

Basic Course Information

Semester:	Fall 2025	Instructor Name:	Sacha Sykora
Course Title & #:	ESL 003	Email:	Sacha.sykora@imperial.edu
CRN #:	10148	Zoom ID:	https://imperialedu.zoom.us/j/5956946624
Classroom:	301	Office #:	N/A (Please contact via Pronto messaging)
Class Dates:	August 11-December 6, 2025	Office Hours:	Monday 9-1 p.m. (Zoom)
Class Days:	M	Office Phone #:	PRONTO
Class Times:	6:00-8:30 PM	Emergency Contact:	Lency Lucas;760-355-6337
Units:	5	Class Format/Modality:	Hybrid: F2F/Online

Course Description

ESL 003 is an integrated writing and grammar course designed for ESL students to develop language skills at the low intermediate level. Students will learn to write organized paragraphs on familiar topics. Course will also emphasize increasing vocabulary and grammar knowledge through reading and other activities. This course may be taken concurrently with other ESL Level 3 courses. Successful completion of this course will prepare students for ESL 004. (CEFR A2) (Nontransferable, nondegree applicable)

Course Prerequisite(s) and/or Corequisite(s)

RECOMMENDED PREPARATION: - ESL 890 and ESL 891, or placement through an approved multiple-measure process, including an appropriate score on an approved ESL placement test. **RECOMMENDED COMPANION COURSE:** ESL 013 and ESL 023

Student Learning Outcomes

Upon course completion, the successful student will have acquired new skills, knowledge, and or attitudes as demonstrated by being able to:

1. Write sentences in English with correct subject/verb agreement.
2. Correctly form and use verbs in a variety of tenses.
3. Demonstrate knowledge of, and ability to use, correct punctuation and mechanics.

Course Objectives



Upon satisfactory completion of the course, students will be able to:

1. Write and edit sentences and paragraphs on familiar topics
2. Develop content, organization, and coherence to communicate effectively in written work.
3. Produce a series of simple phrases and sentences linked with simple connectors like “and”, “but” and “because”
4. Describe plans and arrangements, habits and routines, past activities and personal experiences
5. Use simple descriptive language to make statements about and compare objects and possessions, and to express likes and dislikes, and preferences
6. Demonstrate knowledge and use of vocabulary to deal with concrete and everyday needs.

Textbooks & Other Resources or Links

Required:

- Notebook, pen, and highlighters to take notes.
- Regular access to a computer (for online work)
- A stable internet connection to access and use Canvas, email, and Microsoft Word or Google Docs

***Note:** We will be using technology in this course. Assignments, quizzes, and discussions may be held or submitted on Canvas. Additionally, you may be asked to download, upload, and/or print resources.

Course Requirements and Instructional Methods

This is a HYBRID course. We will meet face-to-face on campus AND you will do work online. In-person class meetings (once a week on Mondays) are required.”

Communicate in English in class.

This course is designed to help you improve your speaking and listening skills in English. If you do not practice using English or do not use English to communicate in class with your teacher and your classmate, your progress will be slower.

You may be expected to speak in English in the following contexts:

- (1) with a partner.
- (2) in a small group.
- (3) in a formal presentation in front of the class.
- (4) with your teacher;
- (5) in recorded, online assignments.

(6) with strangers in out-of-class assignments.

You will also listen to audio clips and watch videos and will be expected to discuss and write about the content in English. We will do a variety of activities in class. Sometimes there will be lectures and you will need to take notes (and ask questions!). Sometimes you will do individual writings and exercises, and sometimes you will do pair/group writings and exercises. You will also take tests throughout the term.

Success: Since this is a five-hour class, you are expected to study or engage in other learning activities for an additional ten hours each week.

Acquiring another language requires focused effort. Sitting in class is simply not sufficient for you to succeed. You must study, speak, read, and listen to English as much as you possibly can outside of class. College guidelines suggest that you study two hours for every hour of class. Since this is a five-hour class, this would mean that you are expected to study or participate in some other learning activity for an additional ten hours every week.

Out of Class Assignments: The Department of Education policy states that one (1) credit hour is the amount of student work that reasonably approximates not less than one hour of class time and two (2) hours of out-of-class time per week over the span of a semester. WASC has adopted a similar requirement.

Canvas/online assignments/modules are due each week on Sunday, by 11:59 pm.

Course Grading Based on Course Objectives

Class Participation 10%

Online Homework 20%

Quizzes/Exams 20%

Writing assignments 30%

Mid-Term Project 10%

Final Presentation 10%

Class participation includes any activities that are completed and turned in during class time as well as your participation in class discussions. These activities are worth 10% of your grade. **Online homework and quizzes** will be done mostly outside of class and are also worth 20% of your grade, each. In addition, you will have short writing assignments that are worth 30%, and 2 major projects, **a midterm and final project** that are both worth 10% each.

Each assignment, quiz, presentation, etc., will have a number of points assigned to it. Your total points will determine the grade you get for that assignment and how much it contributes to the total percentage of the grade.

See the grading scale below for letter grades:

A 100-90

B 89-80

C 79-70

Updated 11/2024



Late assignments:

- You can turn in homework and writing assignments **up to 1 week late; points will be deducted for each day it is late**
- Quizzes/exams; You can make up only 1 throughout the semester; please plan accordingly if you need to be absent for any reason

Academic Honesty (Artificial Intelligence -AI)

IVC values critical thinking and communication skills and considers academic integrity essential to learning. Using AI tools as a replacement for your own thinking, writing, or quantitative reasoning goes against both our mission and academic honesty policy and will be considered academic dishonesty, or plagiarism unless you have been instructed to do so by your instructor. In case of any uncertainty regarding the ethical use of AI tools, students are encouraged to reach out to their instructors for clarification.

Accessibility Statement

Imperial Valley College is committed to providing an accessible learning experience for all students, regardless of course modality. Every effort has been made to ensure that this course complies with all state and federal accessibility regulations, including Section 508 of the Rehabilitation Act, the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), and Title 5 of the California Code of Regulations. However, if you encounter any content that is not accessible, please contact your instructor or the area dean for assistance. If you have specific accommodations through **DSPS**, contact them for additional assistance.

We are here to support you and ensure that you have equal access to all course materials.

Course Policies

Attendance

- A student who fails to attend the first meeting of a class or does not complete the first mandatory activity of an online class will be dropped by the instructor as of the first official meeting of that class. Should readmission be desired, the student's status will be the same as that of any other student who desires to add a class. It is the student's responsibility to drop or officially withdraw from the class. See General Catalog for details. Regular attendance in all classes is expected of all students

Classroom Etiquette

- Electronic Devices: Cell phones and electronic devices must be turned off and put away during class, unless otherwise directed by the instructor.
- Food and Drink are prohibited in all classrooms. Water bottles with lids/caps are the only exception.
- Disruptive Students: Students who disrupt or interfere with a class may be sent out of the room and told to meet with the Campus Disciplinary Officer before returning to continue with coursework. Disciplinary procedures will be followed as outlined in the General Catalog.
- Children in the classroom: Due to college rules and state laws, no one who is not enrolled in the class may attend, including children.

Online Netiquette

- What is netiquette? Netiquette is internet manners, online etiquette, and digital etiquette all rolled into one word. Basically, netiquette is a set of rules for behaving properly online.
- Students are to comply with the following rules of netiquette:
(1) identify yourself, (2) include a subject line, (3) avoid sarcasm, (4) respect others' opinions and privacy, (5) acknowledge and return messages promptly, (6) copy with caution, (7) do not spam or junk mail, (8) be concise, (9) use appropriate language, (10) use appropriate emoticons (emotional icons) to help convey meaning, and (11) use appropriate intensifiers to help convey meaning [do not use ALL CAPS or multiple exclamation marks (!!!!)].

Academic Honesty

Academic honesty in the advancement of knowledge requires that all students and instructors respect the integrity of one another's work and recognize the importance of acknowledging and safeguarding intellectual property.

Updated 6/2023

There are many different forms of academic dishonesty. The following kinds of honesty violations and their definitions are not meant to be exhaustive. Rather, they are intended to serve as examples of unacceptable academic conduct.

Plagiarism is taking and presenting as one's own the writings or ideas of others, without citing the source. You should understand the concept of plagiarism and keep it in mind when taking exams and preparing written materials. If you do not understand how to "cite a source" correctly, you must ask for help.

- **Cheating** is defined as fraud, deceit, or dishonesty in an academic assignment, or using or attempting to use materials, or assisting others in using materials that are prohibited or inappropriate in the context of the academic assignment in question.

Anyone caught cheating or plagiarizing will receive a zero (0) on the exam or assignment, and the instructor may report the incident to the Campus Disciplinary Officer, who may place related documentation in a file. Repeated acts of cheating may result in an F in the course and/or disciplinary action. Please refer to the General Catalog for more information on academic dishonesty or other misconduct. Acts of cheating include, but are not limited to, the following: (a) plagiarism; (b) copying or attempting to copy from others during an examination or on an assignment; (c) communicating test information with another person during an examination; (d) allowing others to do an assignment or portion of an assignment; (e) using a commercial term paper service.

Other Course Information

N/A

Financial Aid

Your Grades Matter! In order to continue to receive financial aid, you must meet the Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) requirement. Making SAP means that you are maintaining a 2.0 GPA, you have successfully completed 67% of your coursework, and you will graduate on time. If you do not maintain SAP, you may lose your financial aid. If you have questions, please contact financial aid at finaid@imperial.edu.

IVC Student Resources

IVC wants you to be successful in all aspects of your education. For help, resources, services, and an explanation of policies, visit <http://www.imperial.edu/studentresources> or click the heart icon in Canvas.

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Anticipated Class Schedule/Calendar

***Tentative, subject to change without prior
Last day to drop with a "W": 11/1/25



notice***

Date/Week	Activity, Assignment, and/or Topic	Pages/ Due Dates/Tests/Homework
Week 1 8/11/25	Syllabus & introduction	Introduction & orientation (Welcome Module) Canvas Due: 8/17
Week 2 8/18/25	Burlington Lesson 5, Describing Present Experiences	Burlington Exercises and Vocabulary – Lesson 5 Due: 9/7
Week 3 8/25/25	Burlington Lesson 5, Describing Present Experiences	
Week 4 9/1	Burlington Lesson 5, Describing Present Experiences	
Week 5 9/8/25	Burlington Lesson 6, Part B: Plans, Promises, Predictions	Burlington Exercises and Vocabulary – Lesson 6 Due: 10/5
Week 6 9/15/25	Burlington Lesson 6, Part B: Plans, Promises, Predictions	Submit paragraph 1 Unit Test 6 Due: 10/5
Week 7 9/22/25	Burlington Lesson 6, Part B: Plans, Promises, Predictions	
Week 8 9/29/25	Burlington Lesson 6, Part B: Plans, Promises, Predictions	
Week 9 10/6/25	Burlington Lesson 7, Part A: Let's Travel	Burlington Exercises and Vocabulary Lesson 7 Start paragraph 3 Due: 10/26
Week 10 10/13/25	Burlington Lesson 7, Part A: Let's Travel	Unit Test 7 Due: 10/26
Week 11 10/20/25	Burlington Lesson 7, Part A: Let's Travel	
Week 12 10/27/25	Burlington Lesson 8, Part A: What if?	Submit paragraph 3 Unit Test 8 Due: 11/17
Week 13 11/3/25	Burlington Lesson 8, Part A: What if?	

Week 14	Burlington Lesson 8, Part A: What if?	
11/17/25		
Week 15	Burlington Lesson 8, Part A: What if?	
11/10/25		
Week 16	In-class final Exam	Burlington verbs & vocabulary quiz (module 8) Out of class assignments
12/1/ 25		Due: 12/1