

Course Outline for  
**Language Lab 0110**

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**COURSE DESCRIPTION:**

This four hour per week course is designed to help students improve reading comprehension strategies and learn the study skills needed for success. A second focus is on developing effective sentence patterns and learning the use of accepted standards of grammar, punctuation and usage. A combination of classroom teaching and computerized learning will prepare the student for reading and writing in high school level courses.

**TEXTS:**

Part Four of Langan, John and Sharon Winstanley. English Skills with Readings. Second Canadian Edition. Toronto: McGraw-Hill Ryerson Ltd., 2000.

Nist, Sherri L. and Carole Mohr. Improving Vocabulary Skills. Short Version. Third Edition. West Berlin, New Jersey: Townsend Press, 2002.

**COURSE OBJECTIVES:**

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

- demonstrate improved learning skills in classroom note-taking, studying, memory skills, test writing
- recognize commonly used prefixes, suffixes and roots; identify how these affect the meaning of words to which they are connected
- explain how word forms change to create adjectives, adverbs and other parts of speech
- identify the meaning of words through their context
- identify the meaning of words through synonyms and antonyms
- identify the meaning of commonly used homophones
  
- identify subjects, objects and verbs in sentences
- identify and correct sentence fragments and run-on sentences
- identify and correct errors in subject-verb agreement and verb tense use
- identify and correct errors in pronoun agreement, pronoun reference and point of view
- identify and correctly use adjectives and adverbs
- identify and correct misplaced and dangling modifiers
- identify and correct faulty parallelism
- identify and correct usage in abbreviations, capitalization and apostrophes
- identify and apply rules of correct comma use
  
- identify main ideas in paragraphs and longer selections
- distinguish main ideas and supporting details
- identify implied main ideas in paragraphs
- distinguish major and minor support
- identify six groups of transition words
- identify five patterns of organization and inferences from reading selections
- increase reading vocabulary

<b>EVALUATION:</b>	Class work and Assignments	<b>20%</b>
	Tests and Quizzes	<b>20</b>
	PLATO	<b>10</b>
	Improving Vocabulary Skills Tests	<b>20</b>
	Final Exam (Part One: Vocabulary and Part Two: English Skills)	<b>30</b>

In accordance with Academic Upgrading Guidelines, your percentage standing will be converted to the following alpha system:

**A+** (90-100); **A** (85-89); **A-** (80-84); **B+** (76-79); **B** (73-75); **B-** (70-72); **C+** (67-69); **C** (64-66); **C-** (60-63);  
**D+** (55-59); **D** (50-54); **F** (0-49)

### **INSTRUCTOR'S GUIDELINES:**

- Since this is a lab course, attendance is a critical component for success. If you miss an excessive number of classes, you may be debarred from the final exam.
- If you are absent for an **in-class assignment** (completed and/or corrected during class), you will receive a mark of zero. Make arrangements prior to your absence or by telephone on the day of your absence in order to minimize the impact of absences. Assignments will gladly be accepted before the due date.
- In order to be given the opportunity to write a missed **test/quiz**, you must phone the instructor beforehand. If the instructor is unavailable, leave a message and your telephone number. If you do not do this, you will not be permitted to write the test and you will receive a mark of zero. Of course, if you know in advance that you cannot be present, you may make alternate arrangements to write the test/quiz beforehand.
- Once a **test/quiz/assignment** has been handed back to the class, there is no opportunity to receive credit for it.

**COURSE SCHEDULE:**

<b>Skill</b>	<b>Resource Reference</b>	<b>PLATO Assignment</b>
<b>September, 2004</b>		
Dictionary skills Improving spelling Commonly confused words	<u>Imp Voc Skills</u> p 131 <u>Eng Skills</u> Ch 38, p 372 – 379 Ch 40, p 383 – 391  Note a section entitled “ <b>ESL Pointers</b> ” p 408 - 418	
Introduction to PLATO	in A205	
Main ideas – What is a paragraph? What is a topic sentence?	Reading selections: “Letter” p 460 – 464	
Study skills	“Power Learning” p 487 - 496 “How to Write a Test” p 496 – 502  Diagnostic Test p 241 - 245	
Sentences: subjects, verbs objects	p 246 -250 + supp material  <i>Video # 1,2—Introduction to Grammar/ Parts of Speech</i>	<b>PLATO #1</b> (What is a Sentence?)
Complete sentences and sentence fragments	p 251 -267  <i>Video #3 – Parts of Speech/ Sentences</i>	<b>PLATO #2 &amp; 3</b> (Parts of a Sentence; What is a Sentence Fragment? – 2 parts)
Run-on sentences	p 270 – 282  <i>Video #4 &amp; 5 – Flexibility In English/ Common Errors(1) &amp; (2)</i>	<b>PLATO #4 &amp; 5</b> (Run-On Sentences; Dependent & Independent Clauses)
Improving vocabulary skills	Chapters 1 – 5 Unit 1 Test	
<b>October, 2004</b>		
Irregular verbs	p 283 – 289	
Subject verb agreement; consistent verb tense	p 290 – 299  <i>Video #6 – Introduction to Punctuation/ The End Marks</i> <i>Video #7 – The Wily Comma</i> <i>Video #8 – The Semi-Colon ...</i>	<b>PLATO #6</b> (Subject-Verb Agreement)

Pronouns	p 300 - 311	
Adjectives and adverbs	p 312 - 316	
Misplaced and dangling modifiers	p 317 – 323	
Reading for supporting details	Supplementary material (practice reading tests)	
Improving vocabulary skills	Chapters 6 – 10 Unit 2 Test	
<b>November, 2004</b>		
Faulty parallelism	p 324 – 327 + supp material	<b>PLATO #7</b> (Parallel Structure)
Apostrophes	p 343 – 350 + supp material	<b>PLATO #8</b> (Basics of Punctuation)
Commas	p 358 – 366 + supp material	<b>PLATO #9</b> (Comma 1 and Comma 2)
Sentence variety	p 399 – 407	
Improving vocabulary skills	Chapters 11 – 15 Unit Test 3 Chapters 16 & 17	
<b>December, 2004</b>		
Implied main idea	Supplementary material (practice reading tests)	
Reading selections to improve comprehension	Supplementary material (practice reading tests)	
Improving vocabulary skills	Chapters 18 – 20 Unit Test 4	
Review, Review	As time permits; see Ch 45 Editing Tests, p 427 – 439 Ch 46 Achievement Test p 440 – 445	
Additional topics: Capital letters Numbers and abbreviations	As time permits: p 332 – 339 p 340 - 342	<b>PLATO #10</b> (Capitalization)