

ESOL Program

PHILOSOPHY

The ESOL program of Saddlebrook Preparatory utilizes a communicative approach to second language learning, while additionally providing content support in all other subject areas. Students are immersed in American English, and receive instruction in reading, writing, listening and speaking. This instruction is delivered through a variety of methods, including guided reading and writing, grammar lessons and practice, reading to increase vocabulary, visual aids, pronunciation and dictation, audio-visual support and more.

OBJECTIVES

The goal of the ESOL Program is that all non-native speakers attain advanced proficiency in the English language. A secondary goal is that these students transition into mainstream classes as quickly as possible.

Specifically, the program aims to help students:

Understand and be understood in spoken English

Be able to express themselves in written English

Prepare for American college work and beyond

Compose extended essays in a variety of formats, such as analytical and creative

Conduct research and present findings both orally and in a research paper

Gain a working knowledge of the rules of English grammar

Pronounce words in accordance with American diction

Feel confident in their abilities in English

Receive the same quality education as a native English speaker at Saddlebrook Prep

Ask questions and learn in a comfortable, non-threatening atmosphere

Transition to life in the United States

Integrate with their peers

Educate the native-speaking student body on the various cultures represented

Participate in all subject areas through the use of linguistically modified instruction and materials

Courses are offered once a proficiency exam has evaluated strengths and weaknesses.

Courses vary by semester and include ESOL English, ESOL Science and ESOL Resource Room. Support is given wherever deemed necessary.

STRENGTHS

1. All students with English-language support need have time with the ESOL teacher
2. The ESOL teacher and ESOL room provide a welcoming, positive atmosphere for ESOL students
3. Emphasis is placed on accountability for one's own learning at all ability levels
4. Collaboration between ESOL and the English and Social Studies teachers is efficient and effective
5. ESOL students are extensively prepared for the TOEFL, the SAT and the ACT

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Consider buying some content textbooks written specifically for ESOL students
2. Consider expanding our collection of translated copies of major literary works
3. Consider additional ESOL training for all staff members