

# ESL

## NEWSLETTER

JUNE EDITION-SPRING SEMESTER



## ESL FESTIVAL

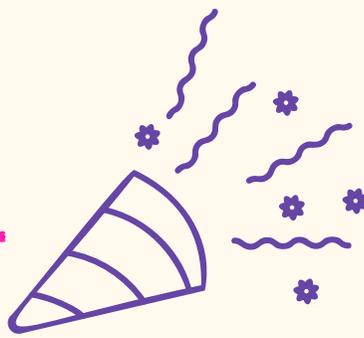
MAY 6TH 2024

The annual event, hosted by the ESL Department in collaboration with Student Equity & Achievement Program (SEA), celebrates the work and success of students learning English as a Second language in both credit and non-credit courses held at the college and throughout the Valley at our partner locations. Over 120 students attended. Leticia Ochoa, Financial Aid Specialist and former IVC ESL student, gave the keynote address. Dr. Sanchez also spoke congratulating students on their achievements. The program, which saw significant decline during the pandemic, is on target to surpass pre-Covid numbers.

A big thank you to Outreach Team Gina Alvarez, Clarissa Chipress, and Sara Gonzalez. To RJP and SEA student workers Liz, Eddie and Karen for their assistance in making this festival a success.



Truly Grateful for you.



# ESL STUDENT OF THE YEAR

*Rafael Carrizoza*



Rafael's hard work, combined with his helpfulness and collaboration with his classmates, is a winning combination for his future. In talking about Rafael, Ingrid Bairstow, Assistant Professor of ESL, stated, "He has taught me about the culture of our border communities and how we can work together to create a thriving life for all who live here. IVC is truly fortunate to have a student such as Rafael attending its classrooms."



Rafael Carrizoza is a young father of three who lives with his wife and kids in El Centro. He is taking intermediate grammar and composition for ESL students, an intense course that meets four days a week for 2 ½ hours a day. He is doing well in the class, earning an A on assignments. In addition, he helps his classmates understand complicated grammar concepts and encourages them to ask questions. His grades, attention, and helpfulness is surprising because of his other responsibilities.

After class, Rafael goes directly to work as a tractor driver, plowing romaine, spinach, arugula, and melon fields in Holtville. He finishes everyday at 11:30 pm. On weekends, he works a second gig as a handyman. Despite this, his homework is never late. He is the first student waiting for me every morning at 8:15. He has only missed one day of class - when his youngest son was sick.

Rafael, like so many ESL students at IVC, began his life in Mexicali. Seven years ago he brought his wife and three kids, now aged 9, 13, and 19, to pursue a life that would provide choices and a steady income. Rafael attended one year of university at UABC in Mexicali, studying computer programming, but he says his dream is to become an electrician. “He began studying ESL at IVC in Fall 2023 and excelled right away,” said Arturo Marquez, Rafael’s professor last semester.

“I am here to learn so that I can help myself and my family,” Rafael said. He brought his skills and education from Mexicali to the United States. “I never stopped working when I arrived here,” he said. “I began to work in the fields right away, and quickly moved up in my job and became a tractor driver.” The tractors are complicated, he explained. However, with his background in computers, he learned quickly to program settings and change attachments when needed. “Now, I want to learn how to be an electrician,” he said.

“I am honored to have had Rafael in my class” remarked Bairstow.  
“I am sure Rafael will achieve his dream”





## ACCUPLACER TESTING DATES

Hours: 10 am, 2 pm & 3 pm

- June 11, 2024
- July 2, 2024
- July 23, 2024
- July 30, 2024
- August 6, 2024
- September 10, 2024
- October 8, 2024
- November 12, 2024
- December 10, 2024

**For appointments:**  
please call 760-355-1826 or email us at [esl@imperial.edu](mailto:esl@imperial.edu)

# Did You Know?

## ESL Calendar and Upcoming Events

Did you know that there is an ESL calendar where you may find all upcoming events and services available for you? You may find the dates for Conversation Partners, ESL Tutoring, Important Dates such as registration times and campus events. You may access the ESL Calendar at [www.imperial.edu](http://www.imperial.edu) choose the ESL Department then click under Resources.



Coming Fall 2024

# ESL Club

## Are you interested in becoming a participant of our ESL Club?

The purpose of the ESL Club is to increase an awareness of the social and cultural aspects of English-speaking communities; to encourage social, recreational and educational activities among club participants; to assist and cooperate with other valley and campus organizations; to promote Higher Education to the non-native English speaking population; and to provide a space for practicing the English language for those non-native English speakers.

### As a member, you will enjoy:

- Community service activities
- Educational & cultural fieldtrips
- Meeting new people
- Developing leadership skills

If you are interested to become a member email us at [esl@imperial.edu](mailto:esl@imperial.edu)

Join Us!



Good  
Luck  
you got  
this!

ESL Workshops  
on finals week.

SPRING 2024 **ESL**

# Conversation

PARTNERS

Final Session of the Semester

## June 3rd - Monday

**SCHEDULE**

**In-Person:**  
8-9:00 am, 11am-12pm, 12pm-1pm,  
1pm-2pm

**Via Zoom:**  
8:30-9:30am

**In the Library (Building 1500)**

No sign-ups required!  
Snacks and beverages will be provided!

LEARNING SERVICES  
DEPARTMENT

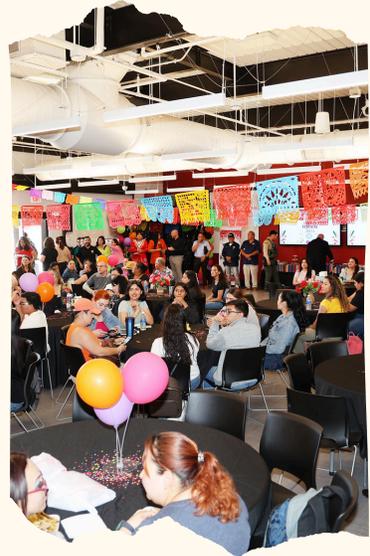
# ESL STUDY JAM

WEDNESDAY  
JUNE 5TH

**12:00-2:00PM**

LOCATED AT THE  
LIBRARY







We Are  
**PROUD**

Of You

