

## Course Syllabus

**Course Title:** Accent Modification

**Course Description:**

Designed for advanced ESL students who want to learn techniques for applying more precise North American speech patterns in job-related situations. Concentration will be placed on individual sound production, articulation, connected speech and intonation.

**Course Prerequisite(s):** Level 4 and 5 students

**Course Objectives:**

1. Define in writing selected technical/occupational vocabulary terms required by business and industry
2. Match selected technical/occupational vocabulary terms with their specific definitions
3. Demonstrate correct pronunciation of selected technical/occupational vocabulary terms required by business and industry
4. Discriminate between appropriate and inappropriate use of English language structures
5. Demonstrate orally and in writing appropriate use of English language structures required by business and industry

**Textbook(s):** Pronounce It Perfectly In English, Yates

**Instructor Notes:**

**Lesson Plan – by week or session**

- Session 1: Overview of purpose and goals.  
Course policies and procedures  
Homework assignment
- Session 2: Introduction of notebook words and questions  
Demonstration and practice of homework sounds  
Explanation of whole word production and voice projection  
Initial presentation of minimal pairs and auditory discrimination of contrasting sounds  
Homework assignment
- Session 3: Notebook words and questions  
Explanation of symbols and their importance  
Presentation of individual target sounds from initial assessment  
Self-analysis questionnaire  
Explanation of voiced and voiceless consonants  
Auditory discrimination practice with instructor, focusing on individual target sounds  
Group practice on individual target sounds introduced  
Introduction to past tense endings  
Homework assignment
- Session 4: Notebook words and questions

- Review of target sounds
- Introduction to new target sounds
- Introduction to plural sounds and possessives
- Group practice on target sounds
- Homework assignment
- Session 5: Notebook words and questions
- Review and refine target sounds
- Explanation and initiation of self-monitoring and self-correction
- Introduction to new target sounds
- Homework assignment
- Session 6: Notebook words and questions
- Review, refine and practice target sounds
- Presentation to the class by students of two sentences of their own composition with individual target sounds
- Self-correction
- Presentation of contractions
- Presentation of new target sounds
- Homework assignment
- Session 7: Notebook words and questions
- Practice of past sounds using short responses and automatic speech
- Students read aloud student-written short paragraphs with target sounds
- Self-correction
- Introduction to articles “a” and “an”
- Contractions
- Presentation of minimal pairs in words with target sounds
- Presentation of new target sounds
- Homework assignment
- Session 8: Notebook words and questions
- Students read aloud student-written short paragraphs with many target sounds
- Self correction
- Explanation of and initiation of relaxation and breathing techniques
- Presentation of new target sounds
- Homework assignment
- Session 9: Notebook words and questions
- Students read aloud student-written short paragraphs with many target sounds
- Self correction
- In pairs, students compose, rehearse and present to the class a verbal situation
- Introduction to double consonants
- Homework assignment
- Session 10: Notebook words and questions
- Introduction to syllable stress
- Introduction to blends
- Review progress
- Homework assignment
- Session 11: Notebook words and questions
- Review syllable stress

- Introduction to 3-element blends
- Student write a short paragraph and present it and themselves to the class
- Read aloud selected short stories with opportunity for self-correction
- Homework assignment
- Session 12: Notebook words and questions
- Review 3-element blends
- Introduction to prefixes and suffixes
- Continue to read aloud short stories with self-correction
- Homework assignment
- Session 13: Notebook words and questions
- Review prefixes and suffixes
- Continue short story reading
- Introduction to sentence stress
- Homework assignment
- Session 14: Notebook words and questions
- Review sentence stress
- Continue short story reading
- Post-class taping assessment
- Explanation of intonation and inflection
- Homework assignment
- Session 15: Notebook words and questions
- Students explain to instructor intonation and inflection
- Review of initial evaluation for individual students by the instructor
- Students formulate plans to continue practice
- Enjoyment of tongue twisters and slang usage
- Student Evaluation of Instruction