

# **ACES Learning Center Course Syllabus V105 Vocabulary Foundations**

## **Course Description**

Root words, prefixes, and suffixes are the keys to unlocking the meanings of English words. Vocabulary Foundations empowers students to master new vocabulary words through an analysis of component root words, prefixes, and suffixes. Students learn the historical significance of the Latin, Greek, and French influence on the English language. Upon completion of the course, students will not only have mastered a large number of vocabulary words essential for their academic success, they will also have gained an intellectual framework useful for understanding unfamiliar vocabulary with much greater speed and facility. In other words, students will be able quickly to deduce the meanings of many new words based on an analysis of their morphology, i.e., their component roots and affixes.

## **Course Objectives and Student Competencies**

Students will:

1. Master an extensive list of essential English vocabulary words
2. Learn the morphemes most essential to learning academic vocabulary
3. Apply understanding of morphemes to the mastery of unfamiliar words

## **Major Topics:**

Morphemes  
Context Clues  
Online Resources for Vocabulary Study

## **Class Structure:**

1. Vocabulary and Morpheme Quiz
2. Introduction of new morphemes
3. Text Analysis
4. Explicit definition of new vocabulary
5. Application of morphemes and vocabulary:  
A writing assignment or challenging word game

**Course Schedule:**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Topics</b>	<b>Morphemes</b>	<b>Exemplary Vocabulary Words</b>
Week 1	Brief History of the English Language. Definition of morpheme. Suffixes to Change Part of Speech I	Able, An, Age, Ate, Al, Cial, Cy, Ous, Fy, Ty, Ose, Ship, Tude	Capable, Agrarian, Suffrage, Exonerate, Superficial, Gracious, Testify, Morose, Friendship, Certitude
Week 2	Negation and Numbers 1-3	In, Un, Non, De, Dis, Un, Duo, Tri, Mono, Bi, Ter	Invisible, Unity, Duet, Tricycle, Monotone, Bicycle, Bicameral, Tertiary, Triad
Week 3	Prefixes of Direction	Ad, En, In, Ana, Cata, De	Adhere, Anatomy, Analogy, Catapult, Devolve, Envision,
Week 4	Against/Contradiction Part of Speech II	Anti, Contra, Ob	Antibiotic, Antithesis, Contradict, Obstinate
Week 5	Prefixes of Location	Epi, Inter, Para, Sub, Circum, Peri	Epidermis, Intercede, Interfere, Parallel, Parabola, Paradigm, Subway, Circumvent, Circumlocution, Periscope, Epidemic
Week 6	Size/Magnitude	Mega, Multi, Poly, Semi, Hemi	Megabyte, Multiply, Multitude, Polygon, Hemisphere, Semicircle
Week 7	Degree/Magnitude	Hyper, Super	Hyperbole, Hypertension, Superfluous
Week 8	Backwards and Forwards	Pro, Retro	Proceed, Progress, Retrograde
Week 9	Prefixes of Time	Fore, Pre, Post	Forethought, Predict, Posterior
Week 10	Towards and Through	Ad, Se, Dia	Admit, Attract, Separate, Diagonal, Diametric, Diatribe
Week 11	Outside and Numbers 4-5	E, Ex, Extra, Quad, Tetr, Quint, Penta	Emit, Exile, Quadriplegic, Quintessential, Pentagon