

Parsons The New School for Design/School of Language Learning and Teaching, NSPE

Frequently Asked Questions About the English Course Placement Test

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| Why did I receive a notice about the English course placement test? | All incoming students receive information about the English course placement test. This is to make sure that all non-native English speakers know that the test is required. |
| Who is required to take the English course placement test? | All non-native English speakers in the undergraduate, AAS, and graduate programs are required to take the test even if they have taken English classes or have a TOEFL or SAT score. If you are a native English speaker OR if you have successfully completed the ESL + Design Certificate program, you are not required to take the test. Visiting Students (students participating in an exchange program from another university) should also take the test, although signing up for ESL classes is optional for Visiting Students. |
| What is a native English speaker? | A native English speaker is generally defined as a person whose first language is English. If the main language that you grew up speaking at home was English, then you are a native speaker. |
| I am a citizen of the United States/ Canada/Australia/the United Kingdom. Do I need to take the test? | The English course placement test requirement has nothing to do with your citizenship, immigration status, or place of residence. The only factor that matters is your native language. |
| What if I am bilingual? What if I am "Fluent in English?" What if some/part/all of my education was in English? What if I went to High School in the US or all of my classes were in English? | You MUST take the test if you are not a native speaker. |
| I received a transfer credit evaluation stating that my English credits from my previous college have been accepted. Do I still need to take the test? | <p>Yes. Please be aware that the transfer credit evaluation is a preliminary evaluation NOT a definitive statement. This is potential credit that might be given to you after being reviewed. As stated on the evaluation form: "This evaluation is subject to program review and receipt of all final documentation." If you place into ESL 1650 Intermediate or ESL 1700 High Intermediate, transfer credits for English will not count toward the six-credit English requirement. They will be awarded as liberal arts electives credits.</p> <p>If you place into ESL 1800 or Writing for Multilingual Students, pending credits may be awarded at the end of the semester depending upon your performance in your ESL course. Pending transfer credits will be awarded for students placed into ESL 1800 or 1810 who receive an A or A- minus in their ESL class. Up to three credits will count toward the English requirement, and any remaining English credits will count as liberal arts electives.</p> <p>If you are not placed into an ESL course, the pending credits will be awarded once the Office of Advising receives proper documentation of your course work.</p> |
| Why does Parsons require non-native English speakers to take the test? | We want to make sure that students are prepared for the courses they will take at Parsons. If the test results demonstrate that a student is not prepared for college-level academic courses, then we will require her to successfully complete ESL courses in order to improve her English. Many of our students are non-native English speaking students, and our ESL classes are designed to help these students succeed in their academic courses. |

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| Do I need to bring anything to the test? | Please bring headphones or earbuds, your New School identification number, and a photo ID. |
| May I use a dictionary during the test? | No. Dictionaries are not permitted. |
| What will be on the test? | The computer-based English course placement test includes the following sections: listening comprehension (recorded speech followed by multiple-choice questions); grammar questions (multiple choice); reading comprehension questions (multiple choice); one 30-minute essay of at least one page (choice of two topics); and a brief interview. The test will take about one hour and forty-five minutes. |
| How can I prepare for the test? | The best way to prepare for the test is to read, write, and speak English as much as possible so that you are comfortable thinking in English instead of translating your thoughts from your native language into English, and vice versa. |
| Where do I sign up for the test and how do I sign up? | <p>You will receive an email with a link to sign up for the test. This link can also be found on the Advising English Placement website. You only need to sign up for one test date.</p> <p>IT IS HIGHLY RECOMMENDED TO SIGN UP FOR THE EARLIEST DATE POSSIBLE.</p> <p>If you sign up early, you will be able to register for classes before other students and get the best choices possible for your course schedule.</p> |
| When will the test take place? | For both the fall and spring semesters, testing takes place during orientation; for precise testing dates, times, and locations please refer to the orientation schedule. |
| How can I find the results of the test? | <p>You MUST report to a required registration meeting on the day after the test to get placement results and register for an appropriate English class. Please check the Starfish page where you sign up for the test for the meeting location.</p> <p>English course instructors and academic advisors will be available for questions and to assist with registration. The time and location of the placement results will be announced when you take the test.</p> <p>If you do not register for an assigned ESL class, it will impact your progress towards completion of degree requirements and may extend your expected date of graduation.</p> <p>If you have problems with your schedule, please contact your program advisor immediately for help.</p> |

If you have any other questions about the English course placement test and ESL courses, please contact:

parsonsenglish@newschool.edu

If you have any questions concerning registration or orientation week, please contact the Office of Advising:

AdvisingParsons@newschool.edu

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English Course Placement Test Results Guide

Students will receive their placement results and register for an appropriate English class on the morning following their placement test. English course instructors and academic advisors will be available for questions and to assist with registration. The time and location of the placement results will be announced when you take the test, and can also be found Starfish sign-in page where you sign up for the exam or in your confirmation email.

Please be aware that it is your responsibility to find out your test results and to register for the appropriate courses. Failure to register for this class will impact your progress towards completion of degree requirements and may extend your expected date of graduation. If you have problems with your schedule please contact your program advisor immediately for help.

BFA or BBA students in 120-credit programs

| If you place into: | You are required to register for this writing course in your first semester: | You are required to take the following courses in this order: |
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| ESL 1650 Intermediate | ESL 1600 (NELP 1650) AND ESL 1650 (NELP 1650) Note: You must register for both courses during the same registration session. | Three semesters are required: : First semester: First semester: ESL 1600 Intermediate + ESL 1650 (1.5 credits each, 3 credits total) : Second semester: ESL 1700 High-Intermediate and ESL 1750 American Cultural Language (1.5 credits each, 3 credits total) PUFY Integrative Seminar 1 [LS] (6 credits) : Third semester: ESL 1800 Advanced (3 credits) PUFY Integrative Seminar 2 [LS] (6 credits) |
| ESL 1700 High-Intermediate | ESL 1700 (NELP 1700) AND ESL 1750 American Cultural Language (NELP 1750) Note: You must register for both courses during the same registration session. | Two semesters are required: : First semester: ESL 1700 Intermediate and ESL 1750 American Cultural Language (1.5 credits each, 3 credits total) PUFY Integrative Seminar 1 [LS] (6 credits) : Second semester: ESL 1800 (3 credits) PUFY Integrative Seminar 2 [LS] (6 credits) |
| ESL 1800 Advanced | ESL 1800 Advanced (NELP 1800) | Two semesters are required: : First semester: ESL 1800 Advanced (3 credits) PUFY Integrative Seminar 1 [LS] (6 credits) : Second semester: PUFY Integrative Seminar 2 (6 credits) |
| Writing for Multilingual Students (Advanced) | Writing for Multilingual Students (NELP 1810) | Two semesters are required: : First semester: Writing for Multilingual Students (3 credits) PUFY Integrative Seminar 1 (6 credits) : Second semester: PUFY Integrative Seminar 2 (6 credits) |

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| No ESL | PUFY Integrative Seminar 1 | Two semesters are required: : First semester: PUFY Integrative Seminar 1 (6 credits) : Second semester: PUFY Integrative Seminar 2 (6 credits) |
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AAS students, and 134-credit BFA and BBA students

| If you place into: | You are required to register for this writing course in your first semester: | You are required to take the following courses in this order: |
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| ESL 1650 Intermediate | ESL 1600 (NELP 1600) AND ESL 1650 (NELP 1650) Note: You must register for both courses during the same registration session. | Four semesters are required: : First semester: First semester: ESL 1600 Intermediate + ESL 1650 (1.5 credits each, 3 credits total) : Second semester: ESL 1700 and ESL 1750 American Cultural Language (1.5 credits each, 3 credits total) : Third semester: ESL 1800 (3 credits) |
| | ESL 1700 (NELP1700) AND ESL 1750 American Cultural Language (NELP 1750) Note: You must register for both courses during the same registration session. | Three semesters are required: : First semester: ESL 1700 and ESL 1750 American Cultural Language (1.5 credits each, 3 credits total) : Second semester: ESL 1800 (3 credits) : Third semester: Critical Reading and Writing Bridge (3 credits) |
| ESL 1800 Advanced | ESL 1800 (NELP 1800) | Two semesters are required: : First semester: ESL 1800 (3 credits) : Second semester: Critical Reading and Writing Bridge (3 credits) |
| Writing for Multilingual Students (Advanced) | Writing for Multilingual Students (NELP 1810) | Two semesters are required: : First semester: Writing for Multilingual Students (3 credits) : Second semester: Critical Reading and Writing Bridge (3 credits) |
| No ESL | Critical Reading and Writing 1 (PLEN 1020) | Two semesters are required: : First semester: Critical Reading and Writing 1 (3 credits) : Second semester: Critical Reading and Writing 2 (3 credits) |

MFA, MA, MArch, and all other graduate degree programs

| If you place into: | You are required to register for this writing course in your first semester: | You are required to take the following courses in this order: |
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| Graduate English Language Seminar 1 | Graduate English Language Seminar 1 (NELP 5897) | Three semesters are required: <ul style="list-style-type: none">: First semester: Graduate English Language Seminar 1: Second semester: Graduate English Language Seminar 2: Third semester (Summer of your first year): NELP 1800 Advanced or NELP 5899 |
| Graduate English Language Seminar 2 | Graduate English Language Seminar 2 (NELP 5898) | Two semesters are required: <ul style="list-style-type: none">: First semester: Graduate English Language Seminar 2: Second semester: Graduate English Language Seminar 3 |
| Graduate English Language Seminar 3 | Graduate English Language Seminar 3 (NELP 5899) | One semester is required: <ul style="list-style-type: none">: First semester: Graduate English Language Seminar 3 |

General policies for course registration for undergraduate and graduate students:

You cannot skip levels or take more than one English level at the same time.

Students placing into ESL must successfully complete the ESL sequence before enrolling in Liberal Arts courses such as Objects as History or Sustainable Systems.

If you feel that you may not have been placed in the proper course, please be aware that you are still required to register for the course in which you were placed. All English as a Second Language (ESL) instructors will administer a short writing test in the first class meeting in order to determine if any students have been misplaced. Instructors will contact the ESL Advisor if they recommend that any students be moved to a different course, and he will review each case individually.

Important Note for Students with Pending Transfer Credits for English:

Students with pending transfer credits for English coursework from another school where English is the medium of instruction may still be required to take ESL courses depending on the results of the English Course Placement Test.

If you place into ESL 1600 or ESL 1700, transfer credits for English will not count toward the English requirement. They will be awarded as liberal arts elective credits.

If you place into ESL 1800 or Writing for Multilingual Students, pending credits may be awarded at the end of the semester depending upon your performance in your ESL course. Pending transfer credits will be awarded for students placed into ESL 1800 or 1810 who receive an A or A- minus in their ESL class. Up to three credits will count toward the English requirement, and any remaining English credits will count as liberal arts electives.

If you are not placed into an ESL course, the pending credits will be awarded once the Office of Advising receives proper documentation of your course work.

Important note for AAS Fast Track Students:

Please be aware that your English Course Placement Test results will determine if you will be required to attend an additional semester or two beyond the year that you anticipate being at Parsons in order to satisfy this language proficiency requirement. To avoid unexpected visa issues or financial concerns after arrival, please consider this possibility in advance.
