

# IELI 2440 Academic Discourse

Intensive English Language Institute  
College of Humanities, Arts, and Social Sciences  
Utah State University Fall 2016  
**MWF 9:30-10:20 am FL 109**

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Office Hours: **Tues & Wed 12 – 1 pm or by appt. only**

## Course Goals

Learn to research, prepare, and deliver different types of academic presentations.

## Expected Learner Outcomes

- 1) In your presentations, you should 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 your presentations, you should show you 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)

## About this course

This class is the last in the series of classes designed to advance your language skills. It will focus on enabling you to speak more effectively in an academic setting such as a university classroom. Classroom activities are designed around the planning and delivery of brief (5-10 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.

The above purposes will be practiced in the following presentations; others may be added as needed:

- Introduction of other (individual)
- Describing a graph or table
- Explaining a process (individual)
- Extended Definition presentation (individual)
- Problem/Solution formal presentation (individual)

There will also be announced and unannounced quizzes based on the work that is to be prepared **before each class period**. They will usually be based on the reading assignments from the textbook. You must be in class when the quiz **begins** to take the quiz. If you miss a class quiz for **any** reason, you cannot take it at any other time.

## Required Text and Materials

No text required, supplemental materials will be provided by instructor. One 3-ring binder for keeping notes, homework, handouts, ect.

### **Student's Responsibility**

Students are expected to study each chapter, complete the homework assignments that will be handed in, and be prepared to make meaningful contributions to each class discussion. Students are expected to take an active role in learning and improving their language skills through study and participation in and out of class. You will get what you put into this class. Be a proactive learner!

### **Attendance**

Immigration rules require that all students be full-time (18-credits while in IELI) and in class every day. Your professors must report excessive absences to the International Student Office. If you must miss class, be sure that your teacher and the IELI office know why you are absent. If you are ill, please bring documentation (e.g. a signed note from your doctor) to verify that your absence was for medical reasons.

Daily attendance and active participation in this class are crucial. Because of this, you are expected to attend all scheduled classes prepared for your in-class activities and give presentations on the assigned days. Long periods of absence (2 classes in a row) will require a note from a doctor explaining the absence (student health service, private doctor, emergency room doctor, etc.

Tardiness in attending class will result in lowering of in-class participation grades for that day. Every three times you are late will be counted as an absence, so please be on time to class. For every three absences, your grade will drop half a grade.

Any lateness in presenting will be due only to excused, extenuating circumstances or **prior** permission from the instructor. Unexcused lateness in presenting automatically reduces your grade for that presentation 10% per day. Homework is due on the day specified for each assignment. **No homework will be accepted after it has been graded and handed back to the class.**

### **Grading**

Your grade will be based on the number of points **earned** against the maximum points possible.

Grade distribution will be as follows: Above 94% = A, 90-93% = A-, 86-89% = B+, 83-85% = B, 80-82% = B-, 76-79% = C+, 73-75% = C, 70-72% = C-, 60-69% = D, and below 60% = F.

In-class and At-home work	40%
Analyses of own presentations	10%
In class presentations	50%

*You must **earn** a C- or higher to progress to the next level.*

### **IELI 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.

### **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.

- You are expected to come to all of your classes prepared and on time.
- In cases of emergency, sickness, or religious holiday observance, you will be allowed to miss class **2 times** in the semester.
- You are expected to inform your teacher of your absence as soon as you can (for religious observance, inform me at the beginning of the semester which day you'd like to take off) and email is sufficient.

### **Academic Honesty/Integrity**

You are expected to follow USU Academic Honesty/Integrity Policy, which forbids cheating, falsification, and plagiarism. To learn about the Policy go to <http://catalog.usu.edu/content.php?catoid=4&navoid=547>. If you are caught committing any of the described violations, you will first receive a warning from your teacher and a record of it will be put in your file. You will also be asked to complete additional assignments for the class. If you violate this policy for the second time, you will be subject to the disciplinary actions described in Section 3 of the Academic Honesty/Integrity.

### **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."