

General Information

Mercer Education's *ESL CAMP* meets for three hours per day, Monday through Friday for a total of 60 hours of instruction and exercises. There are two one-month sessions, and students may attend just the first session, just the second session, or both. The programs are complementary, and small classes not exceeding eight students allow teachers to tailor sessions to each student's needs. The ability of each student is assessed, and students are scheduled in groups of approximately the same age and proficiency. Each ESL student receives focused instruction in reading, writing, conversation (speaking, listening, and pronunciation), vocabulary development and grammar. The instruction includes an academic focus, preparing the students for school at the elementary, high school, or college level. The specifics of each English class, its topics and assignments, are determined by both the student's English language ability and the selection of content areas to study. Possible content topics include but are not limited to: Ethnic Diversity, Food, Teenage Culture, American Government, American History, American Education System, Film and Cinema, and Sports. Below is an overview of the educational goals for each level.

A Student's Typical Day (total 3 hours instruction per day)

Learning English involves the integration of all the main language learning areas: reading, writing, listening, speaking, vocabulary development, and grammar. For example, vocabulary and grammar development often occurs while students are reading and listening. Because of this overlap of skills and student diversity, time dedicated to various components may vary depending on the needs of the class.

- ▶ Reading – Learn and practice reading strategies for comprehension and analysis of various fiction and non-fiction texts. Classes include extensive discussion of texts being read.

- ▶ Writing – Develop familiarity with the writing process, including brainstorming ideas, mapping those ideas, outlining, drafting, revising, editing, and proofreading.

- ▶ Vocabulary and Grammar – Develop vocabulary and grammar throughout the day by reading multiple texts and completing a variety of targeted exercises.

- ▶ Conversation (Speaking, Listening, and Pronunciation) – Extensive speaking and listening exercises and opportunities together with focused instruction in pronunciation.