

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

**Course Prefix and Number:** ESL 26      **Credits:** 5

**Course Title:** Introduction to Academic Writing

**Course Description:**

Provides instruction and practice in writing at the low-intermediate level. Improves competence in basic grammatical patterns of written English. Credits are not applicable toward graduation. Lecture 5 hours. Total 5 hours per week.

**General Course Purpose:**

ESL 26 introduces academic skills to build fluency and accuracy with basic grammatical structures.

**Course Prerequisites and Co-requisites:**

Prerequisite: Placement into ESL 26

**Course Objectives**

- Write a comprehensible response of at least 100 words to an instructor-provided prompt in a single sitting.
- Use the writing process to write at least six writing assignments with increasing accuracy and control of
  - simple present
  - present progressive
  - simple past
  - simple future
  - count and noncount nouns
  - determiners (articles, adjectives, and quantifiers)
  - basic mechanics (capitalization, punctuation)
- Demonstrate basic use of a writing process (See Major Topics).

**Major Topics to be Included**

- Verb tenses
  - simple present
  - present progressive
  - simple past
  - simple future
- Count and noncount nouns
- Determiners
  - articles
  - adjectives
  - quantifiers
- Basic mechanics
  - capitalization
  - punctuation
- Basic writing process
  - prewriting

- drafting
- proofreading for grammar and mechanics

**Date Created/Updated:** January 1, 2026