

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

Course Prefix and Number: ESL 29 **Credits:** 5

Course Title: Introduction to Academic Listening and Speaking

Course Description:

Provides instruction and practice in listening and speaking at the low-intermediate level. Improves intelligibility in and comprehension of spoken English. Increases high-frequency vocabulary to improve listening and speaking skills. Credits are not applicable toward graduation.

Lecture 5 hours. Total 5 hours per week.

General Course Purpose:

ESL 29 introduces conversational English skills for professional and academic settings.

Course Prerequisites and Co-requisites:

Prerequisite: Placement into ESL 29

Course Objectives

- Demonstrate comprehension of at least 100 high-frequency (Oxford 3000) words (mostly CEFR - Common European Framework of Reference for Languages, A1, A2, B1).
- Identify main points and details in short and simple spoken language from everyday, academic, and workplace contexts.
- Demonstrate intelligible use of sounds in English (sounds, word stress, intonation) in short and previously practiced sentences.

Major Topics to be Included

- Following instructions
- Basic note-taking
- Formal and informal discussion strategies (asking for clarification, giving advice, etc.)
- Sounds in North American English, e.g. word ending sounds
- Word stress
- Intonation

Date Created/Updated: January 1, 2026