

ESL Placement / Registration Guidelines

I recommend that all international students whose language of home and schooling has not been English take ESL Writing and Rhetoric and ESL Oral Expression to fulfill their LAS Core requirements. Ideally they will take both of these classes in their first semester at Columbia.

Our academic ESL offerings are not remedial. They are college credit-bearing courses. ESL Writing and Rhetoric I, II, and Oral Expression fulfill LAS Core Curriculum requirements. ESL College Reading carries college-wide elective credit. The courses are designed to address the challenges that students with heritage and schooling languages other than English face in college-level classrooms.

ESL Placement Guidelines: TOEFL

- All new international students with TOEFL composite scores lower than 260CBT / 110 iBT **must** take ESL Writing and Rhetoric I 52-1121. Exceptions are students with accepted English writing transfer credit from a US institution, with a grade of C or better. If they have transferred 3 credits, they should take ESL Writing and Rhetoric II 52-1122; if they have transferred 6 credits, they do not need to take Composition.
- All ESL Writing and Rhetoric courses require concurrent enrollment (non-credit) in 52-1108, one hour per week of ESL Specialist instruction in the Writing Center.
- All new international students with TOEFL composite scores lower than 213 CBT or 79-80 iBT must also enroll in ESL College Reading 52-1202
- All ESL students should take ESL sections of Oral Expression to fulfill their Oral Communications requirement. I recommend that they do this in their first semester at the College.

ESL Placement Guidelines: ACT

- Students with verbal ACT scores under 22 **must** take ESL Writing and Rhetoric I 52-1121. Exceptions are students with accepted English comp transfer credit from a US institution, with a grade of C or better. If they have transferred 3 credits, they should take ESL Writing and Rhetoric II 52-1122; if they have transferred 6 credits, they do not need to take WR I or II.
- All ESL Writing and Rhetoric courses require concurrent enrollment (non-credit) in 52-1108, one hour per week of ESL Specialist instruction in the Writing Center.
- All ESL students with should take ESL sections of Oral Expression to fulfill their Oral Communications requirement. I recommend that they do this in their first semester at the College.

ESL Placement Guidelines: SAT

- Students with critical reading and writing scores under 550 must take ESL Writing and Rhetoric I 52-1121. Exceptions are students with accepted English comp transfer credit from a US institution, with a grade of C or better. If they have transferred 3 credits, they should take ESL Writing and Rhetoric II 52-1122; if they have transferred 6 credits, they do not need to take Composition.
- All ESL Writing and Rhetoric courses require concurrent enrollment (non-credit) in 52-1108, one hour per week of ESL Specialist instruction in the Writing Center.
- Students with critical reading scores below 550 must also take ESL College Reading - 52-1202.
- All ESL students with should take ESL sections of Oral Expression to fulfill their Oral Communications requirement. I recommend that they do this in their first semester at the College.

ESL Placement Guidelines: Compass

- All new international students with COMPASS writing scores below 72 **must** take ESL Writing and Rhetoric I 52-1121. Exceptions are students with accepted English writing transfer credit from a US institution, with a grade of C or better. If they have transferred 3 credits, they should take ESL Writing and Rhetoric II 52-1122; if they have transferred 6 credits, they do not need to take Composition.
- All ESL Writing and Rhetoric courses require concurrent enrollment (non-credit) in 52-1108, one hour per week of ESL Specialist instruction in the Writing Center.
- All new international students with COMPASS reading scores below 75 **must** also enroll in ESL College Reading 52-1202
- All ESL students with should take ESL sections of Oral Expression to fulfill their Oral Communications requirement. I recommend that they do this in their first semester at the College.