

Intensive English Language Institute
 Department of Languages, Philosophy, and Communication Studies
 College of Humanities and Social Sciences, Utah State University

IELI 2330: Spoken Discourse and Cross-Cultural Communication Fall 2017 Course Syllabus

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Office Hours: By appointment

Course Information

Class Days and Times: MWF 9:30 – 10:20 am

Location: EBB 216

Course website: Canvas

Important Dates

Classes Begin	Tuesday	August 29
Labor Day (No Classes)	Monday	September 4
Friday Class Schedule	Thursday	October 19
Fall Break	Friday	October 20
Thanksgiving (No Classes)	Wednesday-Friday	November 20-24
Classes End	Friday	December 8
Final Exams	Monday-Friday	December 11-15

Course Description

This course emphasizes interpersonal communication and academic tasks with American undergraduate classroom assistants. It focuses on the dynamics of small-group interactions.

Course Goals

1. To successfully communicate with Americans on a variety of topics;
2. To develop vocabulary at an intermediate level;
3. To develop skills for group work in an academic setting.

Learner Outcomes

Students will demonstrate the ability to successfully communicate with Americans on a variety of topics by:

- Using appropriate verbal and non-verbal communication in social and academic situations;
- Interacting formally and informally in university settings;
- Giving group presentations.

Students show that they have learned vocabulary by:

- Participating successfully in speaking and listening activities and group presentations.

Students demonstrate the ability to work in groups in an academic setting by:

- Accomplishing assigned tasks such as leading a discussion.

Materials

I will provide you with the materials for this class, but you always need to have a notepad and a pen/pencil with you.

Grading

Course grades will be calculated on the following scale:

Letter Grade	Percentage	Grade Point Value
A	100-93%	4.00
A-	92-90%	3.67
B+	89-87%	3.33
B	86-83%	3.00
B-	82-80%	2.67
C+	79-77%	2.33
C	76-73%	2.00
C-	72-70%	1.67
D+	69-67%	1.33
D	66-63%	1.00
D-	66-60%	0.67
F	Less than 60%	0

Grades will be awarded in the following amounts:

- In-Class Discussions and Participation – 30%
- Homework Assignments – 20%
- Project 1 – 10%
- Project 2 – 10%
- Project 3 – 10%
- Project 4 – 10%
- Project 5 – 10%

As per IELI policy, any grade below C- is failing.

In-Class Discussions and Participation – 30%

The class focuses on your practice of speaking in small groups. We will have American students in our classes that will assist with our discussions. I expect you to participate to the best of your abilities. Participation doesn't necessarily mean speaking a lot, but it entails listening, asking questions, providing suggestions, planning group responses, and projecting a positive attitude. Positive attitude means being ready to contribute to class discussions and respecting your classmates and the instructor. You will lose points for the following kinds of behavior:

- You are late for class (2 late arrivals are allowed for the entire semester);
- You didn't bring the materials required for the lesson;
- You sleep in class;
- You do not turn off your cell phone;
- You do homework for other classes;
- You do any other work not related to class activities;
- You use your laptop for non-class related purposes (e.g., surf on the Internet);
- Your behavior is disruptive*.

* Examples of disruptive behavior:

- Leaving class without permission;
- Making noise and repeatedly interrupting;

- Reading newspapers/magazines or other non-lesson related materials in class;
- Eating in class without permission;
- Being verbally abusive to or insulting the instructor or other students;
- Persistent and unreasonable demands for time and attention;
- Refusing to comply with the directions of the instructor.

Homework Assignments – 20%

All homework assignments need to be turned in at the beginning of the class, unless other instructions are provided. Late homework is not accepted. Even if you miss a class, you need to come to the following class prepared and with your homework assignment completed.

Each of the following projects is linked to the units we will be working on this semester. More information about each project will be given later.

Project 1 “Our Group Profile” – 10%

It’s a project for Unit 1: “Building a Learning Community.” The product: varies (see the description of the project).

Project 2 “Exploring USU” – 10%

It’s a project for Unit 2: “Education.” The product: A group PowerPoint presentation.

Project 3 “Logan in the Era of Globalization” – 10%

It’s a project for Unit 3: “Globalization.” The product: Leading a class discussion.

Project 4 “Utah’s National Parks” – 10%

It’s a project for Unit 4: “The Environment.” The product: A group poster presentation.

Project 5 “The American Fashion Show” – 10%

It’s a project for Unit 5: “Arts and Design.” The product: A narrated fashion show.

Policies

Class Policies

Illness and Emergencies. If you are sick for more than a day, or if there is an emergency (please note that for the university, emergencies include a death or serious illness in the family, warfare, jail or legal problems, accidents), please let the instructor know.

Technology. NO laptops in class! The instructor will let you know in advance if you need to bring your laptop for class activities.

NO cell phones! Using cell phones/texting in class is disrespectful to your classmates and to the instructor. Cell phones should be turned off and put out of sight until class is over. (If you are expecting an emergency call, please let the instructor know.).

IELI and USU 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. Attendance is not only important for learning but essential for international students on an F-1 or J-1 visa to maintain their legal immigration status. IELI works closely with the office of Global

Engagement to ensure that our students maintain their immigration status and will report students who regularly miss class. Consequently, the following attendance policy will be enforced.

Missing consecutive classes. If a student misses 7 consecutive classes for any one class without contacting the instructor and providing valid proof of absence (e.g., a medical excuse from a doctor), their immigration status will be terminated and they will be sent home.

Total classes. If a student misses 7 total class hours for any one class or 22 total class hours in any one semester, their immigration status will be terminated and they will be sent home.

USU policy/excused absences. According to the USU policy, a student may not miss more than 20% of any class even if it is excused. This means that you cannot miss more than 9 classes for any one class, even if some of the absences are excused. If a student's total absences (excused and unexcused) for any class exceeds 9, their immigration status will be terminated and they will be sent home.

Warnings. Students will get at least three warnings before their immigration status is terminated. It is the student's responsibility to provide a current e-mail address to IELI and the office of Global Engagement and check their e-mail regularly. If a student's immigration status is terminated, they will be given 15 days to leave the U.S.

IELI Policies

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

Academic Integrity – “The Honor System.” Each student has the right and duty to pursue his or her academic experience free of dishonesty. The Honor System is designed to establish the higher level of conduct expected and required of all Utah State University students.

The Honor Pledge: To enhance the learning environment at Utah State University and to develop student academic integrity, each student agrees to the following Honor Pledge: “I pledge, on my honor, to conduct myself with the foremost level of academic integrity.” A student who lives by the Honor Pledge is a student who does more than not cheat, falsify, or plagiarize. A student who lives by the Honor Pledge:

- Espouses academic integrity as an underlying and essential principle of the Utah State University community;
- Understands that each act of academic dishonesty devalues every degree that is awarded by this institution; and
- Is a welcomed and valued member of Utah State University.

Grievance Process (Student Code). Students who feel they have been unfairly treated [in matters other than (i) discipline or (ii) admission, residency, employment, traffic, and parking – which are addressed by procedures separate and independent from the Student Code] may file a grievance through the channels and procedures described in the Student Code:

http://studentlife.tsc.usu.edu/stuserv/pdf/student_code.pdf (Article VII. Grievances, pages 25-30).

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.

Sexual Harassment. Sexual harassment is defined by the Affirmative Action/Equal Employment Opportunity Commission as any “unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, and other verbal or physical conduct of a sexual nature.” If you feel you are a victim of sexual harassment, you may talk to or file a complaint with the Affirmative Action/Equal Employment Opportunity Office located in Old Main, Room 161, or call the AA/EEO Office at 797-1266.

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.”

Withdrawal Policy and "I" Grade Policy. Students are required to complete all courses for which they are registered by the end of the semester. In some cases, a student may be unable to complete all of the coursework because of extenuating circumstances, but not due to poor performance or to retain financial aid. The term 'extenuating' circumstances includes: (1) incapacitating illness which prevents a student from attending classes for a minimum period of two weeks, (2) a death in the immediate family, (3) financial responsibilities requiring a student to alter a work schedule to secure employment, (4) change in work schedule as required by an employer, or (5) other emergencies deemed appropriate by the instructor.

Course Calendar

Week	Dates	Classwork
Week 1	Aug 28-Sep 1	Introductions
Week 2	Sept 4-8	Unit 1: Building a Learning Community (Contextualizing & Zooming in: Your group)
Week 3	Sept 11-15	Unit 1: Building a Learning Community (Project Week)
Week 4	Sept 18-22	Unit 2: Education (Contextualizing)
Week 5	Sep 25-29	Unit 2: Education (Zooming in: USU Campus)
Week 6	Oct 2-6	Unit 2: Education (Project Week)
Week 7	Oct 9-13	Unit 3: Globalization (Contextualizing)
Week 8	Oct 16-20	Unit 3: Globalization (Zooming in: Logan)
Week 9	Oct 23-27	Unit 3: Globalization (Project Week)
Week 10	Oct 30-Nov 3	Unit 4: The Environment (Contextualizing)
Week 11	Nov 6-Nov 10	Unit 4: The Environment (Zooming in: Utah)
Week 12	Nov 13-Nov 17	Unit 4: The Environment (Project Week)
Week 13	Nov 20-Nov 24	Unit 5: Art and Design (Contextualizing)
Week 14	Nov 27-Dec 1	Unit 5: Art and Design (Zooming in: America)
Week 15	Dec 4-8	Unit 5: Art and Design (Project Week)