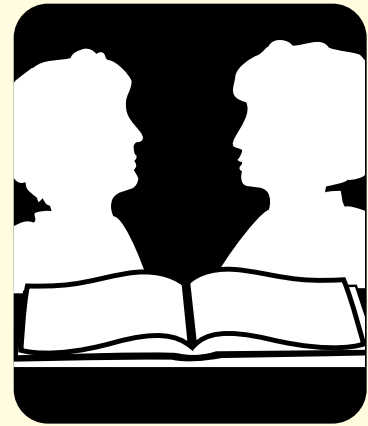


# LEARNING SKILLS



## PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

The Learning Skills Center and the Educational Opportunity Program offer courses, workshops, and individual assistance to students at all university levels. Program areas include reading, study skills, mathematics, English skills for speakers of other languages, spelling and vocabulary improvement, and special services for students with learning disabilities. In addition, intern-training courses are offered for students who desire to become tutors or instructional aides at the college level.

Courses numbered Learning Skills (LS) 1 through 49 are basic skills courses. These courses carry workload credit and may be counted only toward establishing full-time enrollment status. Basic skills course units are not applicable to the bachelor's degree. Courses numbered Learning Skills 50 through 199 carry regular bachelor's degree credits.

Learning Skills 30, 39A-B, 70A, and 79 are specifically for Educational Opportunity Program students and are taught by staff from the Educational Opportunity Program.

### Course Repeat Policy

A student may only repeat one time the following Learning Skills Center courses: LS 7A, 7B, 10A, 10B, 15, 86. (These courses may be taken a total of two times; a student enrolling in one of these a third time may be disenrolled.)

See the CSUS University Repeat Policy.

## FACULTY

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## PLACEMENT INTO LEARNING SKILLS CENTER MATH AND ENGLISH COURSES

Incoming freshmen are required to take the English Placement Test (EPT) and/or Entry Level Mathematics Examination (ELM).

### A. Mathematics

The ELM Examination places students into the following ELM equivalency courses. These courses are for students *who are not exempt* from the ELM requirement. Entering freshmen who score 370 or below *must* enroll, in their first semester at CSUS, in the course which corresponds to their ELM Exam scores. In subsequent semesters they must enroll in the next course in the sequence until their GE quantitative reasoning requirement is met.

#### ELM Scores

370 or below

380 to 470

480 to 540

550 and above

#### Course Placement

LS 7A and 7B

LS 10A and 10B

LS 10B for students planning to take Math 1 for GE area B4

Math 9 or 11 for students planning to take a GE area B4 course other than Math 1

None required (ELM equivalency requirement met).

### B. English

The EPT places students into the following English courses: Entering Freshmen who score 150 or below must enroll in their first semester at CSUS in the course which corresponds to their EPT score. In subsequent semesters they must enroll in the next course in the sequence until ENGL 1A is completed.

#### EPT Scores

EPT total score 120-141

EPT total score 142-150

EPT total score 151 and above

#### Course Placement

LS 15

ENGL 1

ENGL 1A

Freshmen ESL students who score below 151 must enroll in their first semester at CSUS in the following course sequence based upon their English Diagnostic Test (EDT) placement: LS 86, ENGL 2A, ENGL 2B. This sequence is recommended for non-freshman students as well.

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## LOWER DIVISION COURSES

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### Courses for workload credit only

Courses numbered Learning Skills 1 through 49 are basic skills courses. These courses carry workload credit and may be counted only toward establishing full-time enrollment status. Basic skills course units are not applicable to the bachelor's degree. Courses numbered Learning Skills 50 through 199 carry regular bachelor's degree credits.

**3. Tutorials in Basic Mathematics.** Small-group instructional sessions in basic mathematics. Students may choose to study various topics depending on their specific needs. Typical topic areas are: mathematics for elementary chemistry, geometric measurement for geography, mathematics preparation for students with learning disabilities, and selected Entry Level Mathematics topics. Graded Credit/No Credit. 1-2 units.

**4. Learning Development.** Specialized instruction in basic skills for students who have been diagnosed as having learning disabilities. Results of diagnostic assessment of each student's learning strengths and weaknesses are used to develop individualized tutorial programs in the areas of writing, reading, spelling, study skills and basic mathematics. Graded Credit/No Credit. 1-2 units.

**5. Reading and Vocabulary Development.** Individual and small-group instruction or independent-study programs for students wishing to improve basic reading and study skills. Specific areas covered might include reading comprehension, reading rate improvement, text processing techniques, phonics, spelling, vocabulary expansion and etymology. Course may be repeated. Graded Credit/No Credit. 2 units.

**6A. ESL Language Development-Oral Skills.** Small-group instructional sessions in English oral skills for those students whose first language is not English. Course may be repeated. Graded Credit/No Credit. 1-2 units.

**6B. ESL Language Development-Writing Skills.** Small-group instructional sessions in writing skills, including Writing Proficiency Exam preparation for those students whose first language is not English. Course may be repeated. Graded Credit/No Credit. 1-2 units.

**7A. ILE Entry Level Math I.** This Intensive Learning Experience course is the first course in a two semester sequence intended for students who scored 370 or below on the ELM Test and who need to satisfy the ELM requirement. It is required for freshman students and recommended for non-freshman students. The course includes a review of fundamental concepts, measurement geometry and beginning algebra. **Note:** Course will utilize Macintosh computers; previous computer experience not required. Graded Credit/No Credit. 4 units.

**7B. ILE Entry Level Math II.** This Intensive Learning Experience course is the second course in a two semester sequence intended for students who need to satisfy the ELM requirement. It is required for freshman students and recommended for non-freshman students. The course includes a review of beginning algebra, intermediate algebra topics, and measurement geometry. **Note:** Course will utilize Macintosh computers; previous computer experience not required. **Prerequisite:** LS 7A, or permission of instructor. Graded Credit/No Credit. 4 units.

**8A-D. Entry Level Mathematics for Services to Students with Disabilities.** This four semester course sequence is designed to assist students with learning disabilities or sensory/neurological impairments in completing their Entry Level Mathematics requirement. The curriculum corresponds to Entry Level Math-

ematics I and II but is delivered at one-half the pace. Upon completion of the sequence students must enroll in MATH 1. **Prerequisites:** placement by the instructor, certification by Services to Students with Disabilities, ELM Test, and pre-algebra competency. Graded Credit/No Credit. 2 units per semester.

**9. Computer Tutorial for Disabled Students.** Course is designed to provide students with disabilities the basic computer literacy, familiarity of keyboard, fundamentals of IBM and MAC-OS, as well as specialized hardware and software available through Services to Students with Disabilities. Requires an individualized contract and project in the area of skill development, or in an area designed to develop specific skills on adaptive hardware and software through hands-on lab experience, based on individual need due to disabilities. The goal is to enable students to access computers independently with proficiency and/or to participate and produce equally in academic courses. **Prerequisite:** permission of instructor. Graded Credit/No Credit. 1 unit.

**10A. Entry Level Math I.** This course is the first course in a two semester sequence intended for students who scored 380 to 470 on the ELM Test and who need to satisfy the ELM. The course includes a review of fundamental concepts, basic measurement geometry and beginning algebra. Instruction is provided through a structured tutorial format. **Note:** Course will utilize Macintosh computers, previous computer experience not required. Graded Credit/No Credit. 4 units.

**10B. Entry Level Math II.** This course is intended for students who scored 480 and above on the ELM Test and who need to satisfy the ELM requirement. The course includes a review of beginning algebra, intermediate algebra topics, and measurement geometry. **Note:** Course will utilize Macintosh computers, previous computer experience not required. **Prerequisite:** Score of 480 or above on the ELM Test or LS 10A. Graded Credit/No Credit. 4 units.

**15. College Language Skills.** Provides instruction and practice in reading and writing skills. It focuses upon the interrelationships of reading and writing, with particular emphasis upon sentence types, paragraph development, and idea organization. Particular attention is given to matters of grammar, punctuation, and clarity of communication. Lecture three hours, lab two hours. **Note:** Course will utilize MAC-OS; previous computer experience not required. **Prerequisite:** A score of 120-141 on the English Placement Test. Graded Credit/No Credit/Satisfactory Progress. 4 units.

**17. Mathematics Essentials: Selected Topics.** Selected topics in elementary mathematics will be offered. Typical topics: Trigonometry, Solving Word Problems, Measurement Geometry. May be repeated for credit provided topic is not repeated. Graded Credit/No Credit. 1-3 units.

**30. Introduction to College Studies for EOP Students.** An introduction to the CSU, Sacramento, campus and to the procedures, problems and opportunities of college life. Emphasis is placed upon the interests and needs of incoming EOP students. Graded Credit/No Credit. 1 unit.

**39A. Special Problems for EOP Students.** Individualized directed projects or instruction in the area of skill development or in any area designed to develop specific skills, i.e., research; thesis development, etc. **Prerequisite:** permission of instructor. Graded Credit/No Credit. 1-3 units.

**39B. Group Tutorial in Special Problems for EOP Students.** Group instruction in skills development areas. Topics will be offered and groups created as student interest and need requires. **Prerequisite:** permission of instructor. Graded Credit/No Credit. 1-3 units.

## Courses Applicable to the Bachelor's Degree

**50. Academic Strategies for College Study.** This orientation to college studies provides intensive study of the use of campus resources, effective study techniques and successful test-taking strategies to promote academic success. Emphasis is on the presentation and application of organizational and metacognitive strategies required for effective learning. Study topics include time management, learning styles, text processing and critical reading, listening and note-taking, library research, taking exams and improving memory. Graded Credit/No Credit. 3 units.

**55. Academic Strategies Adjuncts.** Supportive study skills adjunct seminars are provided for selected General Education courses. These adjunct classes present instruction in effective learning strategies applied to the academic course in which the student is concurrently enrolled. Techniques for self-monitoring applied to reading, testing and organizing information in the academic course are designed to help students successfully meet the demands of college study within the specific discipline. Adjunct seminars are offered in areas such as Biology, Chemistry, History, Humanities and Religious Studies, Philosophy and Government. May be repeated for credit provided the adjunct topic area is not repeated. **Corequisite:** enrollment in the approved academic discipline course. Graded Credit/No Credit. 1 unit.

**60. Reading for Speed and Efficiency.** Course presents college-level readers with strategies and techniques to promote greater reading efficiency and flexibility as well as to increase reading speed. Classroom instruction includes drills to develop rate and comprehension as well as supplementary practice in the LSC reading lab. **Note:** course will utilize MAC-OS; previous computer experience not required. Graded Credit/No Credit. 1 unit.

**62. Independent Study: Reading.** Individual programs will be developed for students in reading comprehension and speed development. **Note:** this is a lab course and open only to students who are college-level readers and appear competent to carry on work of an individual and primarily self-directed nature. **Prerequisite:** permission of instructor. Graded Credit/No Credit. 1 unit.

**64. Preparation for Professional Examinations.** Designed for those planning to take professional examinations, this course helps students develop test taking strategies, critical thinking skills, and specific skills in reading comprehension, writing, and math needed for various professional tests. Preparation for the following tests will be offered regularly: GRE Verbal, GRE Math, CBEST Reading, CBEST Writing, CBEST Math, MCAT. May be repeated for up to three units of credit provided course topic is not repeated. Graded Credit/No Credit. 1 unit.

**65. Critical Reading and Analysis.** Advanced reading course providing instruction and practice in analysis of prose from various disciplines with emphasis on ability to recognize sophisticated prose structures, idea organization, and interrelationships of concepts; to make inferences, draw conclusions and critically evaluate prose; and to utilize graphic aids (maps, tables, graphs). Special emphasis is placed on thinking skills through problem analysis and solution strategies. 3 units.

**70A. Strategies of Learning for EOP Students.** Designed to provide individual approaches to self knowledge, motivation, educational philosophy and skills necessary to give the student a firm foundation for a productive educational program during his college and post-college career. The basic intent is to help the student perceive his position in the educational process, understand the necessity for succeeding, and learn how to succeed in college. Graded Credit/No Credit. Graded Credit/No Credit. 3 units.

**79. Advanced Independent Study for EOP Students.** Advanced work designed to give students experience in writing where critical thinking, evaluative, and interpretive skills are necessary. **Prerequisite:** permission of instructor. Graded Credit/No Credit. 1-3 units.

**85. Grammar for ESL Writers.** Course covers the major systems of English grammar in the context of reading passages and the students' own writing. Analysis of the form and function of a grammar point in the reading will be followed by an explanation of the grammar point and oral and written exercises. Writing assignments will elicit the structures being taught and give practice in editing authentic writing. **Prerequisites:** placement of LS 86 or ENGL 2A on the English Diagnostic Test. **Corequisite:** LS 86, ENGL 2A, or a course that requires considerable writing. Graded Credit/No Credit. 2 units.

**86. English for Speakers of Other Languages II.** Designed to meet the specific needs of students for whom English is a second language. Course focuses upon the interrelationships of reading and writing, with emphasis upon sentence types, paragraph development, and idea organization. Particular attention is given to matters of grammar, punctuation, and clarity of communication. Lecture three hours, lab two hours. **Note:** Course will utilize MAC-OS; previous computer experience not required. **Prerequisite:** Placement into course by the English Diagnostic Test. Graded Credit/No Credit/Satisfactory Progress. 4 units.

**87. Grammar for Advanced ESL Writers.** Course covers the major systems of English grammar as they function in written discourse. Students will read samples of authentic discourse, write weekly assignments, editing them for the particular grammatical features being studied; and develop a portfolio of writing from other courses which they will edit. **Prerequisites:** ENGL 1A or equivalent; and a writing subscore of 4 on the English Diagnostic Test. **Corequisite:** enrollment in a course with a substantial writing component. Graded Credit/No Credit. 3 units.

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## UPPER DIVISION COURSES

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**195A. Learning Skills Tutoring Internship.** Theory and practice in the tutoring of learning skills: (1) human relations in tutor-student interactions; (2) learning development in one of several instructional areas (e.g., mathematics, reading/study skills, English language development); (3) practical application of learning through the tutoring of students. **Prerequisite:** permission of instructor. Graded Credit/No Credit. 3 units.

**195B. Practicum for Tutors.** An advanced paraprofessional training/practicum course for Learning Assistance Program tutors. It will stress the tutor's knowledge of diagnostic and informal testing procedures and interpretations, further enhance instructional abilities in skills areas, and provide additional practical experience tutoring students on a regular basis. **Prerequisite:** LS 195A or permission of instructor. Graded Credit/No Credit. 3 units.

**196. Experimental Offerings in Learning Skills.** Intensive study of selected topics related to the improvement of tutoring skills. Course will be offered in the various content areas served by the Learning Skills Center in response to student needs and instructor availability. Not offered every semester. 1-3 units.

**199. Special Problems.** Individual projects or directed study. Open only to students who are competent to carry on individual work. **Note:** admission requires the approval of the faculty member under whom work will be conducted and of the department chair. Graded Credit/No Credit. 1-3 units.