UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA
AMERICAN LANGUAGE INSTITUTE

ALI 276
Language Assistance for International Teaching Assistants
2 Units; Summer 2023

Instructor: Lucienne Aarsen

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ITA program Email: ita@usc.edu

Course Description

ALI 276 is a language course to prepare ITAs, *of mixed levels,* to teach and present effectively in the classroom. In combination with in-class instruction, weekly individualized consultations with the instructor will take place in order to develop the ITA's language goals and a plan for accomplishing them. ITAs will self-evaluate each presentation and receive instructor feedback in the areas of language, pronunciation, and delivery. For ITAs with teaching duties, the instructor will observe and record the ITA performing these teaching duties.

Course objectives

By the end of ALI-276 students will have…

o   increased their understanding of the language, demands, and expectations of their students

o   improved their ability to interact in English in and outside of the classroom

o   become sensitized to their language and pronunciation problems and developed strategies to improve their comprehensibility

o   developed their ability to effectively present information

o   gained a greater awareness of American university culture

Materials:
Assigned readings on Blackboard
Links to online language resources on Blackboard
Grammar and Pronunciation Exercises
Evaluation forms

Course Components

4 Presentations, 1 Discussion, 2 Recordings, and Evaluations
- All presentations and discussions will be recorded
- After each presentation and discussion, students must watch their videos and fill out the self-evaluations for awareness and reflection
- Language and pronunciation exercises will be given to the student based on the presentation, discussion, and/or observation

6 Individual Consultations with the Instructor
- Students will have weekly ½ hour consultations with the instructor after every presentation to receive personalized feedback in the areas of language, discourse, and pronunciation

A total of 12 hours uSC Meetings for 6 weeks
- ITAs will meet with an undergraduate Student Consultant (uSC) two hours a week, beginning week 1 continuing to the end of the course. The uSC program offers a great opportunity to practice English with a native speaker outside the classroom. This is a chance for ITAs to work on fluency, pronunciation, conversation, and language areas ITAs wish to improve. The uSC, if available, will join the weekly consultations to give feedback on their ITA's presentations and teaching, and to review their ITA's progress and goals.

Grading:
ALI 276 is graded on a credit/no credit basis. To receive credit for ALI 276, students must attend all meetings with the instructor, fulfill 2 hours/week for 5 weeks with uSC (total 10 hours), and successfully complete all assignments as described above.

o   Attendance, class and uSC participation, and homework 50%.
o   All class presentations 50%

ITA EXAM & FURTHER REQUIREMENTS
In August, all students will take the ITA Oral Interview Exam. Though students fulfill the course requirements, some may continue to require further work on their pronunciation, language or teaching skills. In such cases, students will be required to enroll in an additional oral skills course.

To qualify for the ITA exam at the end of the semester, 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 <u>include hours missed with uSC</u>). 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
You are expected to arrive punctually and attend every class meeting. If you miss a class, contact your instructor to reschedule your next meeting. If you are more than a 10 minutes late to class, you may be marked absent for <u>one</u> full hour of the class. More than TWO hours of absence during the semester may result in a grade of No Credit for the course. If changes in your teaching responsibilities occur at any point during the semester, please be sure to inform your instructor as soon as possible.

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.

The American Language institute adheres to the following university requirements:

USC Graduate Admissions English Language Requirements
http://www.usc.edu/admission/graduate/international/english.html

Statement on Academic Conduct
Please familiarize yourself with the discussion of plagiarism in *SCampus* in Part B, Section 11, "Behavior Violating University Standards" https://policy.usc.edu/student/scampus/part-b. Other forms of academic dishonesty are equally unacceptable. See additional information in *SCampus* and university policies on scientific misconduct, http://policy.usc.edu/scientific-misconduct.

Discrimination, sexual assault, intimate partner violence, stalking, and harassment are prohibited by the university. You are encouraged to report all incidents to the *Office of Equity and Diversity/Title IX Office* http://equity.usc.edu and/or to the *Department of Public Safety* http://dps.usc.edu. This is important for the health and safety of the whole USC community. Faculty and staff must report any information regarding an incident to the Title IX Coordinator who will provide outreach and information to the affected party. The sexual assault resource center webpage http://sarc.usc.edu fully describes reporting options. Relationship and Sexual Violence Services https://engemannshc.usc.edu/rsvp provides 24/7 confidential support.

Support Systems
For more language support, check with the *American Language Institute* http://ali.usc.edu, for more courses and workshops specifically for international graduate students. *The Office of Disability Services and Programs* http://dsp.usc.edu provides certification for students with disabilities and helps arrange the relevant accommodations. If an officially declared emergency makes travel to campus infeasible, *USC Emergency Information* http://emergency.usc.edu will provide safety and other updates, including ways in which instruction will be continued by means of Blackboard, teleconferencing, and other technology.

WEEK 1	Wednesday 5/17	Thursday 5/18	
276 Intro **Self Intro** **uSC Program**	Overview of Course Consultation sign-ups on Calendly **Presentation 1** Introductions & Recording uSC Program SIF **HW** You Said/You Meant evaluation for Consultation 1 Recording 1 – submit on Blackboard by midnight	**Zoom Consultation 1** Presentation 1 Introduction and Recording 1 feedback Tracking sheets **HW** Prepare with uSC for Presentation 2: Presenting Confidently -Reading: Setting the Tone	
WEEK 2	Tuesday 5/23	Wednesday 5/24	Thursday 5/25
ITA Mock **Class Intro**	**Presentation 1:** Introductions & Recordings (new students) **Reading** First Day of Class – Setting the Tone: Effective Verbal & Non-Verbal Communication **Presentation 2:** First Day of Class - Presenting a Confident Self Image Language Exercise **HW to bring to Consultation 2** Watch Presentation 2 with uSC for feedback Self-evaluation Tracking sheets	**Zoom Consultation 2**: Presentation 2 First Day of Class presentation feedback Tracking sheets **HW 1**: correct language/pronunciation errors with uSC **HW 2**: Read Lucienne's discussion article and prepare to discuss questions Propose topic discussions	**Introduction to Leading a Discussion**: demo & instructions Assign Groups 1 & 2 Discussion Leaders; Group 1 proposes topics for discussion Language Exercise **HW** Prepare for Discussion with uSC Discussion Leader - Submit Discussion article and questions Monday afternoon by 5PM Discussion Participants - Read Discussion article and prepare to discuss questions

WEEK 3	**Tuesday 6/6**	**Wednesday 6/7**	**Thursday 6/8**
Leading a Discussion	**Discussion Group 1:** Leading a Discussion Language Exercise **HW to bring to Consultation 3** Group 1 Leaders - Self-evaluation uSCs – Discussion evaluation of your ITA	**Zoom Consultation 3**: 1 hour Group 1 Discussion Leaders – Self evaluation, uSC & Instructor evaluation; Tracking Sheets **HW**: Find TLC Resource w/uSC to work on Language and Pronunciation Issues	**Group 2 Discussion topic proposals** Message Units: Intonation, Rhythm & Stress, Pausing **HW:** Prepare for Discussion with uSC Discussion Leader - Submit Discussion article and questions Monday afternoon by 5PM Discussion Participants - Read Discussion article and prepare to discuss questions
WEEK 4	**Tuesday 6/13**	**Wednesday 6/14**	**Thursday 6/15**
Leading a Discussion	**Discussion Group 2:** Leading a Discussion Language Exercise **HW to bring to Consultation 5** Group 2 Leaders - Self-evaluation uSCs – Discussion evaluation of your ITA	**Zoom Consultation 4:** 1 hour Group 2 Discussion Leaders – Self evaluation, uSC & Instructor evaluation; Tracking Sheets HW: Find TLC Resource w/uSC to work on Language and Pronunciation Issues	Introduction to Presentation 3: Effective Communication & Interaction: Talking about Your Research a) The Elevator Pitch b) Interaction Intonation for Asking, Requesting & Suggesting Language Exercise HW Prepare for Presentation 3 with uSC – Your Research

WEEK 5	Tuesday 6/20	Wednesday 6/21	Thursday 6/22
Talking about your Research	**Presentation 3:** Talking about your Research Language/Pronunciation Exercise **HW to bring to Consultation 5** Self & Peer Evaluation Tracking sheets	**Zoom Consultation 5**: Talking about your Research feedback Tracking sheets **HW**: : Find TLC Resource w/uSC to work on Language and Pronunciation Issues	**Term Prep - Components of Defining a Term** **HW:** Term script and Recording 2 Prepare for Presentation 4 with uSC– Term
WEEK 6	**Monday 6/26**	**Tuesday 6/27**	
Term Presentations	**Presentation 4:** –Mock ITA Term Language/Pronunciation Exercise ITA/Student Relations: Sticky Situations & Resources for Help **HW** Self-evaluation to bring to Consultation 6	**Zoom Consultation 6**: Term feedback Tracking sheets	