

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

Course Prefix and Number: ESL 9

Credits: 3

Course Title: Accent Reduction

Course Description (including lecture hours, lab hours, total contacts)

Provides contextualized practice at the high intermediate/ advanced level to improve the speech intelligibility of non-native speakers of English. Focuses on problems of American English sound/spelling patterns, word endings, syllables, stress, rhythm and intonation common to speakers of different language backgrounds. May include individualized practice in consonant and vowel production. Lecture 3 hours per week.

General Course Purpose

To refine students' pronunciation skills for academic and business communication purposes.

Course Prerequisites/Corequisites (*Entry-level competencies **required** for enrollment*)

Recommendation following oral interview or successful completion of intermediate level oral communication course.

Course Objectives (Each item should complete the following sentence.)

Upon completing the course, the student will be able to:

- a. Participate in extended English conversations on a variety of personal and 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.
- f. Understand and use culturally appropriate communication strategies and non-verbal cues for extended conversation.

Major Topics to be Included

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

Effective Date of Course Content Summary (Month, Date Year): 2/13/09