Instructor: Nolan Weil
Office: Main 079
Phone: 797-2052
Office Hours: By appointment
E-mail: nolan.weil@usu.edu
Mode: Blended / Online asynchronous
plus 1-2 times weekly synchronous Zoom meeting

Important Dates:
July 6       Summer Session 2 begins
Aug 7       Summer Session 2 ends

About the Course: The purpose of this course is to enable you to speak more effectively in contexts requiring the use of English for academic purposes. The face-to-face version of the class generally offered on the Logan Campus at Utah State University involves planning and delivering brief presentations in front of a live audience. This Online version emphasizes many of the same principles but is tailored to the delivery of academic talks via media platforms such as Zoom or YouTube.

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

Expected Learner Outcomes
1. Students research and prepare presentations on academic topics
   • using relevant sources
   • demonstrating appropriate forms of discourse
   • developing the topic for a general audience
2. Student presentations:
   • use language that is comprehensible
   • include appropriate visual support
   • maintain effective on-camera presence

Text: There is no required text. Your instructor will provide materials.

Schedule. This is a blended course. Some of the instruction will be asynchronous, meaning that there will be no fixed time to meet. I will post and give video recorded explanations of the assignments via CANVAS. (You are responsible for setting your CANVAS notifications to receive
timely updates, as well as accessing CANVAS daily to work on and submit assignments before their submission deadlines.)

We will also have once or twice weekly, whole class, synchronous (i.e., "real time") Zoom meetings for the purpose of presenting the materials you have prepared throughout the week and delivering oral presentations. We will negotiate the times for these meetings according to everyone’s availability.

**Zoom Meetings.** A big part of this course involves developing an effective camera presence. You must join Zoom meetings via computer (not smartphone) and you must keep your video on at all times and maintain good camera presence.

**Evaluation**

Five formal video-presentations (including separate submission of a written plan. Presentation types may include:

- Self-Introduction
- Object Description
- Extended Definition of a Term or Concept
- Explanation of Cause-Effect
- Data/Graph Interpretation
- Explanation of a Process
- Problem-Solution

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Percentage Range</th>
<th>Grade</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>93-100%</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>88-89%</td>
<td>B+</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>78-79%</td>
<td>C+</td>
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<tr>
<td>68-69%</td>
<td>D+</td>
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<tr>
<td>&lt; 60%</td>
<td>F</td>
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<tr>
<td>90-92%</td>
<td>A-</td>
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<tr>
<td>83-87%</td>
<td>B</td>
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<tr>
<td>73-77%</td>
<td>C</td>
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<tr>
<td>63-67%</td>
<td>D</td>
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<tr>
<td>80-82%</td>
<td>B-</td>
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<tr>
<td>70-72%</td>
<td>C-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>60-62%</td>
<td>D-</td>
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</tbody>
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**IELI Policies and Practices**

**Participation Policy**

Developing academic language ability requires that you actively participate in your classes. If you do not regularly access assigned materials and complete assignments, you may miss important information and fail the class, not progressing to the next level in the IELI program.

**Grading**

The grades you get for each class are based on the work you do for that class. Task completion is important for successful learning but completion alone is not a guarantee that you will earn an A in every class. The quality of your work and your ability to demonstrate significant progress in meeting course objectives is also necessary. A’s and B’s are generally regarded as good grades in the U.S. and C’s are acceptable (even if students do not prefer them). It is important for you to do your best on all in-class and at home activities as your grade will depend on the degree to which you are able to demonstrate achievement of course objectives.
**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 professor will keep you informed of your progress throughout the semester by posting in a timely way on CANVAS the outcomes of all assignments. At midterm, your professor will assign you a letter grade. 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."