

IELI 2440
Academic Discourse
Fall 2016

Instructor: Nolan Weil
Office: Main 078
Phone: 797-2052
Office Hours: T & Th: 11:50-1:15 or by appointment
E-mail: nolan.weil@usu.edu
Class Times: M-W-F 9:30-10:20
Location: TECH 122

Important Dates:

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|----------------|--------------------------------|
| August 29 | Classes Begin |
| September 5 | Labor Day Holiday – No Classes |
| October 20 | Follow Friday Class Schedule |
| October 21 | Fall Break – No Classes |
| November 23-25 | Thanksgiving Holiday |
| December 9 | Classes End |
| December 12-16 | Final Exam Week |

About the Course: The purpose of this course is to enable you to speak more effectively in an academic setting such as a university classroom. Class activities are designed around the planning and delivery of brief (5-8 minute) oral presentations on academic topics. You will be video-recorded while presenting, and you will use the recordings to review your performance and write self-critiques. You will also receive feedback from your peers and your instructor.

Course Goals. Students learn to research, prepare, and deliver different types of academic presentations.

Expected Learner Outcomes

1. In their presentations, students show university-level research and preparation by:
 - using relevant sources
 - organizing information that shows a clear introduction, body, and conclusion
 - adequately developing the presentation topic for the intended audience
2. In their presentations, students show they can deliver an academic presentation by:
 - creating and using appropriate visual support
 - using language that is clear and comprehensible
 - successfully interacting with the audience
 - using appropriate body language (eye contact, gestures, and posture)

Text: No required text for this section. Your instructor will provide materials.

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| Evaluation: | Preparation (outlines, PowerPoints, etc.) | 16.67% |
| | Audience participation (peer reviews) | 16.66% |
| | Presentations <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Self-Introduction (10 points) • Describing an Object (20 points) • Defining a Term (25 points) • Explaining a Process (20 points) • Problem-Solution (25 points) • Final Presentation (40 points) <p>The above list of presentations is tentative. It may be modified depending upon time constraints and student needs.</p> | 50.00% |
| | Self-Critiques | 16.67% |

Final grades will be based on the following percentages of total points:

| | | | | |
|------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|---------|
| 93-100% A | 88-89% B+ | 78-79% C+ | 68-69% D+ | < 60% F |
| 90-92 % A- | 83-87% B | 73-77% C | 63-67% D | |
| | 80-82% B- | 70-72% C- | 60-62% D- | |

IELI Policies and Practices

Attendance Policy

Learning a language requires that you actively attend and participate in your classes. If you do not regularly attend classes, you may miss important information and fail the class, not progressing to the next level in the IELI program. For students studying on a visa, if you miss more than a week of class we are obligated to contact the Office of Global Engagement to report your absence. Missing multiple classes and/or failing multiple courses can have serious consequences for some students as it can be grounds for revoking their visa and requiring the students to immediately return to their country.

Grading

The grades you get for each class are based on the work you do for that class. Attendance and effort are important factors for successful learning but do not directly affect your grade. It is important for you to do your best on all your in-class and at home

activities as they will be graded on how well you complete these activities. Successful completion of these activities will help you gain the knowledge and skills you need to meet learner outcomes for each course.

Progressing to the next level

You must receive a grade of C- or better in any IELI class in order to pass that class and move to the next level of that class. Students who receive lower than a C- are required to repeat the class until they receive a passing grade. If you are not passing a class at mid-term you will be re-registered for the class until final grades are posted. If your final grade shows that you passed the class, you will be moved up into the next level or the class will be dropped.

If you want to check on how well you met the learner outcomes for each class, there are two ways to do so: 1) you can get a copy of the student achievement form from the IELI staff assistants or 2) you can access your grade on the USU website and then compare the grade to the Grade Descriptions on the IELI website (Current Students -> Academics-> Grade Descriptions).

In-term evaluations

Your professors will inform you, in writing, of your grade three times during the semester (e.g. approximately 4 weeks, 8 weeks and 12 weeks). For the midterm evaluation, IELI faculty assign a letter grade to students in each of their classes. If you are doing work at a level lower than C in any of your classes, your professor will meet with you to discuss what you will need to do to pass the class.

University Policies

Plagiarism. Plagiarism includes knowingly “representing, by paraphrase or direct quotation, the published or unpublished work of another person as one’s own in any academic exercise or activity without full and clear acknowledgment. It also includes the unacknowledged use of materials prepared by another person or agency engaged in the selling of term papers or other academic materials.” The penalties for plagiarism are severe. They include warning or reprimand, grade adjustment, probation, suspension, expulsion, withholding of transcripts, denial or revocation of degrees, and referral to psychological counseling.

Students with Disabilities. The Americans with Disabilities Act states: "Reasonable accommodation will be provided for all persons with disabilities in order to ensure equal participation within the program. If a student has a disability that will likely require some accommodation by the instructor, the student must contact the instructor and document the disability through the Disability Resource Center (797-2444), preferably during the first week of the course. Any request for special consideration relating to attendance, pedagogy, taking of examinations, etc., must be discussed with and approved by the instructor. In cooperation with the Disability Resource Center, course materials can be provided in alternative format, large print, audio, diskette, or Braille."