



# Columbia West College

3435 Wilshire Blvd., Suite 1700, Los Angeles, CA 90010

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## Course Syllabus

# Slang & Idioms Beginner

<b>Class Time</b>	<p><u>Afternoon</u> Monday – Thursday 3:05 p.m. – 4:25 p.m.</p> <p><u>Evening</u> Monday – Friday 6:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.      7:15 p.m. – 8:20 p.m.      8:35 p.m. – 9:40 p.m.</p>
<b>Instructional Mode</b>	Residential training
<b>Prerequisite</b>	Placement by assessment.
<p><b>Course Objectives</b></p> <p>The primary aim of this course is for students to gain confidence in their ability to listen to and speak English using a variety of informal expressions. Course objectives are based on critical thinking, listening, speaking, vocabulary, grammar and pronunciation.</p>	
<b>Learning Outcomes</b>	<p>After successful completion of this course, students will be able to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Recognize idioms and common phrasal verbs in everyday situations;</li> <li>2) Guess the meaning of idioms from context;</li> <li>3) Recognize sentence stress, stress in phrasal verbs, intonation, thought groups and rhythm;</li> <li>4) Use idioms in speeches, group discussions, debates and role-plays and;</li> <li>5) Create original dialogues using common idioms and phrasal verbs.</li> </ol>
<p><b>Program Length</b></p> <p>The Beginner level is made up of ESL levels 1 and 2. Each section is twenty-four (24) weeks long. Therefore, you may stay in one section for 24 weeks and not repeat class material. After your first 12 weeks, your completion certificate will show your first level. However, the length of your own program depends on your study habits.</p>	
<b>Required Textbooks (on rotation)</b>	<p><u>Winter &amp; Summer Terms</u>      Yates, Jean. <i>Practice Makes Perfect: English Vocabulary for Beginning ESL Learners. 2<sup>nd</sup> ed.</i> New York: McGraw-Hill Education, 2012.</p> <p><b>Supplemental Text</b>                      Collis, Harry. <i>101 American English Idioms with Audio CD.</i> New York: McGraw-Hill Companies, 2007. Print.</p> <p><u>Spring &amp; Fall Terms</u>                      Fragiadakis, Helen Kalkstein. <i>All Clear 1: Listening and Speaking.</i> Boston: Thomson Heinle, 2007. Print.</p> <p><b>Supplemental Resources</b>      Various selected authentic language materials.</p>

**Assessment and Documentation:** Your progress will be assessed throughout the 24 weeks of curriculum. You will receive a formal assessment at the end of each 4-week module. Your overall class assessment will be based on attendance, class participation, and timely completion of class assignments (quizzes, tests, in-class and homework assignments, and any other projects or assignments the instructor has assigned). At the end of each four-week module, you will be provided with unofficial transcripts. Your grades and Grade Point Averages (GPAs) will be calculated as follows:

Grade	Explanation	Percentage	Grade Point	Advancement
A	Excellent ☺☺☺	90 – 100%	4	Pass
B	Good ☺☺	80 – 89%	3	
C	Satisfactory ☺	70 – 79%	2	
D	Poor ☹	60 – 69%	1	Fail
F	Failing ☹☹	0 – 59%	0	

Your four-week module grade will consist of the following:

Type of Assessment	Percentage
Written assignments/Presentations/Quizzes	50%
Homework	25%
Participation	15%
Attendance	10%

**Attendance:** Please come to class on time and return from breaks on time. If you miss more than 20% of your program, you **cannot** pass this class. You must attend at least 80% of all classes or risk being asked to leave the school (please see Student Handbook for more details). If you come to class late (fewer than 15 minutes) or leave class early (fewer than 15 minutes), you will be marked “tardy.” If you are more than 15 minutes late to class or leave more than 15 minutes early, you will be marked “absent.” Three tardies = one absence.

If you need to miss class, you must inform your teacher as soon as possible. Make-up homework and in-class assignments should be discussed with your teacher. You are expected to get contact information and the missing class notes, handouts, etc. from your classmates. Quizzes are given on Fridays (unless otherwise specified), so do not be absent on Fridays; no makeup quizzes will be given (except in unforeseen extenuating circumstances, or with advanced notice, and permission from Administration. Please note that you must be achieving SAP in order to be approved for make-up quizzes.)

**Satisfactory Academic Progress:** Please keep in mind that in order to maintain Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP), each student at CWC needs to have at least a **2.0 GPA** (Grade Point Average) and a minimum of **80%** cumulative **attendance**.

**In class decorum:** Out of respect for other students please do not eat anything in class. To avoid spills, please use drinking bottles and tumblers with sealable, closed lids. Also, please turn off your cell phones during class or put them on “vibrate.” Please do not get up and exit the class during lectures in order to answer the phone (unless it is an emergency), as it is disruptive and disrespectful to the instructor and other students. No cell phone calls should be conducted in the classroom (including during break).

**Learning Activities:** The class will include direct instruction, in-class written and oral assignments, discussion, movies and short videos, role-playing, and other exercises. You are expected to:

- 1) Attend all classes.
- 2) Actively participate in all class activities.
- 3) Read all assigned material and complete assigned work before each class.
- 4) Successfully complete all assignments (in-class assignments, homework, projects, presentations, quizzes, tests, and any other graded material the instructor assigns).

**Class Schedule:** Please refer to the CWC Curriculum guide that is attached to this syllabus. Instructors will provide students with a specific class schedule, including assignments, due dates, field trips, etc.



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## CONVERSATION PROGRAM CURRICULUM: Slang & Idioms (Beginner)

### SPRING/FALL

MODULE	WEEK 1	WEEK 2	WEEK 3	WEEK 4
A	All Clear 1 Lesson 1 <b>What's Wrong?</b>	All Clear 1 Lesson 2 <b>Who's This?</b>	All Clear 1 Lesson 3 <b>Let's Go Away for the Weekend!</b>	All Clear 1 Lesson 3 <b>Let's Go Away for the Weekend!</b>
B	All Clear 1 Lesson 4 <b>Wake Up!</b>	All Clear 1 Lesson 5 <b>Are You Ready to Order?</b>	All Clear 1 Lesson 6 <b>My Leg Is Killing Me!</b>	All Clear 1 Lesson 6 <b>My Leg Is Killing Me!</b>
C	All Clear 1 Lesson 7 <b>Shopping for Jeans</b>	All Clear 1 Lesson 7 <b>Shopping for Jeans</b>	All Clear 1 Lesson 8 <b>Who's Cooking Tonight?</b>	All Clear 1 Lesson 8 <b>Who's Cooking Tonight?</b>

Fragiadakis, Helen Kalkstein. *All Clear 1: Listening and Speaking*. 2<sup>nd</sup> ed. Boston: Thomson Heinle, 2007. Print.

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## CONVERSATION PROGRAM CURRICULUM: Slang & Idioms (Beginner)

### WINTER/SUMMER

MODULE	WEEK 1	WEEK 2	WEEK 3	WEEK 4
A	English Vocabulary Part I: Nouns - <b>Unit 1</b>  101 American English Idioms 1 - 10 <b>Smell a Rat – Cat Got Your Tongue</b>	English Vocabulary Part I: Nouns - <b>Unit 2</b>  101 American English Idioms 11 - 20 <b>Get in Someone’s Hair – All Thumbs</b>	English Vocabulary Part I: Nouns - <b>Units 3-6</b>  101 American English Idioms 21 - 30 <b>Not Have a Leg to Stand On – Feed Someone a Line</b>	English Vocabulary Part I: Nouns - <b>Unit 7</b>  101 American English Idioms 31 – 40 <b>On Ice – Fork Over</b>
B	English Vocabulary Part II: Adjectives - <b>Unit 8</b>  101 American English Idioms 41 - 50 <b>Knock Someone’s Socks off</b>	English Vocabulary Part II: Adjectives – <b>Unit 9</b>  101 American English Idioms 51 - 60 <b>Talk Through One’s Hat – Get the Ax</b>	English Vocabulary Part II: Adjectives – <b>Units 10-11</b>  101 American English Idioms 61 - 70 <b>In the Hole – Make a Splash</b>	English Vocabulary Part III: Verbs – <b>Unit 12</b>  101 American English Idioms 71 - 80 <b>Have the World by the Tail – Stick to One’s Guns</b>
C	English Vocabulary Part III: Verbs – <b>Unit 13</b>  101 American English Idioms 81 - 85 <b>Get the Ball Rolling – Make Ends Meet</b>	English Vocabulary Part III: Verbs – <b>Unit 13 con.</b>  101 American English Idioms 86 - 90 <b>Get the Jump On Someone – Duck Soup</b>	English Vocabulary Part IV: Adverbs – <b>Unit 14</b>  101 American English Idioms 91 - 95 <b>Money Talks – Different Strokes for Different Folks</b>	English Vocabulary Part II: Adverbs – <b>Units 15-16</b>  101 American English Idioms 96 - 101 <b>Bark Worse Than One’s Bite – People Who Live in Glass Houses Shouldn’t Throw Stones</b>

**Main Text:** Yates, Jean. *Practice Makes Perfect: English Vocabulary for Beginning ESL Learners*. 2<sup>nd</sup> ed. New York: McGraw-Hill Education, 2012. Print.

**Supplementary Text:** Collis, Harry. *101 American English Idioms with Audio CD*. New York: McGraw-Hill Companies, 2007. Print.