# American Language Institute

# **USC Basic Header**

# ALI 274 ADVANCED ACADEMIC AND PROFESSIONAL SPOKEN ENGLISH

**FALL 2020 Online**

**Instructor:**

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**Office hours by appointment**

**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 & Technological Proficiency and Hardware/Software Required**

Texts and audio materials: Blackboard

Presentations and evaluations: Google Drive.

Recordings: Microphone and/or earbuds; Audacity or software of your choice to download mp3 files

**USC Technology Support Links**

[Zoom information for students](https://keepteaching.usc.edu/start-learning/)

[Blackboard help for students](https://studentblackboardhelp.usc.edu/)

[Software available to USC Campus](https://software.usc.edu/)

**Course Activities**

Recordings and presentations will include practice in features of pronunciation and prosody in academic English, and lexis specific to each student’s field. Each recording and presentation will be evaluated by self, Instructor, and uSC.

**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, the uSC after WEEK 5. 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.

**2 Consultations**

Midterm Consultation with uSC to discuss areas for improvement in Teaching & Language

Final Consultation (w/uSC optional) to discuss ITA Exam

**uSC Program**

2 hours/week with a uSC (undergraduate Student Consultant) for 10 weeks: Sept 3 – Nov 11

**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 ZOOM ETIQUETTE** (adapted from *USC Center for Excellence in Teaching: Netiquette Considerations)*

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| * Show Video * Listen actively and attentively. * Comments that you make (asking for clarification, sharing critiques, expanding on a point, etc.) should reflect that you have paid attention to the speaker’s comments. * Be aware of the fact that tone of voice and body language are powerful communicators. Some postures or facial expressions (e.g., crossed arms, eye rolls, loud sighs) can silence, provoke, intimidate, or hurt others. Others (e.g., facing and looking at the speaker, staying quiet, nodding) can show you are listening respectfully * Make eye contact with other students and refer to classmates by name. |

**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  8/18  8/20 | 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  8/25  8/27 | 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 – Student Information Form |
| THREE  9/1    9/3 | FEEDBACK: Pronunciation of Recording 2  Imitative Practice with Field Specific Text  Targeted areas of Grammar & Pronunciation  HOMEWORK: Read about uSC Program and establish TLC Goals  **uSC Program Starts! TLC Goals**  Vowels & Consonants HOMEWORK - RECORDING 3: *Problems of Selected Languages* |
| FOUR  9/8  9/10 | FEEDBACK: Pronunciation of Recording 3  Targeted areas of Grammar & Pronunciation  Presenting Graphs HOMEWORK - RECORDING 4: *Graph of a Straight Line,* Prepare for Presentation 2: presenting a field-related graph |
| FIVE  9/15  9/17 | 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  9/22  9/24 | 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** |

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| SEVEN  9/28 & 10/1 | **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  10/5 – 9 | CLASSES CANCELLED - MIDTERM CONSULTATIONS w/ITA and uSC |
| NINE  10/13 & 15 | **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  10/20 & 22 | **PRESENTATION 5:** **Assertion 1**  Targeted areas of Grammar & Pronunciation  HOMEWORK - Create Assertion 2 & 3 slides, Self & uSC evaluation of Assertion 1 |
| ELEVEN  10/27 & 29 | **PRESENTATIONS 6 & 7:** **Assertion 2 & Assertion 3**  Targeted areas of Grammar & Pronunciation  HOMEWORK - Create Conclusion slide  Self & uSC evaluation of Assertions 2 & 3 |
| TWELVE  11/3 & 5 | **PRESENTATION 8: Conclusion Slide**  **PRESENTATION 9:**  **Term**  HOMEWORK - Prepare for Presentation 9: Term RECORDING 6: Term |
| THIR-TEEN  11/10 | **FINAL CONSULTATION** – Term review for ITA Exam (w/uSC is optional)  No class |

IMPORTANT DATES:

SEPT 3 uSC Program Starts

OCT 6 & 8 NO CLASS for Midterm Consultations w/uSC

NOV 10 NO CLASS for Final Consultation

NOV 11 & 12 ITA Exam