

USC American Language Institute

ALI 274: ADVANCED ACADEMIC AND PROFESSIONAL SPOKEN ENGLISH

SPRING 2018

Instructor: Dr. Tracy Levin

Office: PSD 106K

Classroom: THH 117

Office hours: By appointment

Class time: M/W 2:00 – 3:20pm

ALI office phone: (213) 740-0098 (for messages)

Section: 10165

My extension: (213) 740-0096

The ability to communicate effectively in English—to read, write and speak the language fluently—is vital to your success as a university student, and may also serve as a vital tool in your future academic and professional success. USC graduate students are therefore expected to demonstrate proficiency in English at all levels of graduate study. (www.usc.edu/admission/graduate/international/englishproficiency.html)

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.

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.

Materials

All texts and audio materials for this class are on the class Blackboard site at <http://blackboard.usc.edu/>. **Students are responsible for checking announcements on Blackboard daily and for reading and responding to emails regarding coursework and course materials in a timely manner.**

Required: Microphone or earbuds for recordings, mirror, and folder(s) for: 1. Tracking and Evaluations 2. Pronunciation 3. Grammar materials and logs.

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 and may be required to re-record to apply corrections.

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

In addition to the 9 short field-specific presentations, 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 (or more) Observations

Your lab sections, discussions, and/or office hours will be observed and evaluated once BEFORE the midterm and, in some cases, once more after 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: **Jan 31 – April 26**

Matching Mixer – **Wednesday, January 31, 6:30 to 8:30pm** (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. Students who do not meet these requirements will be at risk of receiving a No Credit and will have their department notified. **Failure to attend the scheduled ITA exam may also result in a No Credit 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.

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 274 COURSE OUTLINE*

WEEK	COURSE ACTIVITIES/ASSIGNMENTS
<p>ONE 1/8</p> <p>1/10</p>	<p>Introduction of Course PRESENTATION 1 : Self Introduction HOMEWORK: 1. You Said You Meant self-evaluation 2. Recording “test”</p> <p>Presentation 1 feedback: Tracking sheets, Targeted areas of Language and Pronunciation HOMEWORK - 1. RECORDING 1: <i>Second Language Pedagogy</i> 2. “Automaticity” reading and questions for discussion</p>
<p>TWO **1/15</p> <p>1/17</p>	<p>NO CLASS Mon. 1/15 – Martin Luther King, Jr. Birthday (university holiday)</p> <p>Recording 1 feedback: Tracking sheets, Targeted areas of Grammar and Pronunciation “Automaticity” discussion</p> <p>Imitative Practice with Field Specific Text for Automaticity HOMEWORK – 1. RECORDING 2: Field Specific Text 2. SIF (Student Information Form)</p>
<p>THREE 1/22</p> <p>1/24</p>	<p>Recording 2 feedback: Tracking and Targeted areas of Grammar & Pronunciation Imitative Practice with Field Specific Text</p> <p>Vowels & Consonants HOMEWORK - RECORDING 3: <i>Problems of Selected Languages</i></p>
<p>FOUR 1/29</p> <p>1/31</p> <p>uSC Program MATCHING MIXER tonight: 1/31!</p>	<p>Recording 3 feedback: Tracking and Targeted areas of Grammar & Pronunciation HOMEWORK – read <i>Introduction to uSC Program</i>; share 1 TLC goal</p> <p>Presenting Graphs Targeted areas of Grammar & Pronunciation HOMEWORK – 1. RECORDING 4: <i>Graph of a Straight Line</i> 2. Create graph for Presentation 2: field-related graph</p>
<p>FIVE 2/5</p> <p>2/7</p>	<p>Recording 4 feedback: Pronunciation of Recording 4 PRESENTATION 2: Field-Related Graph HOMEWORK: You Said You Meant self-evaluation</p> <p>Presentation 2 feedback: Tracking and Targeted areas of Grammar & Pronunciation HOMEWORK for PRESENTATIONS 3-8:</p>

	Read & Summarize assigned “Effective Presentations” readings Propose 2 topics
SIX 2/12	PRESENTATIONS 3 – 8 Preparation: 1. Select 1 of 2 proposed topics 2. “Effective Presentations” readings
2/14	HOMEWORK – 1. Watch “Improve Your PowerPoint” video and answer questions 2. Critique 274 field-related Assertion Evidence Slide presentations PowerPoint vs Assertion Evidence Structure discussion and critiques HOMEWORK - Create Title Slide
SEVEN **2/19	**No class Mon. 2/19 - President’s Day (university holiday)
2/21	PRESENTATION 3: Title Slide Targeted areas of Grammar & Pronunciation HOMEWORK for MIDTERM CONSULTATION: 1. Create Mapping Slide 2. Title Slide self-evaluation 3. Observation self-evaluation (for those w/observations)
EIGHT 2/26 & 2/28	CLASSES CANCELLED - MIDTERM CONSULTATIONS w/ITA and uSC** either one or two classes will be canceled depending on our class’ size and completing presentations in week seven. The consultations will be held to go over: 1) TLC goals outlined in TLC Report 2) Title Slide and Observation evaluations 3) Mapping Slide
NINE 3/5 & 3/7	PRESENTATION 4: Mapping Slide Targeted areas of Grammar & Pronunciation HOMEWORK – 1. Mapping Slide uSC/self-evaluation 2. Create Assertion 1 Slide 3. Recording 5: <i>Summary of Guidelines for New Slide Design</i>
TEN 3/12 – 3/16	SPRING BREAK!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!! ☺ ☺ ☺ ☺ ☺
ELEVEN 3/19 & 3/21	PRESENTATION 5: Assertion 1 Targeted areas of Grammar & Pronunciation HOMEWORK - 1. Assertion 1 uSC/self-evaluation 2. Create Assertion 2 Slide
TWELVE 3/26 & 3/28	PRESENTATION 6: Assertion 2 Targeted areas of Grammar & Pronunciation HOMEWORK - 1. Assertion 2 uSC/self-evaluation 2. Create Assertion 3 Slide
THIRTEEN 4/2 & 4/4	PRESENTATION 7: Assertion 3 Targeted areas of Grammar & Pronunciation HOMEWORK -

	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Assertion 3 uSC/self-evaluation 2. Create Conclusion Slide
FOURTEEN 4/9 & 4/11	PRESENTATION 8: Conclusion Slide/Take away messages Peer feedback/discussion Selection/planning of terms for final term presentation: Tracking and Targeted areas of Grammar & Pronunciation HOMEWORK: RECORDING 6: Selected Definition and script of TERM presentation
FIFTEEN 4/16 4/18	RECORDING 6 feedback Tracking and Targeted areas of Grammar & Pronunciation PRESENTATION 9: Term HOMEWORK – Term self-evaluation for Consultation
SIXTEEN 4/23 & 4/24	CLASS CANCELED FOR FINAL CONSULTATIONS

****Subject to change at instructor's discretion***

IMPORTANT DATES:

uSC/ITA MATCHING MIXER: JAN 31 Wednesday 6:30pm – 8:30pm

NO CLASS: JAN. 15 – Martin Luther King, Jr. Birthday (University holiday)
 FEB 19 – President's day (University holiday)
 FEB 26 and/or FEB 28 - Midterm Consultations w/uSC
 APRIL 23 & 24 – Last day of class; Final Consultation

ITA Exam: APRIL 25 WED

NOTES: