# American Language Institute

# ALI 274 ADVANCED ACADEMIC AND PROFESSIONAL SPOKEN ENGLISH

**FALL 2017**

**Instructor:**

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**Office hours by appointment**

**Course Description**

This course is for international students who need to improve their advanced academic and professional spoken English for teaching and presenting. The development of intelligibility, accuracy, and fluency will be emphasized. The class will include instruction in vocabulary and lexical phrases common in academic spoken English and university discourse. Instruction in accuracy, stress, intonation, and pronunciation of major vocabulary specific to each student’s field will be provided.

**Course Objective**

To improve the ability to teach and/or present field-specific information in grammatically accurate, stylistically appropriate, and well-enunciated spoken academic and professional English.

**Materials**

All texts and audio materials for this class are on the class Blackboard site at <http://blackboard.usc.edu/>.

**Required:** Microphone and/or earbuds for recordings; 3-ring binder for handouts.

**Course Activities**

Recordings and presentations will include practice in features of pronunciation and prosody in academic English, lexis specific to each student’s field, and contextualized instruction in English syntax.

**6 Recordings**

A major assignment throughout the course will require students to download field-specific texts and audio recordings of those texts, practice them, record the practiced texts, and send them, in MP3 format, to the Assignment Dropbox on Blackboard. Students will receive individualized feedback on these recordings.

These recordings must demonstrate that the student has practiced prior to making the recordings or they will result in no credit for the assignment. Such assignments may not be “made up” later.

All recordings must be submitted on time. Postponing the recordings defeats the benefit of short, regular practice. Late recordings will not be accepted without either medical documentation or permission of the instructor obtained one week in advance.

**9 Presentations**

Nine short field-specific presentations will be recorded and evaluated by the student, instructor, and, occasionally, the uSC. There will also be instruction incorporating the insights of recent research in improving the effectiveness and comprehensibility of professional and teaching slide presentations. The new presentation designs are particularly valuable for enhancing the comprehensibility of professionals whose first language is not English.

**1 Observation**

Your lab sections, discussions, and/or office hours will be observed and evaluated once BEFORE the midterm. Each of these observations will be video-recorded and you will watch the video, write up an extensive self-evaluation, and engage in a consultation with your instructor.

**uSC Program**

2 hours/week with a uSC (undergraduate Student Consultant) for 10 weeks

Sept 13 – Nov 29

Matching Mixer – Wednesday, September 13, 6:30 to 8:30 Location TBA .

**Evaluation:**

This is a credit/no credit class. Success or failure in the course is determined by progress and completion of all assignments and course requirements.

* + Attendance, class participation, and homework, 40%.
  + All class presentations other than the midterm and final presentation, 40%
  + Midterm presentation 10%
  + Final presentation 10%

Students must complete ALL course-related assignments, attend ALL meetings with their uSC, and not exceed the maximum number of allowable absences for the course (absences include hours missed with uSC). Students who exceed the hours of absences and/or are at risk of receiving a NC, will have their department notified. Failure to attend the scheduled ITA exam may result in a NC for the course.

**Attendance and Punctuality:**

This is a language course and attendance is mandatory. There is no “make-up” work that adequately substitutes for the instruction or the interaction which takes place in class. No make-up assignments will be provided for undocumented absences and missed assignments will count as a zero. Three absences may result in a grade of Borderline or lower. Four unexcused absences may result in a grade of No Credit.

Students who arrive late to class will not be marked present. It is the student’s responsibility to inform the instructor of lateness and to ask to be marked present, after class or during the instructor’s office hours. Three late arrivals will be counted as one absence unless otherwise arranged with the instructor.

Students who have documented absences and wish to make up the homework are responsible for getting the assignments from other students in the class, so choose a partner for this purpose.

**CLASS POLICY ON USE OF ELECTRONICS**

Out of respect for your fellow students, your instructor, and to foster an environment conducive to effective learning and communication, all electronic devices (cell / smart phones, i-pads, laptops) must be powered down and put away, during class. If you have an emergency situation that requires your phone to be on vibrate, please step outside of class should you need to answer a call or reply to a text. Students will be marked absent for one hour each time this policy is disregarded. Exceptions will be at the discretion of the instructor for class tasks/ assignments requiring use of online material.

**Students with Disabilities:**

Any student requiring accommodations based on a disability is required to register with the Disability Services and Programs office (DSP) each semester. A letter of verification for approved recommendations can be obtained through DSP. Please be sure the letter is delivered to your instructor as early in the semester as possible. DSP is located in STU 301 and is open 9:00am- 5:00pm, M-F. The DSP phone number is (213) 740-0776.

**ALI 274AAPSE**

**COURSE OUTLINE**

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| **WEEK COURSE ACTIVITIES/ASSIGNMENTS** | |
| ONE  8/22  8/24 | Introduction of Course  PRESENTATION1 : Self Introduction  HOMEWORK: You Said You Meant self-evaluation  FEEDBACK: Presentation 1, Tracking sheets, Targeted areas of Grammar and Pronunciation  HOMEWORK - RECORDING 1: *Second Language Pedagogy; Automaticity* reading |
| TWO  8/29  8/31 | FEEDBACK: Pronunciation of Recording 1  “*Automaticity*” discussion  Targeted areas of Grammar and Pronunciation  Imitative Practice for Enunciation and Intonation  HOMEWORK - RECORDING 2: Field Specific Text; SIF |
| THREE  9/5    9/7 | FEEDBACK: Pronunciation of Recording 2  Imitative Practice with Field Specific Text  Targeted areas of Grammar & Pronunciation  Vowels & Consonants HOMEWORK - RECORDING 3: *Problems of Selected Languages*;TLC goals for uSC Program |
| FOUR  9/12    9/13  9/14 | FEEDBACK: Pronunciation of Recording 3  Targeted areas of Grammar & Pronunciation  TLC goals for uSC Program  MATCHING MIXER, 6:30 – 8:30pm!  Presenting Graphs HOMEWORK - RECORDING 4: *Graph of a Straight Line,* Prepare for Presentation 2: presenting a field-related graph |
| FIVE  9/19  9/21 | FEEDBACK: Pronunciation of Recording 4  PRESENTATION 2: Field-Related Graph  HOMEWORK: You Said You Meant self-evaluation  FEEDBACK: Grammar and Pronunciation of Presentation 2  Targeted areas of Grammar & Pronunciation  HOMEWORK for PRESENTATIONS 3-8:  Read & Summarize assigned “Effective Presentations” readings  Propose 2 topics |
| SIX  9/26  9/28 | Select proposed topics  Discuss “Effective Presentations” readings  HOMEWORK - Read “Rethinking the Design of Presentation Slides”  Critique field-related Assertion Evidence Slide presentation from former 274 students  “Rethinking the Design of Presentation Slides” Critique and Discussion  HOMEWORK - Create Title Slide |
| SEVEN  10/3 & 10/5 | PRESENTATION 3: Title Slide  Targeted areas of Grammar & Pronunciation  HOMEWORK: Create Mapping Slide, Self & uSC evaluation of Title Slide, Observation self-evaluation (if observed) |
| EIGHT  10/10 & 10/12 | CLASSES CANCELLED - MIDTERM CONSULTATIONS w/ITA and uSC |
| NINE  10/17 & 10/20 | PRESENTATION 4: Mapping Slide  Targeted areas of Grammar & Pronunciation  HOMEWORK - Create Assertion 1 Slide, Self & uSC evaluation of Mapping Slide, Recording 5: *Summary of Guidelines for New Slide Design* |
| TEN  10/24 & 10/26 | PRESENTATION 5: Assertion 1  Targeted areas of Grammar & Pronunciation  HOMEWORK - Create Assertion 2 Slide, Self & uSC evaluation of Assertion 1 |
| ELEVEN  11/31 & 2 | PRESENTATION 6: Assertion 2  Targeted areas of Grammar & Pronunciation  HOMEWORK - Create Assertion 3 Slide, Self & uSC evaluation of Assertion 2 |
| TWELVE  11/7 & 9 | PRESENTATION 7: Assertion 3  Targeted areas of Grammar & Pronunciation  HOMEWORK - Create Conclusion Slide, Self & uSC evaluation of Assertion 3 |
| THIR-TEEN  11/14 & 11/16 | PRESENTATION 8: Conclusion Slide  Targeted areas of Grammar & Pronunciation  HOMEWORK – Peer Evaluation of Conclusion Slide, RECORDING 6: Self Selected Dictionary Definition of a TERM, Prepare for Presentation 9: Definition of a Term |
| FOUR-TEEN  11/21 | PRESENTATION 9: Definition of a Term  Targeted areas of Grammar & Pronunciation  HOMEWORK Term self-evaluation |
| FIFTEEN  11/28 | CONSULTATIONS  HOMEWORK - SURVEY of uSC/ITA Program due 11/29 |

IMPORTANT DATES:

SEPT 13 uSC/ITA MATCHING MIXER, 6:30pm – 8:30pm, location TBA

OCT 10 & 12 NO CLASS for Midterm Consultations w/uSC

NOV 28 NO CLASS for Final Consultation

NOV 29 & 30 ITA Exam