

Student Information Sheet

Sacramento City College

Spring 2011

Instructor: Brett Thomas

Office: Rodda South 317

Phone: 558-2347

Office Hrs: MW 11:30-12 & 5-5:30,
TTh 2:45 – 3:45, F 1-2 & by appt.



ESL Reading 310

Course Code: 25138

Days/Time: MW 12:30 – 2:35 p.m.

Classroom: **MON. RS 229 / WEDS. RS 228**

Email: thomasb@scc.losrios.edu

My Website: <http://wserver.scc.losrios.edu/~thomasb>

The ESL Site: <http://wserver.scc.losrios.edu/~langlit/esl>

Prerequisites:

To be in ESLR 310, you must first:

- 1) have passed ESLR 50 with a grade of "C" or better, or
- 2) have been placed into ESL level 310 by the SCC ESL assessment test & essay process

Give me a **copy** of either your grade report or assessment center placement showing both test and essay scores **today** or by **FRIDAY**. If you cannot, I will drop you and give your place to a waitlist student who has the prerequisite. If you are planning to take the assessment test, tell me when you expect to get the results. *If you are trying to add the class, you must give me the prerequisite documents before asking for a permission number.*

Corequisite:

Students registered for ESLR 310 **must** also register for ESLR 92 and show proof of enrollment by the 2nd week! Complete a *minimum of 27* hours of work on ESLR 92 materials in the ESL Center to receive credit or you will not be able to take ESLR 320. Register **immediately TODAY** for ESLR 92 (ESL Center Adv.-Low Reading Skills) section # **25936** or **28178**.

- Lab times are selected by lottery on Friday; results will be posted in lab next Monday.
- If you are not enrolled in R310 AND ESLR 92 by this Wednesday, you will not be in the first lottery, so will have to choose your lab day/time next week, by going to the ESL Center. This is not a problem, but you will not get your first choice of times.

Advisory:

The ESL department strongly recommends that students take ESLG 310, W 310, and 114 at the same time because they will help students do better in the reading class. If you have not completed W & G classes up to this level, or choose not to take these other classes now, or *if you are repeating* ESLR 310, please plan time to work in either the ESL Center (ESL 92 Intermediate Independent Lab) or a free tutor from the Learning Resource Center (1st floor), or both.

Important Notes About This Class:

This class is a "computer-assisted" class, taught in both the classroom and the computer lab, so you must be able to type on a keyboard (slowly is okay), be able to use computers and the Internet well enough to do some basic research, and have an email address. I will give you a lot of help, but you need to know the basics and feel comfortable with computers. We will meet in RS326 five times this semester. You don't need to own a computer, but you need some free time if you plan to use the college's computer labs and library. Some projects and homework assignments have to be typed.

How Much Time Will It Take?

ESLR 310 requires an average time commitment from most students. Your total time working outside of class at home will be about **12 hours a week**.

Last Day to Enroll (Add or Drop)

January 30th

Last Day to Drop (No grade)

February 13th

Last Day to Withdraw ("W" grade)

April 17th (Sunday)

SPRING BREAK

April 18th – 22nd

Last Day of Class

May 11th

FINAL EXAM

Monday, May 16th, 12:45 – 2:45 p.m.

You are expected to be present at the final examination on Monday, May 16th, 2011. The day and time of the exam will not change, and early exams are not allowed, so do not purchase airplane tickets or make travel plans for dates on or before the day of your final.

Required Materials and Textbook:

1) **Interactions 2: Reading Silver Edition**, by Hartmann and Kirn, 2007. ISBN: 9780077194840

This is our main textbook, and we'll begin using it immediately. Bring it every day.

2) **The Pearl (Penguin Classics)**, by John Steinbeck, 1994 (originally written 1947). ISBN: 9780140187380

This is our class novel. Compare your copy with the teacher's to be sure the pages match.

3) **Longman Dictionary of American English**, ISBN: 9780131703445, OR **Longman Advanced American Dictionary** ISBN:

9781405829540 or an equivalent *all-English* dictionary is required. The Dictionary of American English might be okay, but electronic and bilingual dictionaries will not help you in this class.

4) A Student Access Card *with Spring 2011 sticker!* (Your student ID, library card, printing card, & bus/rail pass in one card!)

5) An active **email** address & a flash drive to keep documents.

6) A notebook, paper, pens & pencils (to take notes in class, keep a journal, etc.)

CLASS POLICIES - *These are the rules for ESLR 310. Be sure you understand them.*

You will not cheat in this class. That's it. If you share test information before, during, or after a test, that is cheating. If you and a friend turn in identical homework, that is cheating. If you turn in an assignment that was written by someone else, that is cheating. If you use other writers' words and ideas in your papers, you **MUST** mark them in quotes and say where they came from; if you paraphrase, you must still cite your source; if not, it is plagiarism. **According to school policy, if I suspect you have cheated or plagiarized, you will receive zero points for the assignment, and you may fail the course.**

Attendance and Lateness:

Being late is as bad as being absent. You miss important information and you interrupt and slow down the class. Three lates count as one absence and being more than 10 minutes late counts as half an absence. You can miss only **two (2) classes or four (4) hours total** in the semester *for any reason*. You will **lose 10 points for each extra absence/tardy** and be **dropped** at your fifth absence. Attendance and lateness in class will strongly affect your grade by reducing your total points. Please do not make appointments during your class times!

If you know you will be absent, or if you are sick, *please* call my office or email me and let me know why you are absent and when you will be back. Get the number of a classmate **TODAY** who can bring you handouts and share notes with you. You are responsible for all material covered in class and assigned as homework. Be sure to take notes during class lectures and discussions!

Grading and Late Homework:

All grades will be given in points/percents or letter grades. I will give you a grade report at midterm and before the last drop day. If there is anything you don't understand, always feel free to talk to me. *Generally, 100-90% = A, 89-80% = B, 79-70% = C, 69-60% = D, <60 = F.*

If you find a mistake or think I graded something incorrectly, tell me immediately. I will not change grades after the end of the semester unless you've told me about an issue before the semester ends. If you are absent, all homework you miss is still due on the day you return, but is not considered late.

All assignments must be turned in on time. The reading and homework assignments in this class are regular and build on each other, so you have to keep up with them. Not turning them in can seriously affect your class grade! Homework more than two class days late **will not be accepted for a grade unless you were absent with excuse**. (I will correct it for you, but you'll get zero points.) There is no excuse for late work - you can email it to me at any time.

Typical Assignments: (See the R310 Schedule for actual assignments.) *Schedules, grading plans and other information may change at any time; if they do, the instructor will inform you.*

In-Class Tests ~50% **must have C- average to pass**

Four in-class chapter tests and one final exam. 4@100 and 1@200 points 600 points
These will be tests on 2 chapters from our textbook plus other skills we have studied in class. Each test will be two hours long, quizzes for 20 – 30 minutes, and the final exam will be two hours.

Projects ~35%

Three out-of-class projects [Library/Novel/etc] 3@50 points 150 points
These will be reading projects done at home and in class over 4-5 weeks, with lots of opportunity for discussion. Some will be related to the novel we read together in class and some related to reading skills. One will be a group presentation.

Novel Homework ~10%

Reading Assignments, Guided Worksheets, Paraphrases & Summaries, Groups Discussions, etc. ~150 points
These will be done on paper to turn in, usually the next class day.

Daily Participation & Extra Credit ~5%

~100 points
This includes coming to class on time, asking and answering questions, participating in group work, and completing all reading assignments before class so you are ready to talk about them. Points are also given for lab hours completed, including extra hours. You will have many other homework assignments to do at home, but not to turn in. I expect you to do these for your participation grade.

!! NOTE: To receive a "C" or better in ESLR 310, students must have an average 70% success (C-) on all **in-class quizzes and examinations** first, and then an average of 70% or greater success on all other work!
ESLR 92 lab must be completed before you can take ESLR 320 & ESLR 93!

Skills you need for ESLR 310:

The following ESLR 50 prerequisite skills are necessary for you to be successful in this course, so you must be able to:

- * employ skimming and scanning techniques effectively.
- * make accurate predictions when reading.
- * outline a reading passage.
- * demonstrate the ability to locate main ideas and supporting details.
- * demonstrate increased vocabulary and understanding of idiomatic American English.
- * use context clues to guess word meaning.
- * use an intermediate ESL dictionary to divide, pronounce, and define words appropriately.
- * recognize parts of speech from suffixes and sentence structure.
- * draw conclusions and make logical inferences.
- * apply critical thinking skills to fiction and non-fiction readings.
- * summarize short readings and write personal responses which show comprehension of the topic.
- * paraphrase simple reading passages.
- * differentiate fact from opinion.
- * read, interpret, and analyze medium-length texts on academic topics.

About this class:

This course focuses on developing academic reading skills at the Intermediate-High level with an emphasis on speed, vocabulary expansion, and comprehension of ideas, and introduces students to library use. Students will use critical thinking skills to understand, paraphrase, summarize, and respond orally and in writing to ideas expressed in fiction and non-fiction readings. The focus of this course is to improve reading skills, increase vocabulary and increase reading speed, both by working on textbooks and on computers, and to complete reading and analyzing an American novel.

In this class, you will learn how to:

- * read at a faster speed than at the beginning of the course while maintaining comprehension.
- * use context clues and word-analysis skills for building vocabulary.
- * use an intermediate or advanced ESL dictionary to choose the correct definition of a word and understand word connotations to distinguish between synonyms.
- * identify main ideas, theories, and supporting details.
- * differentiate fact from opinion.
- * apply different techniques to analyze, infer, and predict ideas in short and long reading selections.
- * analyze a text closely for patterns of organization.
- * outline, paraphrase, and summarize basic concepts from readings.
- * use new words from reading selections in discussions and written responses.
- * compose written responses to connect ideas in reading selections and to relate ideas from readings to the real world.
- * use active reading strategies: take margin notes and highlight key ideas.
- * complete basic library research tasks developed to introduce students to all aspects of library use.

Other Policies and Notices:

- ❖ No cell phones may be used during class. Turn them off, or *if you have an emergency*, set them to 'silent' or 'vibrate'. You will be asked to leave class if your phone interrupts us by ringing.
- ❖ Papers and files will be kept for one year from the end of the semester, after that, they will be thrown out.
- ❖ Students are expected to speak in English at all times during class.
- ❖ Take care of business before class, during break, or after class – do NOT get up and leave during the class.
- ❖ Bring your textbooks *and* all handouts I give you to class *every day* in your notebook.

Special Needs:

If you have a special need or accommodation (learning or other disability, extra time needed) that has been identified by the Learning Disability or Disability Resource Centers, please discuss it with me as soon as possible. All conversations will be confidential. The college has many resources to help you succeed, as well as counseling and financial aid if you have problems that are keeping you from coming to class or being as successful as possible.



Professor Thomas

Tell Me About Yourself!

ESLR 310

Name: _____ In class, please call me: _____

Phone number: _____ FIRST LAST Email: _____

You will need an email address for this class. You already have free campus email and free use of campus computers.

*** How are you prepared for this class? Check one box** which shows your prerequisite.

You must give the teacher a copy of one of these prerequisites this week.

I have **passed** the prerequisite class, **ESLR 50** and received (check one) an A _____, B _____, or C _____.

→→ The teacher checks this on his computer; if not, he'll ask for a copy.

OR

I took the **ESL assessment test and essay** from Jan. '08 - now. →→ Give me a copy of your **placement report** and received a "TAKE ESL 310 Level" placement.

OR

I'm **repeating** this class (W/D/F only). →→ Give me a copy of your **placement report or ESLR 50 grade**.

OR

I'm **on the waiting list** for this class →→ Write your Student ID# _____ & give me a copy of your prerequisite.

Permission numbers to add the class will be given AFTER your prerequisite is confirmed and only if there is space to accept you as a student. Maximum number of students per section is 27.

*** Please answer these questions:**

1. **Which** languages do you know? _____
2. **Where** were you born? _____
3. **How long** have you lived in the U.S.? _____
4. Did you go to **high school** in this country? _____
5. Did you go to a **university** in any country? _____
6. **How many** units are you taking this semester, total? _____
7. **How many** hours a week do you work (no job = 0)? _____
8. Are you a good **reader? writer?** _____
9. Are you comfortable **using computers?** _____
10. How old are you? Under 18 18-21 21-30 31-40 41-50 51-60 Over 60

*** Please read and sign this agreement.**

I, _____, agree that I will not cheat in any way in this class. I understand the rules in this class and the results of cheating (zero points) as the teacher explained them. I know that honesty is the most important thing and I know that I will get a grade only for my own work. By signing this, I promise to uphold the honor code for students at Sacramento City College.

SIGN HERE

DATE

STOP!

STOP!

STOP!

*** The teacher will do this section.**

Prerequisite	Completed (Semester/Grade):	_____
Assessment	Approved (Computer + Essay):	_____
Repeating	Previous Classes (Semester/Grade):	_____
Other	Verified (Name/Reason):	_____
Waitlisted	Added from Wait List (Date):	_____

NOTES: