



ENG 457 (01W), Teaching ESL

COURSE SYLLABUS: Fall 2026

INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION

Instructor: Dr. Shelby Miller

Office Location: Hall of Languages, Room #318

Office Hours: Wednesday and Fridays, 9:00 am - 11:00 am (however, please make an appointment first!).

If these days/times do not work for you, just reach out and we'll find a time that works for both of us!

Office Phone: Phone? Psh, let's zoom instead.

Office Fax: Do you really have something to fax to me? Just email it instead.

University Email Address: Shelby.Miller@etamu.edu

Zoom: Link provided in course shell under "Contact Information & Office Hours"

Preferred Form of Communication: Email

Communication Response Time: I will respond within one business day. If you have not heard from me, please assume I have not received your message and reach out to me again. I may not immediately respond to emails on weekends and holidays.

COURSE INFORMATION

Course Modality: This course is offered fully online and asynchronously. You are **not** expected to join a live class meeting at any point during the semester. The course operates on a week-to-week schedule, allowing you to log in and complete each week's coursework at times that work best for you.

Textbook(s) Required:

Book: Larsen-Freeman, D., & Anderson, M. (2011). *Techniques & principles in language teaching* (3rd ed.). Oxford University Press. ISBN: 978-0-19-442360-1. **Note:** Purchasing this textbook may not be necessary. Information about accessing the required readings will be provided in the course shell. However, students who plan to pursue ESL teaching professionally may find a personal print copy to be a valuable resource for their future teaching

Additional Reading: Fillmore, L. W., Snow, C. E., & Educational Resources Information Center (U.S.). (2000). What teachers need to know about language. Washington, DC: U.S. Dept. of Education, Office of Educational Research and Improvement, Educational Resources Information Center. [\[available on D2L\]](#)

Course Description

ENG 457 - Teaching ESL focuses on the linguistic, psychological, and sociocultural foundations for teaching English to speakers of other languages. It explores historical and contemporary aspects, examining a range of methods, materials, and practices in ESL education. It also addresses basic aspects of language testing and program evaluation. Prerequisites: Lvl U ENG 102 Min Grade C or Lvl U ENG 288 Min Grade C or Lvl U ENG 1302 Min Grade C

Student Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

1. Demonstrate knowledge of the history, principles, techniques, and terminology of major ESL teaching methodologies.
2. Compare and evaluate different ESL teaching methodologies, including their strengths, limitations, and implications for language learning and teaching.
3. Apply the principles and techniques of ESL teaching methodologies to the development of effective language lessons and learning activities.
4. Demonstrate the ability to facilitate language-learning activities that reflect the principles and techniques of selected ESL teaching methodologies.

Course Evaluation Methods

Detailed information and guidelines for each assignment will be available on the course site. For the course organization, please check the course calendar below.

GRADING

Final grades in this course will be based on the following scale:

A = 90%-100%	Total points corresponding to final letter grade
B = 80%-89%	A = 900 - 1000 Points
C = 70%-79%	B = 800 - 899 Points
D = 60%-69%	C = 700 - 799 Points
F = 59% or Below	D = 600 - 699 Points
	F = 0 - 599 Points

Assignment Type	Points	Percentage of Final Grade
Lesson Plans	3 @ 100 each	30
Teaching Method Schemata	11 @ 20 each	22

Discussion Posts	11 @ 20 each	22
Activity Facilitation	1 @ 150	15
Reading Responses	2 @ 55 each	11

Assessments

The assessments consist of a series of activities designed to assist you in achieving the course outcomes. Each week, you will work on various combinations of assignments, activities, discussions, and readings. Grading rubrics for assessments are available in D2L.

- **Lesson Plans:** There are three lesson plans throughout the semester. Lesson plans are based on your textbook on techniques in language learning. You will be assigned one method for each lesson plan. Based on this teaching method, you will complete a lesson plan that links the thoughts, beliefs, attitudes, values, and awareness of this method to action in the classroom. Each of your lesson plans will respond directly to the principles and techniques that guide the assigned method. This assignment is an opportunity for you to closely reflect on your teaching practice, specifically, how your own beliefs and “maxims” guide your teaching practice.
- **Teaching Method Schemata:** For each teaching method we study, you will create your schema of it and put it on a chart. Think of this chart as your unique cheat sheet that contains the name of the method, its main principles, the pros and cons with your explanations as to why they are pros or cons (i.e., your reasoning), and your notes or ideas. The schemata chart titles can look like the one below:

Teaching Method | Main Principles | Main Techniques | Pros (with reasoning) | Cons (with reasoning) | My Notes and Ideas

You will put all the schemas in the same Word document. At the end of the semester, you will have the schemata of eleven teaching methods in your chart. It will be useful to you both to have a quick overview of all the methods and to figure out what are the principles and activities you want to include in your classroom practice. Please make sure you correctly cite the author(s) and document the source(s) in your chart. Whenever possible, paraphrase the information using your own words instead of relying on direct quotes.

- **Discussion Posts:** You are expected to do the readings and to take part in the discussions by making comments and sharing ideas on the topic. Your discussion will be composed of the two components:
 - (1) Discussion on questions based on the lecture videos
 - (2) Discussion on the activity facilitation

There are 12 discussion posts throughout the semester; however, you are only required to complete 11. Everyone receives one automatic “free pass” to miss a discussion post of their choice without penalty.
- **Activity Facilitation:** Each student will be responsible for teaching a language element to the other students using the method (and the week) they have signed up for. This is a one-time activity for each student. You may need to work individually or in pairs based on the number of students enrolled. The student(s) will submit their pre-recorded activity and any supporting documents to the instructor by the Tuesday (the first day of the new module) that they have signed up to present the activity (e.g., if you will present your activity in Week 3, you will submit your work, to the teacher on Tuesday, September 1st). More information will be made available in the course shell.

- **Reading Responses:** You will write two reading responses to two different scholarly articles. Each response will be between 350 and 500 words long and will include the following elements: a short summary of the text, what you learned, what surprised you, and some comments or your opinion on the article. You should also make connections to class discussions.

Submitting Assignments

All course assignments will be completed and submitted through D2L.

If you have technical issues in uploading the assignment to the course site, please contact CITE Help Desk at 903.468.6000 or helpdesk@ETAMU.edu and email me to notify me of the problem. Your email should also include your assignment.

COURSE OUTLINE / CALENDAR

Note: The readings listed each week correspond to the teaching method covered that week. If you are assigned to facilitate an activity during a particular week, you may need to complete that week's reading in advance to prepare. For example, if you are facilitating during Week 3, you may want to read Chapter 3 on the Direct Method before Week 3 so you have time to develop your activity.

Week / Dates	Homework / Readings	Assignments and Deadlines
Week 1: Aug. 20–24	Read: L-F & A, Ch. 1; F&S, pp. 1–12	Self-Introduction: Aug. 24
Week 2: Aug. 25–31	Read: L-F & A, Ch. 2 – <i>Grammar-Translation</i> ; F&S, pp. 13–31	Discussion: Aug. 31; Schema Chart: Aug. 31
Week 3: Sept. 1–7	Read: L-F & A, Ch. 3 – <i>Direct Method</i> ; F&S, pp. 32–35, Sample Facilitation Activity provided by Instructor (to prepare you moving forward).	Discussion: Sept. 7; Schema Chart: Sept. 7
Week 4: Sept. 8–14	Read: L-F & A, Ch. 4 – <i>Audio-Lingual Method</i>	Facilitation Activity: Sept. 8; Discussion: Sept. 14; Schema Chart: Sept. 14
Week 5: Sept. 15–21	Read: L-F & A, Ch. 5 – <i>Silent Way</i>	Facilitation Activity: Sept. 15; Discussion: Sept. 21; Schema Chart: Sept. 21
Week 6: Sept. 22–28	Read: L-F & A, Ch. 6 – <i>Desuggestopedia</i>	Facilitation Activity: Sept. 22; Discussion: Sept. 28; Schema Chart: Sept. 28
Week 7: Sept. 29–Oct. 5	—	Lesson Plan 1: Oct. 5

Week 8: Oct. 6–12	Read: L-F & A, Ch. 7 – <i>Community Language Learning</i>	Facilitation Activity: Oct. 6; Discussion: Oct. 12; Schema Chart: Oct. 12
Week 9: Oct. 13–19	Read: L-F & A, Ch. 8 – <i>Total Physical Response</i>	Facilitation Activity: Oct. 13; Discussion: Oct. 19; Schema Chart: Oct. 19
Week 10: Oct. 20–26	Read: L-F & A, Ch. 9 – <i>Communicative Language Teaching</i>	Facilitation Activity: Oct. 20; Discussion: Oct. 26; Schema Chart: Oct. 26
Week 11: Oct. 27–Nov. 2	Read: L-F & A, Ch. 10 – <i>Content-Based Instruction</i>	Facilitation Activity: Oct. 27; Discussion: Nov. 2; Schema Chart: Nov. 2; Reading Response 1: Nov. 2
Week 12: Nov. 3–9	Read: L-F & A, Ch. 11 – <i>Task-Based Language Teaching</i>	Facilitation Activity: Nov. 3; Discussion: Nov. 9; Schema Chart: Nov. 9
Week 13: Nov. 10–16	Read: L-F & A, Ch. 12 – <i>The Participatory Approach</i>	Facilitation Activity: Nov. 10; Discussion: Nov. 16; Schema Chart: Nov. 16
Week 14: Nov. 17–23	Read: L-F & A, Ch. 13	Discussion: Nov. 23; Lesson Plan 2: Nov. 23
Week 15: Nov. 24–30	No work — Thanksgiving Break	—
Week 16: Dec. 1–7	Read: L-F & A, Chs. 14–15	Lesson Plan 3: Dec. 7
Finals Week: Dec. 8–11	—	Reading Response 2: Dec. 11

Unless stated otherwise, assignments will be graded within two weeks, and emails will be answered within one business day. Before emailing, check the syllabus and the course shell on myLeo Online (D2L Brightspace) to see if your question is already answered.

Students who have concerns about this course or the instructor should speak to the instructor about those concerns first. If the student is not satisfied with the outcome of that conversation, the next person to talk to is the Department Head of Literature and Languages.

TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS

Computer Technologies

This class will be delivered completely online using Desire2Learn Brightspace (D2L), the new Learning Management System used by East Texas A&M University. To get started with the course, go to [MyLeo](#). You will need your CWID and password to log in to the course. Students are required to have regular access to a computer with an Internet connection. At a minimum, you must have Microsoft Office 2013, 2010,

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2007 or Open Office. Microsoft Office is the standard office productivity software utilized by faculty, students, and staff. Microsoft Word is the standard word processing software, Microsoft Excel is the standard spreadsheet software, and Microsoft PowerPoint is the standard presentation software. If you experience problems in accessing the course site or have other technological difficulties, please contact the CITE Help Desk at 903.468.6000 or helpdesk@ETAMU.edu.

LMS

All course sections offered by East Texas A&M University have a corresponding course shell in the myLeo Online Learning Management System (LMS). Below are technical requirements:

- [LMS Requirements](#)
- [LMS Browser Support](#)
- [Zoom Video Conferencing Tool](#)

ACCESS AND NAVIGATION

You will need your campus-wide ID (CWID) and password to log into the course. If you do not know your CWID or have forgotten your password, contact the Center for IT Excellence (CITE) at 903.468.6000 or helpdesk@ETAMU.edu.

Note: Personal computer and internet connection problems do not excuse the requirement to complete all course work in a timely and satisfactory manner. Each student needs to have a backup method to deal with these inevitable problems. These methods might include the availability of a backup PC at home or work, the temporary use of a computer at a friend's home, the local library, office service companies, Starbucks, a ETAMU campus open computer lab, etc.

STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES FOR COURSE

CWID and Password

You will need your campus-wide ID (CWID) and password to log into the course. If you do not know your CWID or have forgotten your password, contact the Center for IT Excellence (CITE) at 903.468.6000 or helpdesk@etamu.edu.

Technology-Related Issues

Personal computer or internet connection problems do not excuse late or missing work. Every student should have a backup method for completing assignments, such as access to a friend's computer, a library, a campus lab, or another reliable location.

If you experience issues with myLeo Online (D2L Brightspace)—for example, submitting assignments or participating in discussions—contact the Help Desk at 1-866-656-5511, file a ticket, and email the instructor with your ticket number. Only issues directly related to myLeo Online (D2L Brightspace) are valid reasons for technical assistance. Make sure your browser is compatible and consider completing the myLeo Online tutorial if needed.

TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS AND SUPPORT

Minimal Technical Skills Needed

Students will need reliable computer and internet access for this course. Students must be able to effectively use myLeo email, myLeo Online D2L, and Microsoft Office.

Learning Management System (LMS) – D2L

All course sections offered by East Texas A&M University have a corresponding course shell in the myLeo Online Learning Management System (LMS). Below are the technical requirements:

- View the [Learning Management System Requirements Webpage](#).
- Learn more on the [LMS Browser Support Webpage](#).

Technical Support

If you are having technical difficulty with any part of Brightspace, please contact Brightspace Technical Support at 1-877-325-7778. Other support options can be found on the [Brightspace Support Webpage](#).

D2L runs monthly updates during the last week of the month, usually on Wednesday. The system should remain up during this time unless otherwise specified in an announcement. You may experience minimal impacts to performance and/or look and feel of the environment.

COMMUNICATION AND SUPPORT

If you have any questions or are having difficulties with the course material, please contact your Instructor.

Interaction with Instructor Statement

If you have any questions or are having difficulties with the course material, please contact your instructor. Correspondence will always be through university email (your “myLeo” mail) and announcements in myLeo online (D2L). You will not RECEIVE email through D2L (if you enabled notifications), so be sure to check your ETAMU email for communication. Students are encouraged to check university email daily.

Tips for sending emails! I usually only have to provide this to undergraduate students, but sometimes graduate students need a gentle reminder. 😊

Include the Following in Emails with Instructor:

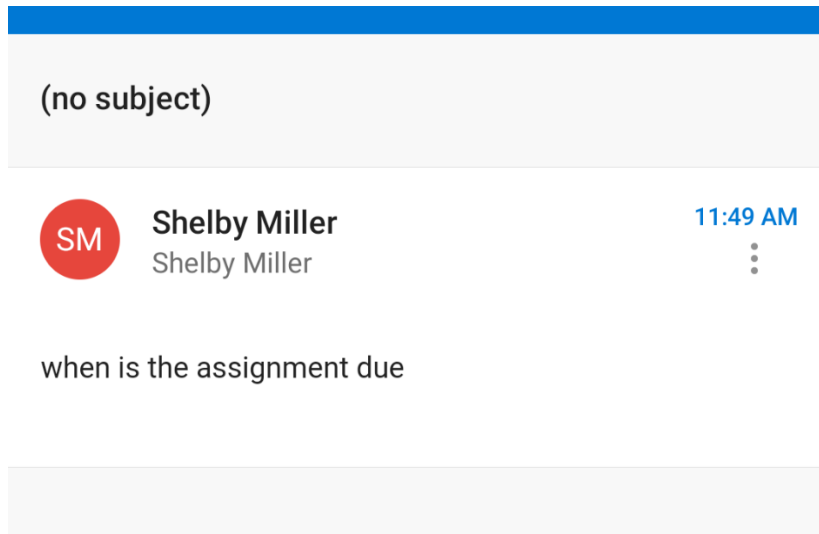
- Course name and subject in the subject line
- Salutation (Good afternoon, Dr. Miller)
- Proper email etiquette (no “text” emails – use proper grammar and punctuation)
- Student name and CWID after the body of the email (possibly add to student signature on email)

When emailing, it’s always good to follow the genre conventions of a formal letter. This includes a subject line stating the name of the class, a greeting (“Hi, Dr. Miller,” for example), specific details and

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explanation in the body of your email, and a closing ("Thank you, Your Name" for example). Emails should be properly proofread and edited and contain the course number in the subject.

Please, pretty please, don't send me an email like this:



Let's be professional. Each time you send me a new email about a new topic, please compose a new email with a new subject; do not reply to some old email threads unless we discuss the same issue. It can be very confusing and makes it difficult to reply to your emails.

COURSE AND UNIVERSITY PROCEDURES/POLICIES

Student Responsibilities or Tips for Success in the Course

Being successful in an online course requires self-discipline and high motivation. In this course, all work will be completed through D2L. Access and follow all course instructions found in the content area of the D2L course. Please note that assignment due dates are crucial. No delayed assignments will be accepted. You should check the course website frequently for assignments, announcements, and discussions. I strongly recommend dedicating set days/times to completing your work and working in advance so that you are always ahead. In order to achieve the outcomes of the course, you will be involved in a number of different activities. It is fundamental to complete all of the readings and activities on time: the quizzes, the discussions, and the assignments. I encourage you to do all the course reading and assignments for each learning module in the order they are presented. Moreover, we are co-constructing our knowledge in the online community. Please be prepared, share thoughtfully, respond respectfully, and engage in all learning processes.

Syllabus Change Policy

The syllabus is a guide. Circumstances and events, such as student progress, may make it necessary for the instructor to modify the syllabus during the semester. Any changes made to the syllabus will be announced in advance.

Student Conduct

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All students enrolled at the University shall follow the tenets of common decency and acceptable behavior conducive to a positive learning environment. The [Code of Student Conduct](#) is described in detail online in the [Student Guidebook](#).

Students should also consult the [Rules of Netiquette Webpage](#) for more information regarding how to interact with students in an online forum.

ETAMU Attendance

For more information about the attendance policy, please view the [Attendance Webpage](#) and the [Class Attendance Policy](#).

Academic Integrity

Students at East Texas A&M University are expected to maintain high standards of integrity and honesty in all their scholastic work. For more details and the definition of academic dishonesty see the following procedures:

- [Undergraduate Academic Dishonesty University Procedure 13.99.99.R0.03](#)
- [Undergraduate Student Academic Dishonesty Form](#)
- [Graduate Student Academic Dishonesty University Procedure 13.99.99.R0.10](#)
- [Graduate Student Academic Dishonesty Form](#)

Use of Artificial Intelligence

East Texas A&M University acknowledges that there are legitimate uses of Artificial Intelligence, ChatBots, or other software that has the capacity to generate text, or suggest replacements for text beyond individual words, as determined by the instructor of the course.

Any use of such software must be documented. Any undocumented use of such software constitutes an instance of academic dishonesty (plagiarism).

Individual instructors may disallow entirely the use of such software for individual assignments or for the entire course. Students should be aware of such requirements and follow their instructors' guidelines. If no instructions are provided the student should assume that the use of such software is disallowed.

In any case, students are fully responsible for the content of any assignment they submit, regardless of whether they used an AI, in any way. This specifically includes cases in which the AI plagiarized another text or misrepresented sources.

Students with Disabilities-- ADA Statement

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact:

Office of Student Disability Resources and Services
East Texas A&M University
Velma K. Waters Library Rm 162
Phone (903) 886-5150 or (903) 886-5835

Fax (903) 468-8148

Email: studentdisabilityservices@ETAMU.edu

Website: [Office of Student Disability Resources and Services](#)

Nondiscrimination Notice

East Texas A&M University will comply in the classroom, and in online courses, with all federal and state laws prohibiting discrimination and related retaliation on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, disability, age, genetic information, or veteran status. Further, an environment free from discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression will be maintained.

Campus Concealed Carry Statement

Texas Senate Bill - 11 (Government Code 411.2031, et al.) authorizes the carrying of a concealed handgun in East Texas A&M University buildings only by persons who have been issued and are in possession of a Texas License to Carry a Handgun. Qualified law enforcement officers or those who are otherwise authorized to carry a concealed handgun in the State of Texas are also permitted to do so. Pursuant to Penal Code (PC) 46.035 and ETAMU Rule 34.06.02.R1, license holders may not carry a concealed handgun in restricted locations.

For a list of locations, please refer to the [Carrying Concealed Handguns On Campus](#) document and/or consult your event organizer.

Pursuant to PC 46.035, the open carrying of handguns is prohibited on all East Texas A&M University campuses. Report violations to the University Police Department at 903-886-5868 or 9-1-1.

East Texas A&M Supports Students' Mental Health – Counseling Services

The Counseling Center at East Texas A&M University, located in the Halladay Building, Room 203, offers counseling services, educational programming, and connection to community resources for students. Students have 24/7 access to the Counseling Center's crisis assessment services by calling 903-886-5145. For more information regarding Counseling Center events and confidential services, please visit www.ETAMU.edu/counsel

Mental Health and Well-Being

The university aims to provide students with essential knowledge and tools to understand and support mental health. As part of our commitment to your well-being, we offer access to Telus Health, a service available 24/7/365 via chat, phone, or webinar. Scan the QR code to download the app and explore the resources available to you for guidance and support whenever you need it.



Department of Literature and Languages Mission Statement:

The Department of Literature and Languages at East Texas A&M University fosters transformation through the study of language and literature (“Words That Transform, Language That Connects”), preparing students for careers and advanced study by developing strong skills in reading, writing, critical thinking, and communication across diverse contexts.