

USC American Language Institute

ALI 274: ADVANCED ACADEMIC AND PROFESSIONAL SPOKEN ENGLISH

Fall 2019 - Section: 10190

Instructor: Dr. Tracy Levin

Office: PSD 106K

Classroom: WPH 204

Office hours: By appointment

Class time: M/W 2:00 – 3:20pm

ALI office phone: (213) 740-0079 (for messages)

Email: tlevin@usc.edu

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/>.

Required: Microphone and/or earbuds for recordings; 3-ring binder or folders with 3 headings: 1. Tracking and Evaluations 2. Pronunciation & Grammar 3. Discussion HOs

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 – 2 Observations

Your lab sections, discussions, and/or office hours will be observed and evaluated once BEFORE the midterm and possibly 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: Sept 19 – Dec 5

Matching Mixer – Thursday, September 19, 6:30 to 8:30 Location GFS 106

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.

Support Systems:

Student Health Counseling Services - (213) 740-7711 – 24/7 on call

engemannshc.usc.edu/counseling

Free and confidential mental health treatment for students, including short-term psychotherapy, group counseling, stress fitness workshops, and crisis intervention.

National Suicide Prevention Lifeline - 1 (800) 273-8255 – 24/7 on call

suicidepreventionlifeline.org

Free and confidential emotional support to people in suicidal crisis or emotional distress 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

Relationship and Sexual Violence Prevention Services (RSVP) - (213) 740-4900 – 24/7 on call

studenthealth.usc.edu

Free and confidential therapy services, workshops, and training for situations related to gender-based harm.

Office of Equity and Diversity (OED) | Title IX - (213) 740-5086

equity.usc.edu, titleix.usc.edu

Information about how to get help or help a survivor of harassment or discrimination, rights of protected classes, reporting options, and additional resources for students, faculty, staff, visitors, and applicants. The university prohibits discrimination or harassment based on the following protected characteristics: race, color, national origin, ancestry, religion, sex, gender, gender identity, gender expression, sexual orientation, age, physical disability, medical condition, mental disability, marital status, pregnancy, veteran status, genetic information, and any other characteristic which may be specified in applicable laws and governmental regulations.

The Office of Disability Services and Programs - (213) 740-0776

dsp.usc.edu

Support and accommodations for students with disabilities. Services include assistance in providing readers/notetakers/interpreters, special accommodations for test taking needs, assistance with architectural barriers, assistive technology, and support for individual needs.

USC Support and Advocacy - (213) 821-4710

studentaffairs.usc.edu/ssu

Assists students and families in resolving complex personal, financial, and academic issues adversely affecting their success as a student.

Diversity at USC - (213) 740-2101

diversity.usc.edu

Information on events, programs and training, the Provost's Diversity and Inclusion Council, Diversity Liaisons for each academic school, chronology, participation, and various resources for students.

USC Emergency - UPC: (213) 740-4321, HSC: (323) 442-1000 – 24/7 on call

dps.usc.edu, emergency.usc.edu

Emergency assistance and avenue to report a crime. Latest updates regarding safety, including ways in which instruction will be continued if an officially declared emergency makes travel to campus infeasible.

USC Department of Public Safety - UPC: (213) 740-6000, HSC: (323) 442-120 – 24/7 on call

dps.usc.edu Non-emergency assistance or information.

**ALI 274AAPSE
COURSE OUTLINE ****

WEEK	COURSE ACTIVITIES/ASSIGNMENTS
ONE 8/27	Introduction of Course PRESENTATION 1 : Self Introduction HOMEWORK: You Said You Meant self-evaluation
8/29	FEEDBACK: Presentation 1, Tracking sheets, Targeted areas of Grammar and Pronunciation HOMEWORK - RECORDING 1: <i>Second Language Pedagogy; Automaticity</i> reading, SIF
TWO 9/3	FEEDBACK: Pronunciation of Recording 1 “Automaticity” discussion Targeted areas of Grammar and Pronunciation
9/5	Imitative Practice for Enunciation and Intonation HOMEWORK - RECORDING 2: Field Specific Text
THREE 9/10	FEEDBACK: Pronunciation of Recording 2 Imitative Practice with Field Specific Text Targeted areas of Grammar & Pronunciation
9/12	Vowels & Consonants HOMEWORK - RECORDING 3: <i>Problems of Selected Languages</i>
FOUR 9/17	FEEDBACK: Pronunciation of Recording 3 Targeted areas of Grammar & Pronunciation HOMEWORK - TLC goals for uSC Program
9/19	TLC Goals for uSC Program Presenting Graphs HOMEWORK - RECORDING 4: <i>Graph of a Straight Line</i> , Prepare for Presentation 2: presenting a field-related graph MATCHING MIXER, 6:30 – 8:30pm!
FIVE 9/24	FEEDBACK: Pronunciation of Recording 4 PRESENTATION 2: Field-Related Graph HOMEWORK: You Said You Meant self-evaluation
9/26	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 10/1	Select proposed topics Discuss “Effective Presentations” readings HOMEWORK - Read “Rethinking the Design of Presentation Slides”

10/3	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 & EIGHT 10/8	PRESENTATION 3: Title Slide Targeted areas of Grammar & Pronunciation HOMEWORK: Create Mapping Slide, Self & uSC evaluation of Title Slide, Observation self-evaluation (if observed)
10/10 – 10/16	CLASSES CANCELLED - MIDTERM CONSULTATIONS w/ITA and uSC
NINE 10/22 & 10/24	PRESENTATION 4: Mapping Slide Targeted areas of Grammar & Pronunciation HOMEWORK - Create Assertion 1 Slide, Self & uSC evaluation of Mapping Slide, Recording 5: <i>Summary of Guidelines for New Slide Design</i>
TEN 10/29 & 10/31	PRESENTATION 5: Assertion 1 Targeted areas of Grammar & Pronunciation HOMEWORK - Create Assertion 2 Slide, Self & uSC evaluation of Assertion 1
ELEVEN 11/5 & 11/7	PRESENTATION 6: Assertion 2 Targeted areas of Grammar & Pronunciation HOMEWORK - Create Assertion 3 Slide, Self & uSC evaluation of Assertion 2
TWELVE 11/12 & 11/14	PRESENTATION 7: Assertion 3 Targeted areas of Grammar & Pronunciation HOMEWORK - Create Conclusion Slide, Self & uSC evaluation of Assertion 3
THIRTEEN 11/19 & 11/21	PRESENTATION 8: Conclusion Slide Targeted areas of Grammar & Pronunciation HOMEWORK – Peer Evaluation of Conclusion Slide, RECORDING 6: Term script, Prepare for Presentation 9: Term
FOURTEEN 11/26	PRESENTATION 9: Term Targeted areas of Grammar & Pronunciation HOMEWORK Term self-evaluation
FIFTEEN 12/2 & 12/3	CONSULTATIONS HOMEWORK - SURVEY of uSC/ITA Program due Dec 3

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

IMPORTANT DATES:

SEPT 19 **uSC/ITA MATCHING MIXER, 6:30pm – 8:30pm, location GFS106**
OCT 10 & 15 **NO CLASS for Midterm Consultations w/uSC**
DEC 3 **NO CLASS for Final Consultation**
DEC 4 & 5 **ITA Exam**