisites: None

Lecture 6 hours.

Course Typically Offered: Fall, Spring, and Summer

Level 3 ESL focuses on further development of the oral language skills and vocabulary required in day-to-day situations. Additionally, this course assists students to aurally comprehend conversations in routine situations, read and write simplified materials, and have control of basic grammar.

NCESL 23: Reading and Writing for Beginning Level Students

Prerequisites: None

Lecture 3 hours.

Course Typically Offered: Fall, Spring

This course focuses on the reading and writing skills beginning-level learners need in order to learn vocabulary and produce simple and compound sentences and basic paragraphs.

NCESL 25: Multilevel Beginning-Intermediate English as a Second Language

Prerequisites: None

Lecture 4.25 hours.

Course Typically Offered: Fall, Spring, and Summer

This multilevel beginning-intermediate course focuses on further development of the oral language skills and vocabulary required in day-to-day situations. Additionally, this course assists students to aurally comprehend conversations in routine situations, read and write simplified materials, and have control of basic grammar.

NCESL 29: Listening and Speaking for Non-Native Speakers of English

Prerequisites: None

Lecture 3 hours.

Course Typically Offered: Fall or Spring

This course emphasizes the development of aural and oral competence in standard American English through listening to and participating in a variety of communicative activities. It offers instruction and practice in listening and speaking skills to develop students' ability to understand and participate in conversations, discussions, and other interpersonal communication in academic, work-related, and social contexts. Practical applications include participating in small group discussions, working on individual pronunciation and intonation variations, and developing academic note taking competence.

NCESL 30: Noncredit ESL Conversation Skills for Intermediate Students

Prerequisites: None

Lecture 3 hours.

Course Typically Offered: Fall, Spring, and Summer

This course promotes more advanced listening comprehension and conversation practice. Students acquire the skills needed to have conversations beyond basic survival needs with native speakers of English. Instruction focuses on authentic communication practice for home, work, community, and educational needs.

NCESL 31: English as a Second Language, Level 4

Prerequisites: None

Lecture 6 hours.

Course Typically Offered: Fall, Spring, and Summer

Level 4 ESL assists students to expand their listening and speaking skills in face-to-face conversations, read and interpret narrative and descriptive passages on familiar and some unfamiliar topics, and write simple routine correspondence and short paragraphs. Instruction focuses on the refinement of skills needed in conversations beyond students' survival needs. Students begin to monitor themselves on basic grammatical structures.

NCESL 32: English as a Second Language, Level 5

Prerequisites: None

Lecture 6 hours.

Course Typically Offered: Fall, Spring, and Summer

Level 5 ESL focuses on further development of the oral language skills and vocabulary required in day-to-day situations.

Additionally, this course assists students to aurally comprehend and participate in routine conversations, read and write simplified materials, and have control of basic grammar.

NCESL 33: Reading and Writing for Intermediate Level Students

Prerequisites: None

Lecture 3 hours.

Course Typically Offered: Fall, Spring, and Summer

This course focuses on the reading and writing skills intermediate-level learners need in order to do process writing and self/peer editing at the paragraph level.

NCESL 35: Multilevel Intermediate-Advanced English as a Second Language

Prerequisites: None

Lecture 4.25 hours.

Course Typically Offered: Fall, Spring, and Summer

This multilevel intermediate-advanced course assists students in gaining skills that enable them to use English to meet social, academic, and vocational demands. The course supports students' language development in the skills areas of listening, speaking, reading, writing, and vocabulary so that students have the ability to comprehend and participate in routine conversations and written correspondence.

NCESL 39: Reading and Vocabulary Development for Non-Native Speakers of English

Prerequisites: None

Lecture 3 hours.

Course Typically Offered: Fall or Spring

This course is designed for non-native speakers who are making the transition to the use of academic English and who require the development of reading and vocabulary skills needed for academic and workplace success. Students read a variety of texts and apply appropriate reading strategies as well as participate in activities to advance vocabulary and facilitate comprehension. Offered pass/no pass only.

NCESL 40: English as a Second Language, Level 6

Prerequisites: None

Lecture 6 hours.

Course Typically Offered: Fall, Spring, and Summer

Level 6 ESL stresses the refinement and expansion of language skills that enable students to use English to meet social, academic, and vocational demands effectively. Listening skill development focuses on the comprehension of abstract topics in familiar context. Speaking skill development focuses on participation in casual and extended conversations. Reading skills development focuses on reading authentic materials. Writing skill development focuses on the formal development of the writing process.

Noncredit ESL

NCESL 45: English as a Second Language, Level 7

Prerequisites: None

Lecture 6 hours.

Course Typically Offered: Fall, Spring, and Summer

Level 7 ESL prepares noncredit ESL students to enroll in credit academic and/or vocational courses. This course emphasizes fluency and communication by integrating language functions and forms with appropriate information sources skills and topics. The course promotes the continued development of reading skills and writing skills through the writing process.

NCESL 49: Grammar for Non-Native Speakers of English

Prerequisites: None

Lecture 3 hours.

Course Typically Offered: Fall or Spring

This course reviews basic grammar for non-native speakers of American English and emphasizes standard usage. Topics include parts of speech, clauses, verb forms and tenses, noun usage, mechanics, punctuation, and sentence types. This course is designed for non-native speakers who are making the transition to the use of academic English and who require the development of grammatical skills for educational and workplace success.

NCESL 50: English as a Second Language, Learning Lab

Prerequisites: None

Lecture 6 hours.

Course Typically Offered: Fall, Spring, and Summer

This course is designed for students at any of the seven levels of noncredit ESL instruction who want to improve their listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills in small groups or individually based on their assessed proficiency level.

NCESL 53: Advanced Grammar for Writing for Non-Native Speakers of English

Prerequisites: None

Lecture 3 hours.

Course Typically Offered: Fall, Spring

This course provides instruction and practice in the more complex elements of English grammar and usage in writing for non-native speakers of American English. By developing and refining grammatical skills, students learn to express complex ideas and create engaging, structurally sophisticated sentences in written English. Completion of this course enhances student success in college courses, particularly ENGL 100.

NCESL 55: Introduction to Academic Writing for Students from Multilingual Backgrounds

Prerequisites: None

Lecture 3.50 hours, laboratory 1.50 hours.

Course Typically Offered: Fall, Spring, and Summer

This course is designed for students from diverse language backgrounds who are making a transition to the use of academic English and who require the development of writing skills. The course emphasizes critical thinking, reading, and writing. It provides practice in gathering, organizing, and communicating information and in applying the principles and conventions of standard edited American English.

NCESL 57: Introduction to College Composition for Students from Multilingual Backgrounds

Prerequisites: None

Lecture 3.50 hours, laboratory 1.50 hours.

Course Typically Offered: Fall, Spring, and Summer

This course, designed for students from diverse language backgrounds, offers intensive practice in the writing process, critical reading, and critical thinking. It also provides practice in acquiring, synthesizing, and communicating information and in applying the principles and conventions of standard edited American English. The course focuses on integrating the acquisition of the English language, with emphasis on writing skills, through the lens of the student's own heritage, cultural identity, and unique experiences.

NCESL 62A: Workplace English as a Second Language (Intermediate)

Prerequisites: None

Lecture 3 hours.

Course Typically Offered: Fall or Spring

This course prepares students at the low-intermediate to high-intermediate levels of non-credit ESL for a vocational program or career. Through English instruction for employment and academic skills needed to select a career and technical program, students develop English skills for workplace communication and job-search skills for entry-level job positions. This course also emphasizes the cross-cultural skills needed to function effectively in the workplace.

NCESL 62B: Workplace ESL (Advanced)

Prerequisites: None

Lecture 6 hours.

Course Typically Offered: Fall, Spring

This course prepares students for a vocational program by providing instruction in the language and academic skills needed to succeed in selected career and technical programs. This course also emphasizes the acquisition of the language and cross-cultural skills needed to function effectively in the workplace. (Formerly NCESL 62).

NCESL 62C: Bridge to College and Career ESL (Advanced)

Prerequisites: None

Lecture 3 hours.

Course Typically Offered: Fall or Spring

This course builds everyday career skills while supporting professional English language use. Students are given the opportunity to gain confidence through listening, speaking, reading, and writing practice that will bridge them to achieving educational and employment goals. Students in this course are strongly encouraged to attend this Bridge to College and Career ESL course in conjunction with career education courses in order for Bridge to College and Career ESL to support the learning progress and additional needs in career education courses. Students will be given the opportunity to discuss questions, concerns, and needs for review of concepts in their career education classes; as well as learn employability skills applicable to job positions in the community.

NCESL 65: English as a Second Language, Citizenship

Prerequisites: None

Lecture 6 hours.

Course Typically Offered: Fall, Spring, and Summer

This course provides intermediate and advanced ESL students with the basic knowledge and information necessary for becoming a United States citizen and a basic understanding of the rights and responsibilities of citizenship. Students study U.S. history and government, basic geography, and culture to prepare for the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services naturalization exam. Students study the process and samples of the required forms to successfully pass the naturalization examination.

NCESL 65A: Citizenship Preparation (Beginner)

Prerequisites: None

Advisory: NCESL 10 or be eligible for NCESL 21.

Lecture 6 hours.

Course Typically Offered: Fall, Spring, and Summer

This first of two citizenship courses prepares beginner ESL students for the US Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) naturalization exam. The course introduces students to the naturalization process and requirements. It focuses on writing simple English sentences, developing fluency in speaking and listening, and producing accurate pronunciation as students study the US system of government and history as well as the rights and responsibilities of US citizenship.

NCESL 65B: Citizenship Preparation (Intermediate - Advanced)

Prerequisites: None

Lecture 6 hours.

Course Typically Offered: Fall, Spring, and Summer

This second of two citizenship courses prepares intermediate/advanced ESL students for the US Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) naturalization exam. Students learn about the naturalization process and requirements, including Form N-400. The course focuses on writing paragraphs with complex sentences, improving English speaking, reading, and writing skills, and understanding the US system of government and history as well as the rights and responsibilities of US citizenship.

NCESL 81: Basic Computers and Digital Literacy (BCDL) for ESL Students (Beginning Level)

Prerequisites: None

Lecture 3 hours.

Course Typically Offered: Fall, Spring, and Summer

This computer class for beginning students in the Noncredit ESL program covers basic vocabulary related to technology and computers, email, word-processing, and presentation software. Students are exposed to keyboard lessons and activities to increase their accuracy. Students develop language skills (listening, speaking, reading, and writing) through individual, pair, and group work.

NCESL 82: Computers and Digital Literacy (CDL) for ESL Students (Intermediate/Advanced Level)

Prerequisites: None

Lecture 3 hours.

Course Typically Offered: Fall, Spring, and Summer

This computer class for intermediate/advanced students in the Noncredit ESL program covers vocabulary related to technology and computers. It also covers topics such as digital literacy, Internet, email, word-processing, presentation software, and spreadsheets. Students develop language skills (listening, speaking, reading, and writing) through individual, pair, and group work.