



Columbia West College

Course Syllabus

Slang & Idioms – Beginning

This Course Syllabus outlines course-specific information. For program-wide information, please refer to the Program Syllabus, which can be accessed at www.columbiawestcollege.edu → Students → Syllabi and Curriculum Guides.

Prerequisite: Placement by assessment.

Course Objectives: 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.

Learning Outcomes: After successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

1. Recognize idioms and common phrasal verbs in everyday situations;
2. Guess the meaning of idioms from context;
3. Recognize sentence stress, stress in phrasal verbs, intonation, thought groups and rhythm;
4. Use idioms in speeches, group discussions, debates and role-plays and;
5. Create original dialogues using common idioms and phrasal verbs.

Program Length: 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.

Required Textbooks:

Winter & Summer Term:

Yates, Jean. *Practice Makes Perfect: English Vocabulary for Beginning ESL Learners*. 2nd ed. New York: McGraw-Hill Education, 2012

Spring & Fall Term:

Fragiadakis, Helen Kalkstein. *All Clear 1: Listening and Speaking*. Boston: Thomson Heinle, 2007. Print

Supplemental Source:

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



Curriculum Guide

Slang & Idioms – Beginning – Winter/Summer

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

Main Textbook: Yates, Jean. *Practice Makes Perfect: English Vocabulary for Beginning ESL Learners*. 2nd ed. New York: McGraw-Hill Education, 2012
 Supplementary Text: Collis, Harry. *101 American English Idioms with Audio CD*. New York: McGraw-Hill Companies, 2007. Print.



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Slang & Idioms – Beginning – Spring/Fall

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

Textbook: Fragiadakis, Helen Kalkstein. *All Clear 1: Listening and Speaking*. Boston: Thomson Heinle, 2007. Print