Objectives
This class is for students with advanced English proficiency. You already know how to speak, listen and read to a high level. This class will give you an opportunity to practice and improve those skills.

The objectives and expected students outcomes are as follows:

1) students will expand their vocabulary by developing a working knowledge of at least 300 new words through reading and self study;
2) students will improve fluency through regular pair work practice on a wide range of topics;
3) students will elevate their ability to understand complex issues by identifying, describing and explaining patterns of human behavior.
4) students will improve their discussion skills by learning and using 8 to 12 logical fallacies;
5) students will improve their ability to think and communicate in English by learning and using the 7 skills that young people need to succeed in the future.

Methodology
This is a student-centered, workshop style class. That means the teacher will spend a little time talking and the students will spend a lot of time speaking or working.

Students can expect to do a lot of pair discussion work along with individual tasks. There will be reading from the textbook along with extra material provided by the teacher. A variety of small in-class projects, puzzles and activities will be used to build vocabulary, improve fluency and increase general knowledge.

During the semester, students will research and deliver one 5 to 7 minute oral presentation. This is my plan, though it may need to be modified depending on the number of students in the class.

This presentation will be a properly research project which uses some of the skills and information learned in the class. Topics NOT suitable for a presentation include (as one example), "My summer trip to France."

Books
Title: Quick Smart English Pre-Intermediate
Authors: Rebecca Robb Benne with Joanne Collie
Publisher: Compass Publishing

Available in the university bookstore.
Exams
There will be two exams and two quizzes. The mid-term exam and final exam will be speaking tests.

Each quiz will review the material studied in class and help prepare you for the exams. There will also be an oral presentation.

Grading
30% final exam
30% mid-term exam
10% quizzes, homework
10% presentation
10% attendance
10% participation

Final scores for the class will follow the university's grade distribution policy.

Other Material
I will post homework on my website. You will need to download and print this material. My website is www.eslwriting.org.

Other Comments
This is a skills-based class. Student need to make an effort to come to every class and to participate in the activities.

Successful students in the past were in the habit of bringing 4 learning tools to every class: an instrument suitable for taking notes and writing down ideas - like a pencil and notebook - the textbook and a dictionary. Phone dictionaries are okay.

Students who regularly fail to bring the assigned worksheets (printed from my website) or the 4 learning tools may be marked as absent during that class. Attendance is important for learning. Please come to every class, and arrive on time. Students who are frequently late may be penalized: 2 lates = one absence.

At the end of the semester, please do not ask me to change your grade because you have a special situation. You need a scholarship? You want to get a job? You want to go to graduate school? These are all good things. If you need a high score in this class, work hard, study hard and come to every class on time ready to learn. Unless I made a calculation error, I will not change your final score.

Contact
If you have any questions about the class work, feel free to email me at robbusan at yahoo.com. Office hours: International Building, room 203. Mon: 2-4 pm and Wednesday 10-12 am.