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Utah State University  
Intensive English Language Institute  
0715 Old Main Hill  
Logan, UT 84322-0715

IELI 2450—Topics 2  
Fall 2016

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**Instructor:** Nolan Weil  
**Office:** Main 078  
**Phone:** 797-2052  
**E-mail:** nolan.weil@usu.edu  
**Office Hours:** T & TH 10:50-1:15; and by appointment  
**Class Times:** T-TH 1:30-2:45 W 11:30-12:20  
**Location:** Main 343

***Important Dates:***

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

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### Reading Fiction

**Course Goals:**

- Improve reading fluency through the reading of fiction
- Improve listening comprehension, spoken English, and ability to express ideas in writing through discussion and study of topics in literature
- Expand vocabulary and raise awareness of English structure

**Outcomes:**

- Demonstrate understanding of graded readers in the 400-1000 headword range (Oxford Bookworms) by discussing various aspects of narrative fiction, (e.g., characterization, plot, conflict, mood and theme)
- Demonstrate (through oral discussion and written products) understanding of basic concepts of literary commentary, e.g., setting, character, characterization, theme, etc.
- Demonstrate commitment to the practice of extensive reading by completing at least 15 graded readers over the course of a semester

**About the Course:**

As a class, we will read and discuss 5 works of fiction (adapted for second language readers). We may also view video excerpts of some of these both for change of pace and to help you understand them better. You will discuss or respond to readings, sometimes orally and sometimes in writing, and you will do in-class assignments and activities to help you better understand and enjoy the reading, as well as to connect with your peers. There may be an occasional quiz to assess your learning.

In addition, you will select a minimum of 15 additional books from the IELI library collection to read on your own. You will have an opportunity to discuss this reading with your classmates and your professor.

**Texts:** (These texts are Oxford Bookworms editions published by Oxford University Press. They are available in the bookstore.)

<b>Author</b>	<b>Title</b>
Bassette	Anne of Green Gables
Dickens	Christmas Carol
Duckworth	Voodoo Island
Twain	The Adventures of Tom Sawyer
Twain	The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn

<b>Evaluation:</b>	Written Assignments, Quizzes, Tests & Final Exam	80%
	Self-selected reading from IELI library	20%

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

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

Students must earn a C- or higher to pass to the next level in IELI

### ***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 based on how well you complete them. 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."