



# Arrupe Partnerships for Community-based Learning

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## ESL at Santa Clara Adult Education

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### Organizational Profile

The mission of the ESL program is "To provide an optimal learning environment in which students will acquire the English communication skills, survival skills, cultural understanding and confidence they need in order to: 1. build on the experience and potential they bring to this country, and 2. use their skills and participate fully and creatively in the community, in the workplace and in their own families."

The ESL program has 7 "core" levels, ranging from Beginning-Literacy through Advanced. These classes promote cross-cultural understanding and help to prepare the students for citizenship. Language is learned for the contexts in which students will use it (i.e. work, shopping, talking to doctor, etc.)

Students at the Adult Education Program are very diverse, representing over 76 countries and 40 different languages. Ages range from 18-93 years old. Prior education ranges from no formal education at all to doctorates.

### SCU Student's Role

Santa Clara University students help the ESL students to achieve their goals by working as instructional classroom aides. Interaction with University students makes it possible for the ESL students to develop and practice their English communication skills as they work with the Santa Clara University students in small groups or in a one-to-one setting.

SCU students are expected to make up any placements due to holidays or school closure. Placements are available at Benton Street campus.

### To Do Before Orientation

- Visit the website listed above to learn more about your placement or the umbrella organization with which it is affiliated.
- Read your course syllabus and be prepared to discuss your learning goals with your placement supervisor at orientation.
- Provide the Arrupe Partnerships with proof of a negative intradermal **TB test** within the last four years. If your TB test is not current, please go to the Cowell Health Center immediately to get a TB test at no cost.

### To Do After Orientation

- Check the school calendar for holidays/school closures that may fall on your placement day. Arrupe students are expected to make up these days and arrange this with the supervisor or classroom teacher.