

**J. Sargeant Reynolds Community College
Course Content Summary**

Course Prefix and Number: ESL 73

Credits: 3

Course Title: Accent Reduction

Course Description: Provides contextualized practice at the high intermediate/ advanced level to improve the speech and intelligibility of non-native speakers of English. Focuses on problems of American English pronunciation, unclear individual sounds and positional variants, stress, rhythm, and intonation common to speakers of different language backgrounds. May include individualized practice in consonant and vowel production. Credits are not applicable toward gradation. Prerequisite: Recommendation following oral placement interview or successful completion of ESL 33. Lecture 3 hours per week.

General Course Purpose: To refine students' pronunciation skills for academic and business communication purposes.

Course Prerequisites and Co-requisites:

Prerequisite: Recommendation following oral placement interview or successful completion of ESL 33

Student Learning Outcomes:

Upon completing the course, the student will be able to

- a. Participate in extended English conversations on a variety of personal, social, and work-related topics;
- b. Identify and target specific areas of his or her pronunciation for improvement;
- c. Through extensive practice, develop strategies for approximating American English pronunciation in those target areas during contextualized practice;
- d. Monitor his or her pronunciation in natural conversation;
- e. Produce most English consonants and vowels (in all positions), as well as appropriate work/sentence level stress and intonation in extended conversation. Can be understood, with some repetition, by general public; and
- f. Understand and use culturally appropriate communication strategies and non-verbal cues for extended conversation.

Major Topics to Be Included

- a. Word and sentence stress patterns
- b. Contextualized practice in English consonants and vowels

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