

Resolution of the Academic Senate of the College of Alameda: 11/21/24

UC Transferability of English for Speakers of Other Languages Oral Communications Courses

Whereas, The University of California special regulations^[1] for courses in specific subject areas allow for English as a Second Language (ESL) courses to be transferable to the UC as long as they are the “highest levels of ESL, which prepare students for transferable English composition”;^[2]

Whereas, The UC special regulations for courses in specific subject areas also summarily deny UC transferability for “courses that focus exclusively on listening, reading comprehension, or speaking (conversational) skills”;

Whereas, The UC Transfer Articulation Regulations also state that "a course that is comparable to a lower-division course offered at one or more UC campuses"^[3] is transferable, and UC Berkeley offers credit for lower division listening and speaking courses for ESL students through the College Writing Program, including ESL Listening and Speaking (College Writing 3H) and Academic and Public Speaking for Multilingual Students (College Writing 9R)^[4]; and

Whereas, In light of AB 705 (Irwin, 2017)^[5], there has been a push to increase completion and transfer rates for students in the ESL sequence, and research by the Public Policy Institute of California has shown that one of the highest impact reforms that colleges can make is to offer transferable ESL classes, increasing the likelihood that ESL students will complete transfer-level requirements by 16 to 20 percentage points;

Resolved, That the College of Alameda Academic Senate urge the University of California update the University of California special regulations for courses in specific subject areas to remove language prohibiting articulation of ESOL/ESL advanced oral communication classes.

^[1] <https://www.ucop.edu/transfer-articulation/transferable-course-agreements/tca-policy/regulations-by-subject-area.html#e>

^[2] <https://www.ucop.edu/transfer-articulation/transferable-course-agreements/tca-policy/regulations-by-subject-area.html#e>

^[3] <https://www.ucop.edu/transfer-articulation/transferable-course-agreements/tca-policy/regulations-by-subject-area.html#e>

^[4] <https://www.ucop.edu/transfer-articulation/transferable-course-agreements/tca-policy/regulations-by-subject-area.html#e>

^[5] https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billTextClient.xhtml?bill_id=201720180AB705