



We offer day, evening, or online ESL classes.



It's easy to get to Goodwin. We are in East Hartford, CT on bus lines 95 and 87.



ESL courses are available to most students at little-to-no cost.

Certificate Program English as a Second Language

The Goodwin University ESL program is designed for non-native speakers seeking to improve proficiency in listening, speaking, reading and writing English. ESL coursework will expand students' knowledge of American customs and culture and provide a foundation in academic English to help students advance to college-level classes.

- ESL courses are available to most students at no cost.*
- Goodwin University is conveniently located on bus lines 95 and 87. Local buses connect to CTfastrak service.
- Academic and vocational English classes are available for increased job opportunities and better quality of life.
- Tutoring is available
- Day, evening, or online classes are available
- Small class sizes and personal attention

* Income guidelines and residency requirements apply. The student is responsible for the cost of the application fee and books.

ESL day classes

Monday–Thursday
8:15 a.m.–2:15 p.m. for 7½ weeks

ESL evening classes

Monday, Wednesday, and Thursday
5:30 p.m.–9:30 p.m. for 15 weeks

ESL online classes

Online English as a Second Language classes are also available for students.

Certificate Program

English as a Second Language

Admission and placement

Applicants may self-certify that they have obtained a high school diploma and are not required to submit an official high school transcript.

To determine placement, all prospective students must complete the following:

- Take a faculty-designed grammar test
- Complete the Comprehensive Adult Student Assessment System (CASAS) pre-test
- Participate in a personal interview

The ESL courses are sequenced and delivered in four levels, consisting of one course each. Students who enter the program at Level 2, 3, or 4 will receive Advanced Placement credit for the lower level courses. The 24 institutional credits received for the ESL program cannot be applied or transferred to any degree program at Goodwin University.

Students must earn a grade of “C-” (70%) or better in both segments to pass each level.

Level 1

ESL 015 - Beginning English I

This course focuses on fundamental grammar, common vocabulary, introduction to reading skills in English, and conversation practice.

Level 2

ESL 025 - Beginning English II

This course continues and reinforces content and skills from ESL 015. Students will focus on four skills in various segments- fundamental grammar, common vocabulary, reading comprehension, and conversation practice.

Level 3

ESL 035 - Intermediate English I

This course is designed to develop students’ grammar, as well as introduce students to paragraph writing. Additionally, students will be introduced to giving speeches and presentations, as well as advancing reading comprehension and vocabulary.

Level 4

ESL 045 - Intermediate English II

This course builds on the foundation of the previous three levels. It is designed to help students refine their grammar and build effective communication skills. Students will also continue reading more complex texts as well as building speaking and oral presentation skills. Students will move beyond writing at the paragraph level into longer compositions.

Goodwin University is a nonprofit institution of higher education and is accredited by the New England Commission of Higher Education (NECHE), formerly known as the New England Association of Schools and Colleges (NEASC).