IELI 2460 Reading from Academic Sources
Intensive English Language Institute
Utah State University Spring 2019
T TH 10:00 am – 11:45 am Main 343
F 11:30 am - 12:20 pm Main 343

Instructor: Taira Nieves
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Required Text: TBD

The course focuses on processes and strategies for a variety of academic and disciplinary genres, with a special emphasis on the basic university textbook; strategies for learning from textbooks and other materials relevant to reading for academic purposes; and vocabulary study.

Course Goals

Students will…

- learn skills and strategies for studying and learning from textbooks and other academic genres
- use reading as a source for vocabulary development

Expected Learner Outcomes

- Identify the purpose of text by previewing and stating the relevant ideas
- Taking notes that capture the important content and represent the organization of a text
- Writing coherent summaries
- Locating specific items of information and correctly answering content-relevant questions
- Identifying key vocabulary

Possible Classroom Topics/Activities

- Identifying textbook structure/parts (headings, title, index, table of content, etc.)
- Identifying text organization (definition, listing, cause-effect, chronological order, etc.)
- Using reading strategies according to its purpose (focused reading vs. skimming or scanning)
- Identifying keywords/key phrases, main ideas vs. details
- Making inferences
- Identifying fact vs. opinion
• Sorting words according to priority
• Providing definitions
• Providing examples of context-relevant usage
• Identifying and locating a variety text-based and electronic articles
• Assessing the genre, purpose, and credibility of the article
• Summarizing
• Practicing study methods (SQ3R, concept maps, annotating, etc.)
• Practicing note taking (using symbols, abbreviations, being concise, etc.)
• Practicing extensive/timed reading
• Practicing vocabulary learning strategies (vocabulary journal, vocabulary note cards)
• Learning Academic Word Lists, technical vs. general vocabulary, collocations, etc

develop information seeking skills

**Tests, Quizzes, and Assignments:**
Throughout the semester you will be asked to complete tasks designed for you to practice what you learn in class. You will also have several reading tests that will use readings comparable to those that we will use in class. You will be allowed to have your book open during those tests. You may also expect a few reading/vocabulary quizzes that will be announced a day or two prior.

**Final Exam:**
At the end of the semester you will have a final test. It will be based on a reading similar to those that we will read in class. It will be open book.

**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.

**Assignments and Evaluation:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignments</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Reading Tests</td>
<td>35%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reading Quizzes</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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**Grading Scale:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade Range</th>
<th>Grade</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>100 - 93%</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>92 - 90%</td>
<td>A-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>79 - 78%</td>
<td>C+</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>77 - 73%</td>
<td>C</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Graded Assignments 30% 89 - 88% = B+ 72 - 70% = C-

Final Exam 25% 87 - 83% = B 69 - 67% = D+

82 - 80% = B- 66 - 60% = D

Below 60% = F

*It is IELI policy that you must earn a C- or higher to demonstrate completion of class goals and progress to the next level.*

**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.

**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.

For USU policies, go to https://www.usu.edu/provost/faculty/teaching/syllabus_resources.cfm