IELI 2310 – Comprehending Authentic Discourse

Catalog Description
Focuses on listening and note-taking of authentic passages, such as interviews, news reports, university lectures, and documentaries. Develops strategies for comprehension and organization of information.

Course Goals
Students will…
• comprehend authentic listening passages from various sources
• develop note-taking skills which reflect an understanding of the organization of the listening passages

Expected Learner Outcomes
1) Students demonstrate listening comprehension* by…
   • identifying main ideas
   • answering questions about the passages
   • summarizing passages
   • restating information
   • filling out graphic organizers

2) Students demonstrate note-taking skills by…
   • taking notes that reflect the organization of passages
   • taking notes that capture the important content
   • organizing important information in a visually comprehensible manner

Typical classroom topics / activities
• Recognizing good notes
• Discussing various graphic organizers/methods of note-taking
• Using abbreviations and symbols in notes
• Guided note-taking, including filling in skeleton notes
• Interviews with native English speakers
• Discussion groups
• Paired note-taking
• Vocabulary/listening journals
• Internet assignments using sources such as NPR, ABC News, the New York Times, and YouTube
• Information gaps
• Using notes to “lecture” to partner/group
• Dictation
• Quinney Library: Documentaries (students can check out DVDs)
• snagfilms.com (online documentaries
• npr.org
• discovery.com, animalplanet.com, National Geographic

* Students can perform the listening tasks at an intermediate level.

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