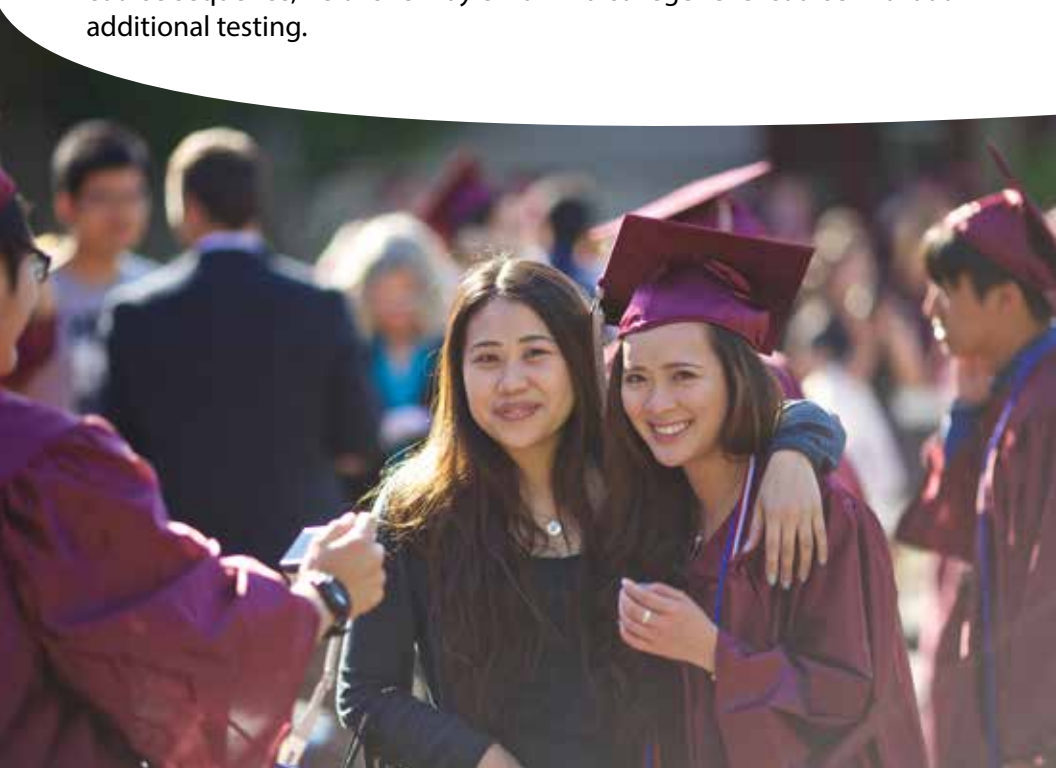


# Whatcom Community College English as a Second Language Academic (ESLA) Program

The WCC English as a Second Language Academic (ESLA) Program is an excellent choice for ESL learners for a number of reasons. ESLA students have the opportunity to attend classes with people from around the world, as Whatcom hosts international students from more than 25 different countries each year.

ESLA faculty have Master's degrees in Teaching English as a Second Language or related fields and have many years of experience teaching in the U.S. and overseas. Because the ESLA Program is part of Whatcom Community College, students have access to all college facilities, such as computer labs, the library, sports facilities, and a tutoring center – at no extra cost.

No TOEFL or other standardized test score is required for admission to the ESLA Program – though a 61 internet-based TOEFL score (or equivalent) allows students to enroll in at least one college-level course. Once a student has completed the highest level of any intensive course sequence, he or she may enroll in a college-level course without additional testing.



## Whatcom Community College English as a Second Language Academic (ESLA) Program

### Intensive Courses (18 hours per week)

<b>Writing</b>	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4	Level 5
<b>Grammar</b>	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4	
<b>Reading</b>	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4	Level 5
<b>Oral</b>	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4	Level 5

### Elective Courses

### College Transition Courses (Concurrent with college-level courses)

#### Writing Core (3 Levels)

### College English Composition Courses

#### English Composition ENGL 101, ENGL 102

### Additional Support in Reading, Grammar, and Oral

A 61 internet-based TOEFL score (or equivalent) allows students to enroll in at least one college-level course.

Successful completion of any Level 5 intensive course enables students to begin college-level courses (no TOEFL required).

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## Intensive Courses

The **Intensive Courses** allow students to study English full-time in order to prepare for college courses. These courses offer flexibility to match students' levels in discrete language skills.

- Five levels of proficiency in each language skill are offered.
- The core curriculum comprises four language skills (16 hours per week).
- Electives include International Student Life, Pronunciation, American Culture through Film, English in the Community, Digital Storytelling and TOEFL Preparation.
- Multi-level placement process allows students to begin college courses upon completion of one language skill (see sample student schedules on next page).
- Two sessions each quarter allow possible promotion to a higher level mid-quarter.
- Classes are small (average class size is 15).

## College Transition Courses

- The **College Transition Courses** allow students to continue to develop their English competency and, at the same time, begin their college degree or certificate program.
- Students study academic writing, including using sources.
- Students learn techniques for reading college-level texts.
- Support classes are available for additional college-level reading and writing techniques and development of advanced discussion techniques.
- Students take at least one college course at the same time as a College Transition course.
- Students are well-prepared for college courses (96% of international students who complete College Transition Courses score better than average in English 101).

## Sample Intensive Course Schedules

### Student 1

9:30 am	M/Tu/W/Th	ESLA 50 (Oral Communication, Level 5)
10:30 am	M/Tu/W/Th	ESLA 41 (Grammar, Level 4)
11:30 am	M/Tu/W/Th	ESLA 52 (Reading / Vocabulary, Level 5)
1:30 pm	M/Tu/W/Th	ESLA 43 (Composition, Level 4)
11:30 am	F	ESLA 88 (International Student Life)

### Student 2

11:30 am	M/Tu/W/Th	ESLA 42 (Reading / Vocabulary, Level 4)
12:30 pm	Daily	MATH 141 (Pre-Calculus)
1:30 pm	M/Tu/W/Th	ESLA 54 (Composition and Grammar, Level 5)

## Sample College Transition Schedules

### Student 3

1:30 pm	M/W/F	ESLA 115 (Academic ESL Composition and Reading II)
11:30 pm	M/W	ESLA 91 (ESL Grammar Topics)
1:30 pm	Tu/Th	CMST 210 (Interpersonal Communication)

### Student 4

9:30 am	Tu/Th	HIST 219 (Native American History)
1:30 pm	Tu/Th	ECON 201 (Microeconomics)
1:30 pm	M/W/F	ESLA 117 (Academic ESL Composition and Reading III)