



UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK TIRANA Course Syllabus

Course: ESL III, Main Course/Fall 2007

Instructor: Eliana Lili

Office Hours: Mon/Wed/Thurs/Fri: 13:30-15:00, or by appointment.

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Meeting Times: Mon, Tue, Wed: 09:00-12:00, Central 3C

Course Aim: To raise students' level of English from low **B1** (intermediate) to low **B2** (upper intermediate) level of the Common European Framework by developing their grammar, high-frequency vocabulary and skills work through clearly-structured tasks that encourage student fluency, confidence and critical thinking skills.

Course Objectives (Taken from: Council of Europe. 2001. *Common European Framework of Reference for Languages: Learning, Teaching and Assessment*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press)

By the end of the course students will be able to:

Understanding	Listening	Understand the main points of clear standard speech on familiar matters encountered in school, work, leisure. Understand the main points of many radio/TV programmes and lectures on current affairs or topics of personal/professional interest when the delivery is slow and clear.
	Reading	Understand and read texts with high frequency everyday vocabulary, descriptions of contemporary problems in which the writers adopt particular attitudes/viewpoints.
Speaking	Spoken Interaction	Deal with most situations likely to arise while traveling in an English speaking country, talk about everyday life/ personal topics, interact and express your opinion.
	Spoken Production	Describe experiences and events, give reasons and explanations for opinions and plans, narrate a story or summarise the main points of a book/film/lecture and describe your reactions. Explain a view point on a topical issue giving the advantages and disadvantages of various options.
Writing	Writing	Write paragraphs, two-paragraph tasks or short essays on familiar topics, personal letters describing experiences and impressions, basic summaries. Pass on information or give reasons in support of or against a particular point of view.

Readings, Texts and materials:

- Cunningham, S., and P. Moor, 2005, *New Cutting Edge Intermediate and New Cutting Edge Upper Intermediate*, Pearson Longman (with workbook).
- Eastwood, J. 2006 *Oxford Practice Grammar*. New Edition. Oxford: OUP.
- Class readers and other materials to be assigned at the Instructor's discretion during the semester.
- 2 Notebooks designated only for ESL III class/homework and journal assignments.
- A Dossier for the Writing Portfolio.
- Pen and pencil

Assessment: Main Course is 60% of your final ESL III Grade apart from Academic Reading 20%, Speaking 10% and Software 10%.

Classroom behavior/Participation (20%)

- The use of mobile phones is prohibited during class time. You may **not** use text messaging (even though it is quiet), may not be excused to make calls or receive calls. A student **can** survive without the use of a cell phone during class hours.
- Teacher and students should be on-time and ready for class everyday.
- Participation and attendance are very important. **Students missing more than 20% of the classes in the semester without teacher permission may be required to withdraw from the course.** If you are present in class and have prepared all assignments either Workbook exercises or comprehension check tasks you get 3 points for each section. If you were absent the previous class and are not prepared but you are present in class, then you get only half of the points. Participation should be in a polite and collaborative manner either in a pair or group work. If you are not participating with your voice, you should be participating with your ears. This means that **if the teacher or a student is speaking, you should listen and not interrupt the speaker.**

Progress Tests, Module Tests, Quizzes: 15%

- Students will take 2 Progress Tests, several one-Module Tests and multiple quizzes throughout the semester.

Home work assignments and writing portfolio (handout exercises, paragraph, summary): 10%

- All homework must be completed before class. All assignments must be completed even if the student is absent and must be submitted within a week. Assignments must be turned in on time, however, late work may be accepted depending on the circumstances of the individual, but such work will be penalized with a reduced grade). I will not accept work sent to me via email, CD, or disk. **It is good that you type/print most homework so that you get used to good computer work. However, final drafts have to be printed out.**
- Writing work will be evaluated in this way: 1st individual draft, 2nd peer-reviewed draft, 3rd teacher feedback draft and a draft for the Writing portfolio. A Writing portfolio is going to be a collection of all your final drafts of writing assignments. In the end of the Fall term you are going to submit a copy of your favorite assignment.

Journal/writing entries and learning contracts: (15%)

Journal writing entries include reflections on the practice of English at home in writing, reading, grammar, listening, vocabulary and speaking. You will submit this journal every week, usually once a week. The learning contract is a list of enjoyable activities or activities that you need more practice.

Exams: There are two exams throughout the semester.

Mid-term exam: 21st, November, 2007 (15%)
Final exam: 30th, January, 2008 (25%)

Student Honor Code:

What is plagiarism?

- Copying, in whole, or part of someone's homework/journal, assignment, and/ or paper.
- Copying material from the internet without making the proper references.
- Repeating passages from books or other texts without including the proper references, citations, and/or quotations marks.
- Copying material from any source and passing it off as one's own work.

Penalties for plagiarism: Student receives an "F" grade for the assignment. Disciplinary actions for cheating include not only the student who uses the information, but also the student who provided the

information. If students ask for help during a quiz or test and are provided with information they will get – 5 points off the Test.

Outline of the Course

Week	Content
Week 1: 8, 9, 10 th Oct	Introduction, Placement Test, Student Questionnaire on English Language Needs Brainstorming, planning, drafting, peer reviewing and editing a writing piece. Revision exercises and activities. Academic lecture and note taking skills.
Week2: 15, 16, 17 th Oct	Cutting Edge Intermediate: Module 4, Present Perfect Continuous and exercises. Module 5: Topic Success, Future forms/clauses with if, when, A covering letter
Week 3: 22, 23, 24 th , Oct	Module 5 Workbook, Module 6: The media, Ed/Ing adjectives, The passive, A consumer review.
Week 4: 29, 30, 31 st Oct	Module 6 continued, Module 6 workbook. Introduction to Module 7: Socialising
Week 5: 5,6, 7 th Nov	Module 7: polite requests/will for offers & instant decisions/ making generalizations, Revision techniques. Workbook.
Week 6: 12, 13, 14 Nov	Module 8: Things you can't live without. Defining relative clauses and quantifiers. Thank-you letters, Workbook exercises.
Week 7: 19, 20, 21 st Nov	Module 9: Future society. Making predictions and hypothetical possibilities with if. Mid Term Exam, Nov 21st.
Week 8: 26, 27, and 28 th , Nov, National Holiday, No class	Module 9 Workbook. Intro to Module 10: An Amazing story. Past Perfect and Reported Speech. A Narrative story. Types of story.
Week 9: 3, 4, 5 th Dec	Module 10 continued. Exercises of Workbook.
Week 10: 10, 11, 12 th , Dec	Introduction to Module 11: Rules and freedom. Obligation and permission in the present and in the past. Checking written work. Presenting opinions and linking words.
Week 11: 17, 18, 19 th , Dec	Module 11 continued, Workbook exercises.
Week 12: 7, 8, 9 th , Jan	Module 12: Dilemmas. Could/should/would have and imaginary situations in the past with if. Find solutions to problems.
Week 13: 14, 15, 16 th , Jan	Module 12 continued. Workbook exercises. Introduction to New Cutting Edge Upper Intermediate: Module 1, Past and Present.
Week 14: 21, 22, 23 rd Jan	Module 1 Revision of verb forms and uses of auxiliaries. Planning and drafting a biography. Workbook exercises. Introduction to Module 2: Life's ups and downs. Forming nouns and gerunds.
Week 15: 28, 29, 30 th , Jan	Module 2 workbook. Revision exercises. Final Exam Jan, 30th.

Assessment: Main Course 60% of your final ESL III grade.

- Participation: 20%
- In-class Assignments/Progress Tests/ Pop-quizzes: 15%
- Homework Assignments/Writing Portfolio: 10%
- Journal/ Weekly Contracts: 15%
- Mid-Term Exam: 15%
- Final Exam: 25%

Grading Scale	96-100 A	90-95 A-	87-89 B+
	83-86 B	80-82 B-	77-79 C+
	73-76 C	70-72 C-	67-69 D+
	63-66 D	60-62 D-	0-59 F

Letter Grade	Percent (%)	Generally Accepted Meaning
A	96-100	Outstanding work
A-	90-95	
B+	87-89	Good work, distinctly above average
B	83-86	
B-	80-82	
C+	77-79	Acceptable work
C	73-76	
C-	70-72	
D+	67-69	Work that is significantly below average
D	63-66	
D-	60-62	
F	0-59	Work that does not meet minimum standards for passing the course

If you feel that you have special learning difficulties, please, make an appointment with Ms. A. Gramo. Ms Anxhela Gramo is trained to help students with learning difficulties. She shall provide this service to our students, just as it is offered in all American universities.

Prepared by E.Lili, October 15th , 2007.