

## English 680: Applied English Skills for Cultural Production

T Th 2:10 – 3:25 pm • Section AC • 2-111

Fall 2005

# SYLLABUS

**Instructor:** Liza Erpelo  
**Office Phone:** 650 738-4119  
**E-mail:** erpelol@smccd.net  
**Web Page:** <http://www.smccd.net/accounts/erpelol/>

**Office:** Building 2-104  
**Mailbox:** Building 5-130  
**Office Hours:** Tuesday & Thursday 10-11 am  
Wednesday 12-2 pm  
Friday 12-1 pm

### COURSE DESCRIPTION & PREREQUISITES

“The PCN [Pilipino Cultural Night], a symbol of a collaborative vision by a group of dreamers and doers, an event that has come into being all because of just one spurt of imagination, a vision that has unfolded because there was a need to express ourselves, to write ourselves into being. Despite its idealistic beginnings, stress, and lessons learned along the way, we emerge with questions clarified about ourselves and how others see us...and with a better vision for our next big goal.”

— Rachel Cerdenio (“Ate Rache”)  
*2005 Pilipino Cultural Night Advisor, Skyline College*

This course is intended to guide you and the rest of your team, this year’s Pilipino Cultural Night staff, as you develop the reading and writing skills needed to propose and prepare a production to celebrate Pilipino Cultural Night at Skyline College. Variable: 1.0 to 3.0 units. *No prerequisites.*

### COURSE OBJECTIVES

Throughout the course, students will:

- Develop critical thinking skills in the writing and production of Pilipino Cultural Night.
- Read and evaluate examples of other Pilipino Cultural Nights at other college campuses in order to identify and determine which features to adopt, which ones to adapt, and which ones to reject.
- Write, review, and revise a production that incorporates various creative genres in celebration of the Filipino/a and Filipino/a American experience.

Students may be involved in any of the various aspects in the production of Pilipino Cultural Night, including acting, singing, dancing, stage/technical crew, and prop/set design and construction. Through active participation in this production, students will develop an increased awareness and understanding of Filipino/a and Filipino/a American cultures and knowledge of their histories as well.



### TEXTBOOKS AND MATERIALS NEEDED

The instructor will provide the handouts, readings, videos, and other multimedia materials, as appropriate.

### COURSE REQUIREMENTS

#### 1. **Midterm Project (15%)**

The midterm project will consist of individual and collaborative written proposals and outlines for script ideas, such as skits, dance productions, and musical numbers.

#### 2. **Final Project (20%)**

This final collaborative project will consist of the completed Pilipino Cultural Night script.

### 3. Individual Writing Assignments (20%)

These short research papers will be between three and five pages. All writing assignments must be typed in black ink, double-spaced, on white 8.5" x 11" paper in a standard font — no exceptions. Margins should be 1" all around. Please staple all of the pages together and number the pages; you do not need a title page.

You may choose from the following topics:

- (1) origins of a Filipino food or dish,
- (2) history of a dance,
- (3) background on an item of folklore,
- (4) life and contributions of a notable Filipino/a or Filipino/a American,

You can also choose another topic, but you must discuss it with me before you write your outline. Please do not write about a topic more than twice. Submit a rough outline of the topic you want to cover in order to receive approval, then upon approval of your topic, you will submit a final paper that should include:

- The topic you chose and reasons for choosing it.
- The methods of research you used (*i.e.* personal interview, books, Internet). *Which methods worked the most? The least?*
- The information you found that is directly related to your topic.
- An evaluation of your completed research. *Was this assignment helpful in your understanding and learning of Filipino/a culture? Why or why not?*
- A properly cited bibliography. Please use either MLA or APA format.

The schedule of due dates is as follows:

	Outline Due	Research Paper Due
#1	Thursday, 8/25	Thursday, 9/8
#2	Thursday, 9/22	Thursday, 10/6
#3	Thursday, 10/20	Thursday, 11/3
#4	Thursday, 11/17	Thursday, 12/2

### 4. Homework and Quizzes (10%)

**Homework:** Homework consists of readings, smaller writing tasks, worksheets, freewrites, and any other assignments. Each homework assignment is worth three points. Late homework will be accepted by the next class period and carries a point penalty.

Points	Meaning
3 points	excellent work
2 points	good work
1 point	incomplete or needs improvement
0 points	turned in late
-1 point	not turned in

*PLEASE NOTE THAT NOT TURNING IN HOMEWORK EARNS YOU **NEGATIVE** POINTS.*

**Submitting Assignments by E-mail:** I will only accept homework electronically if you are absent on the day that the work is due or if we have made previous arrangements; otherwise, your work will be considered late. Keep in mind, however, that if you e-mail me your homework, you do so at your own risk and I cannot guarantee that I will receive it on time. Please send your work in Microsoft Word format (.doc) or in rich text format (.rtf) as an attachment.

**Quizzes and In-Class Work:** You may not make up a missed quiz or in-class activities; you lose points entirely.

## 5. Lab Hours (20%)

For the 16 hours of lab time, you must work on assigned activities in The Learning Center or attend other workshops and events on campus. I will provide a sign-up sheet to document your lab attendance, which I will collect from time to time to check on your progress. You must also include a short write-up of your experience for any event you attend; the guidelines are listed below. Each lab hour is worth 6 points, for a total possible 100 points. Any hours in excess of your required 16 hours (up to 10 hours) for the semester can be counted as extra credit towards your homework grade.

### **Guidelines for Lab Hours Activities**

Provide a summary of the event that you attended. Include the main details: What was the event? Who or what was featured? When did it happen? Where did it take place? Describe everything that you can about the event. Use as many concrete details, descriptions, and examples as possible — make your reader feel like he or she was there with you. If you volunteered at the event, describe your duties. Then, write a response to the event. What did you think of the event? What did you learn from the event?

1. All papers must be typed and double-spaced and at least one page or 300 words.
2. If you have any ticket stubs, flyers, or other information that you received at the event, include that with your assignment.
3. Please proofread, edit, and revise your responses carefully before turning them in: the quality of your writing will determine the amount of credit you will earn for the assignment.
4. If you work as a volunteer at an event, in addition to receiving credit for your lab hours, you can earn up to 25 points of extra credit. **NOTE:** Please see me before beginning your volunteer work.
5. Have fun! 😊



## 6. Attendance and Participation (15%)

It is crucial that you come to each class prepared and ready to participate. If you are signed up for 3.0 units, missing more than three classes will affect your grade, and missing more than six class meetings is unacceptable and will result in a failing grade for attendance and participation. In addition, please arrive class on time and try to avoid early departures, as these interruptions may interfere with the productivity of our limited class time together.

**Plagiarism:** At all colleges, plagiarism is unacceptable. Plagiarism refers to passing off another person's ideas or words as your own, from copying someone else's words or ideas without citing that source to having people write or excessively edit your essays for you. According to the Skyline College "Student Handbook," plagiarism is:

- Incorporating the ideas, words, sentences, paragraphs, or parts of another person's writing, without giving appropriate credit, and representing the product as your own work.
- Representing another's artistic/scholarly works (such as musical compositions, computer programs, photographs, paintings, drawings, or sculptures) as your own.
- Submitting a paper purchased from a research or term paper service.

Any assignment that has been plagiarized will receive an "NC" (no credit) and we will meet to discuss your status in the course. You may also be required to meet with the Dean of Language Arts for disciplinary action.

**Special Accommodations:** In coordination with the DSPS office, reasonable accommodation will be provided for eligible students with disabilities. If you do not yet have an accommodation letter, please contact the DSPS office at (650) 738-4280.

## GRADING POLICY

This course can be taken for variable units, 1.0 to 3.0 units, depending on the amount of work you plan to complete. The breakdown is as follows:

### 1.0 Units

Midterm project	15%
Final project	20%

### 2.0 Units

4 individual writing assignments	20%
Homework and quizzes	10%
Midterm project	15%
Final project	20%

### 3.0 Units

4 individual writing assignments	20%
Homework and quizzes	10%
16 hours by arrangement	20%
Attendance and participation	15%
Midterm project	15%
Final project	20%

This course is graded A-B-C-D-F with no plus or minus grades. You may choose to take the class Credit/No Credit, but you will need to sign up for this option with me. Grades are assigned as follows:

A or Credit:	90-100% average
B or Credit:	80-89% average
C or Credit:	70-79% average
D or No Credit:	60-69% average
F or No Credit:	below 60% average
W Withdrawal:	a requested grade which can be assigned only if requested before <u>November 15, 2005</u> . Use college withdrawal procedures.

Note that the "W" is a requested grade. A "W" will not be assigned unless you follow the official college WITHDRAWAL procedures. If you wish to drop this class, you must initiate the process using the WEBSMART system. Students will not be automatically dropped for missing class. If you simply disappear from class without going through the withdrawal process, you will receive whatever letter grade you deserve at the end of the semester, most likely an "F."

This course is graded A-B-C-D-F with no plus or minus grades. You may choose to take the class Credit/No Credit, but you will need to sign up for this option with me by the fifth week of the semester.

## IMPORTANT DATES

Last day to <b>ADD</b>	Tuesday, August 30
Last day to <b>DROP</b> without appearing on record	Friday, September 9
Last day to <b>WITHDRAW</b> "W"	Tuesday, November 15

### HOLIDAYS

Labor Day	Monday, September 5
Veteran's Day	Friday, November 11
Thanksgiving	Thursday, November 24 – Sunday, November 27

*Please note that the above schedules and procedures in the course are subject to change in the event of extenuating circumstances.*