

# Skyline College

## Official Course Outline

Date: January 2007

### 1. TITLE

English 104: “Applied English Skills for Cultural Production”  
1.0 - 3.0 units; 16-48 lecture hours  
Recommended: Eligibility for English 836 or equivalent.

### 2. COURSE CLASSIFICATION

Credit course applicable to the Associate Degree.

### 3. CATALOG DESCRIPTION

#### **Catalog Description:**

This course is designed for students who want to develop critical thinking skills in the writing and production of a Pilipino Cultural Night (PCN). Students will research other PCNs, read and evaluate cultural literary texts related to the theme for content and composition, and work collaboratively to write a script to celebrate the Filipino and Filipino American experience.

#### **Schedule of Classes Description:**

This course is for students who want to learn critical thinking, reading, and writing skills in the context of producing a Pilipino Cultural Night.

### 4. STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES

Upon completion of the course, students will be able to:

- Read and evaluate examples of other Pilipino Cultural Nights at other college campuses in order to identify and determine which features and themes to adopt, which ones to adapt, and which ones to reject.
- Read and evaluate literary works related to the cultural themes of the script.
- Write, review, and revise a production that incorporates various creative genres in celebration of the Filipino/a and Filipino/a American experience to be presented in the spring semester.

### 5. SPECIFIC INSTRUCTIONAL OBJECTIVES

1. Develop critical thinking skills in the writing and production of Pilipino Cultural Night
2. Through an internship with Bindlestiff Studio during the fall semester, learn about the various aspects of cultural production, and write, direct, produce, and perform in a collaborative showcase with the theater troupe.
3. Write and revise a Pilipino Cultural Night script, a roughly 70-page collaborative document, during the fall semester.
4. Produce and direct the PCN at the end of the semester on stage

## 6. COURSE CONTENT

1. Pre-writing and reading activities:
  - a. Identify the cultural themes of Pilipino Cultural Night
  - b. Identify the reading and writing projects needed to produce a Pilipino Cultural Night
2. Throughout the term, individually, in small groups, and as a class, engage in the reading and writing projects needed to produce a Pilipino Cultural Night
  - a. Identify the underlying cultural themes -- such as sociocultural issues like assimilation and cultural awareness -- on which to base the writing
  - b. Use the Internet and other research tools to explore how others have addressed similar themes within and outside of other PCNs
  - c. Critically read and analyze examples of professional or expert productions and the texts related to the theme in order to identify universal elements that mark successful productions
  - d. Read and critically evaluate cultural literary texts related to the themes
  - e. Write the acts that support the underlying themes
  - f. Critically analyze the written work to ascertain if the writing is true to both the focus and the themes
  - g. Edit as needed for coherence and unity and for accuracy in form and content
3. At the end of the term, critically evaluate the writing produced for Pilipino Cultural Night and revise it for
  - a. Organization, clarity, and coherence in expression
  - b. Inclusion of supporting detail and analysis
  - c. Precision in language and thought
  - d. Effectiveness of the written production in depicting the Filipino and Filipino American experience

## 7. METHODS OF INSTRUCTION

Lecture, lecture/discussion, small group instruction, individual work with the instructor, in-class writing, critical reading, quizzes, guidance in the research process.

## 8. ASSIGNMENTS

Typical assignments may include:

1. Four to six individual writing assignments will range from 500-2,000 words per assignment. These could range from online journals or “weblogs” to short research papers on literary texts related to the theme, cultural items, events, or activities.
2. Quizzes of from 5- 20 questions each will be given to evaluate student comprehension of reading assignments, such as scholarly articles on Filipino and Filipino American personal, social, and psychological issues.
3. Collaborative writing assignments will be peer and teacher-evaluated and assigned a grade.
4. A midterm project will be submitted that consists of written proposals and outlines for script ideas, such as skits, dance productions, and musical numbers.
5. The work of the course will culminate in a final collaborative project, the completed Pilipino Cultural Night script.

## 9. RECOMMENDED TEXT(S)

Texts related to cultural themes could include, but are not limited to: Handouts, readings, and other multimedia materials provided by the instructor, as appropriate. Videos of other Pilipino Cultural Nights will also be used, e.g., videos of the PCNs at UC Davis, Santa Clara University, San Francisco State University, UC San Diego, University of San Francisco, CSU East Bay, San Jose State University, and UC Berkeley.

Brainard, Cecilia Manguerra, ed. *Growing Up Filipino: Stories for Young Adults*. Santa Monica, CA: PALH, 2003.

Cordova, Fred. *Filipinos: Forgotten Asian Americans, 1763-1963*. Kendall/Hunt Publishing Company, 1983.

Espiritu, Yen Le. *Filipino American Lives*. Temple University Press, 1995.

Gonzalves, Theo. "Theaters of Operation: Theorizing Filipino American Performance, National Identity and Community." In *Towards a Cultural Community: Identity, Education and Stewardship in Filipino American Performing Arts*. Edited by Anna Alves & Reme Grefalda. Washington, DC: Firstfruits.

----- "The Day the Dancers Stayed: Expressive Forms of Culture in the United States," "Dancing Into Oblivion: The Pilipino Cultural Night & the Narration of Contemporary Filipino/a America," and "Two-Part Invention: A Response," *Kritika Kultura* 6 (November): 23-88, 100-103.

----- "'The Show Must Go On': Production Notes on the Pilipino Cultural Night." *Critical Mass: A Journal of Asian American Cultural Criticism* 2.2 (Spring): 129-44.

Root, Maria P.P., ed. *Filipino Americans: Transformation and Identity*. Sage Publications, 2004.

## 10. EVALUATION OF STUDENT PERFORMANCE

Letter grade or credit/no credit. Evaluation will be based upon successful completion of writing tasks, quizzes, conscientious attendance, and effective participation. Student writing will be evaluated for accuracy and precision in expression and structure, effectiveness in the expression and interpretation of the focus and themes in writing for the Pilipino Cultural Night, and evidence of critical thought in both composition and expression.