

English 104: Applied English Skills for Cultural Production

T Th 2:10 – 3:25 pm • Section AK • 2-111
Spring 2006

SYLLABUS

Instructor:	Liza Erpelo	Office:	Building 2-104
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COURSE DESCRIPTION & PREREQUISITES

“Pilipino Cultural Night is important for many reasons...the most important being the celebration and presentation of the Pilipino Culture through the combined efforts of Filipinos and Filipino-Americans. In a campus and community where Filipinos represent a rather *large* portion of the community, so little is known about the culture. So...it's important for people to see what that culture is like, if only for one night.”

— Erwin Javellana
2005 Pilipino Cultural Night Advisor, Skyline College

This course, a continuation of the Fall 2005 English 680 class, 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 prepare and present a production to celebrate Pilipino Cultural Night at Skyline College.

Variable: 1.0 to 3.0 units.

Prerequisites: None.

Transfer credit: CSU.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

Throughout the course, students will:

- Develop critical thinking skills in the writing and production of Pilipino Cultural Night.
- Review and revise a production that incorporates various creative genres in celebration of the Filipino/a and Filipino/a American experience.
- Present this year's Pilipino Cultural Night on **Saturday, April 22, 2006**.
- Reflect and write a critical analysis of their individual experiences with the production of the show.

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

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.

1. Midterm Project (15%)

The midterm project, due roughly one month before the show, will consist of a short two- to four-page paper outlining your roles and duties for this year's Pilipino Cultural Night. More information will be provided in class.

2. Final Project (20%)

This final project will consist of two parts: (1) participation in the Pilipino Cultural Night production, and (2) a critical reflection of your experience with Skyline College's PCN. In other words, what did you learn from your experience of PCN? Consider the following questions in developing your three- to five-page, typed response:

- What was your initial impression of PCN/English 104?
- What did you hope to learn by joining PCN/English 104?
- What were your collaborative experiences like, if any?
- What kinds of difficulties did you encounter and how did you overcome them, if any?
- How does Skyline College's PCN compare with last year's PCN? With those of other schools?
- How would you describe the interactions and relationships between PCN participants?
- How did you feel about your own performance/participation in PCN/English 104?

3. Individual Writing Assignments (20%)

These short research papers will be between three and five pages. 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, 2/2	Thursday, 2/16
#2	Thursday, 3/2	Thursday, 3/16
#3	Thursday, 4/6	Thursday, 4/27
#4	Thursday, 5/4	Thursday, 5/18

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. **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.

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.

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.

Extra Credit: Options will be offered throughout the semester at the instructor's discretion.

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 April 21, 2006. 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 **ADD** Monday, January 30
Last day to **DROP** without appearing on record Friday, February 10
Last day to **WITHDRAW** (“W”) Friday, April 21

HOLIDAYS

Declared Recess Friday, February 17 – Monday, February 20
Spring Recess Monday, April 10 – Friday, April 14



Pilipino Cultural Night
Saturday, April 22, 2006
“Balik Sambayan: Round Trip”



SHOWTIME! ☺

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