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**ESOL: English for Speakers
of Other Languages**



ESOL

English for Speakers of Other Languages

Is English your second language? Would you like to improve or feel more confident when communicating with others? Our English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) courses support learners who plan to live, study and/or work in Scotland permanently, whose first language is not English.

The course develops skills that are essential for learning, life and work. It will increase confidence in your ability to communicate. It will also help you to develop cultural awareness and help you to integrate into the local community. Also to develop more fluid language when responding to native speakers, enabling you to participate more fully as citizens in Scottish society.

What you will learn

Develop your independence and self confidence

Enhance your language skills and increase your chance of employment

Develop your social skills and friendships

Increase your cultural awareness of life in Scotland

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Zuzanna Chmielewska

Start here
Level 4 ESOL

Go anywhere
Early Learning and
Childcare Practitioner

Zuzanna first came to Scotland in 2012 and was very keen to improve her English. She started her studies at Ayrshire College as a Level 4 ESOL student in 2013, and from the beginning showed great dedication to her learning. After a bit of persuasion (College staff, her family and friends made a real team effort) Zuzanna applied for an Access to Early Years and Childcare course and gained a lot more confidence in English as a second language.

She progressed further on to NC Early Education and Childcare and HNC Childcare Practice where she impressed lecturers and students alike with her excellent work ethic and wide-ranging knowledge. Zuzanna's dream came true when she got her job as an Early Learning and Childcare Practitioner in Onthank Early Childhood Centre.
"Starting my journey with Ayrshire

College and starting English ESOL course was the best decision ever! Continuing my learning journey as an ESOL student and progressing through the levels encouraged me to start my Early Learning and Childcare course. I would truly recommend ESOL classes for everybody. I can easily say that English ESOL opened doors to my career.

Without ESOL, I would never have felt confident and brave enough to start an Early Learning and Childcare course. A big, big, big thank you to all the fantastic, dedicated, passionate and very well educated ESOL lecturers such as Shona and Orsi who believe in everybody."

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Jamal Alosch

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Level 3 ESOL

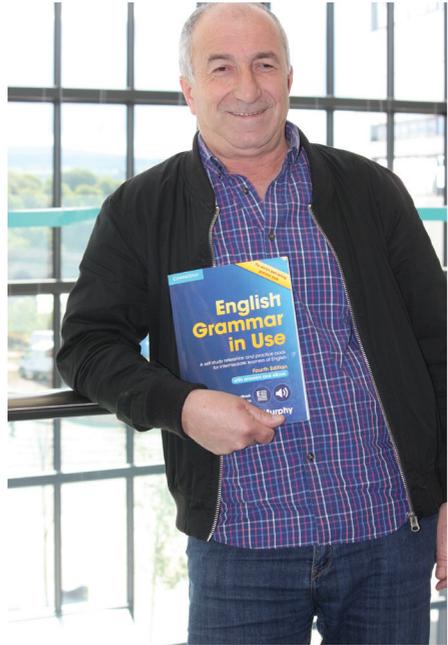
Go anywhere

HNC Electrical Engineering

Jamal Alosch, his wife and two children arrived in East Ayrshire from Syria just before Christmas in 2015.

After moving to Scotland, he quickly found that his lack of English was a real barrier to making a success of living in their new community. Buying bus tickets or filling out forms was a daily struggle, resulting in a lack of confidence when using English. Jamal therefore was very keen to attend community ESOL classes run by East Ayrshire Council. Through our transition pathway with the local authority, he progressed onto a Level 3 college ESOL course in August 2016.

Jamal continued to study ESOL and enrolled on an NC Electrical Engineering course in 2017. He is now studying on an HNC Electrical Engineering course in the hope that he will soon be able to work as an electrician in Scotland. Jamal's determination to improve his language skills and to become part of his local community has been inspiration to everyone around him.



"I am very grateful for the ESOL course," says Jamal. "It has helped me make progress with my English. The course was a good opportunity for me to meet new people from different countries and make new friends from all over the world. I'm more confident now. The course was a catalyst, and it has encouraged me to continue my learning journey. Thanks to the ESOL classes I am able to study HNC Electrical Engineering at Ayrshire College."

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Elena Kostiukova

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Level 3 ESOL

Go anywhere
Level 4 ESOL

Elena, an economist from Russia, moved to East Ayrshire with her Scottish husband in July 2018.

Language learning has always been important for Elena, having started studying English with a private tutor in Russia. Once she moved to the UK, she found that the Scottish dialect can be very challenging and was very keen to improve her English. She first started to attend a beginners' class in a community centre where a friend of hers suggested she tried college classes.

Elena has been making great progress in her Level 3 ESOL class and takes every opportunity to learn more English and achieve her dream - working as an economist in Scotland.

As Elena put it: "English means much in my life, because I am living in Scotland now. I lived in Russia all my life and spoke only Russian. I started to learn English last year in my college class. My teacher is very clever and kind, she can explain everything very easily. I really like her; she always helps me. I am making great strides. I can already talk on simple topics with people. I'm not afraid to go to the store, the hospital and ask questions.

I am going to continue to study English, because I want to understand many people, read English books in the original, listen to songs and watch different TV programmes. I dream to work in the UK."



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The language of your future

“The current linked Community Learning/College accreditation process with Ayrshire College, facilitates smooth articulation for ESOL learners.

The arrangement gives ESOL learners the opportunity to meet College staff whilst studying in the community. This in turn builds confidence to take the next step in their learning journey. Community Learning and college staff are working collaboratively to deliver ESOL programmes, based on the needs of each individual in a community setting. The shared delivery ensures consistent quality of provision and natural progression.”

Kate Sangster
Team Leader ESOL/Literacies Skills
Community Learning & Development
South Ayrshire

Why choose ESOL at Ayrshire College?

- Be part of an environment that supports your progression from community provision to college.
- Achieve your full potential in courses aimed at developing your English language skills to help you in life and employment.
- Become part of a bigger community of English language learners and attend social events.
- Link with provision across Ayrshire that will meet your needs.



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“Vibrant Communities Services refugee and communities ESOL provision, is able to support learners presenting a need to learn or improve their English language skills. We are able to provide a person centred approach fully supported by the partnership with Ayrshire College. This partnership means that our learners are able to be assessed, levelled and accredited, and given guidance to assist them to progress their learning journey. The partnership works well to support all of our learners to live and enjoy life in Kilmarnock.”

Joan McDaid
Acting Team Co-ordinator
Lifeskills and Inclusion Team
Vibrant Communities, East Ayrshire

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Is ESOL right for you?

Our courses are designed for those who have previously studied English (ESOL) and we offer a range of courses at different levels.

If you would like to develop your reading, writing, listening and speaking skills, to understand and use English for learners whose first language is not English, then this course is for you. You'll develop your language skills, process information more easily, apply knowledge of language in practical and relevant contexts, and gain confidence to undertake new and more challenging tasks in a variety of situations.

The course gives you the opportunity to develop and extend a wide range of skills. You will:

- Develop reading, writing, listening and speaking skills in English.
- Understand detailed written and spoken texts in English in the context of everyday life, and familiar contexts of work and study.
- Produce detailed written English in the context of everyday life, and familiar contexts of work or study.
- Interact with others showing understanding of, and using detailed spoken English in, the context of everyday life and familiar contexts of work or study.
- Apply knowledge and understanding of language in spoken and written English.

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Start Here

We offer ESOL classes from National 3 to Higher. If you're unsure of your English language level, please contact us to arrange an ESOL Initial Assessment. This will allow us to place you in the best course for you.

If you have passed ESOL National 5 (or equivalent) you may be exempt from the initial assessment.

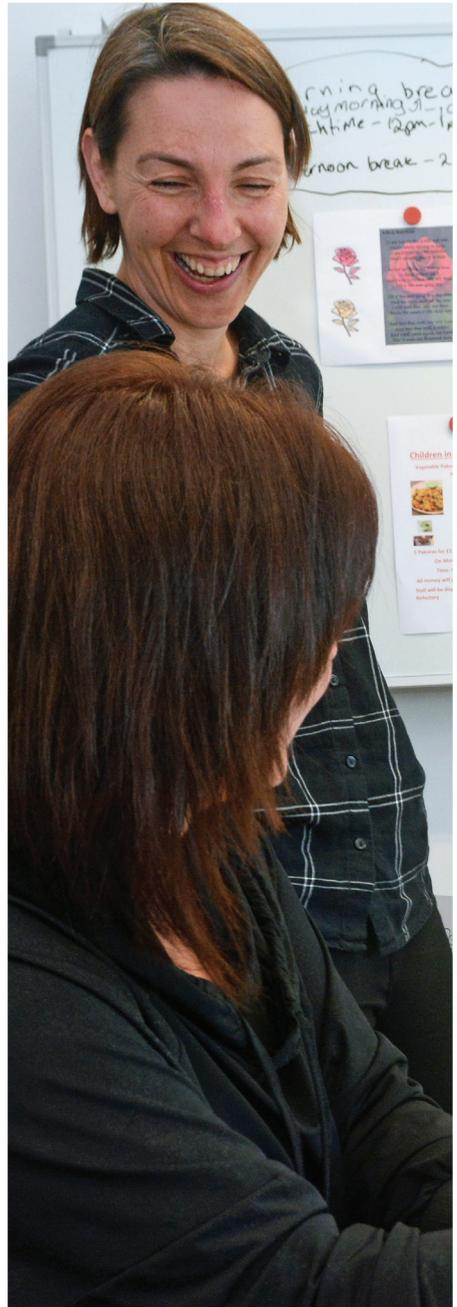
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After completing your ESOL course, you may progress to:

- Other SQA qualifications in ESOL or related areas.
- Further study, employment and/or training.

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