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

IELI 2450: Topics for ESL  
Summer 2021  
Course Syllabus

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Office Hours: By appointment

Course Information
Class Days and Times: MTWF: 8:40-10:50  
Location: Canvas, Main 343  
Course website: Canvas

Course Description
This course introduces students to contemporary topics, which vary by semester and level. It focuses on language development through content-based instruction.

Course Goals
In this course, you will:
- Demonstrate language and academic skills needed in university-level coursework;
- Understand and be able to apply specific content of selected current issues, cultural topics and discipline-specific subjects;
- Use skills and strategies for critical analysis, creative thinking, and collaborative learning.

Expected Learner Outcomes
You demonstrate language and academic skills by:
- Participating actively in class and effectively collaborating with peers;
- Producing clear written materials (such as reports, summaries, and posters) which reflect writing proficiency and content mastery;
- Delivering effective presentations of information (such as speeches, debates, videos, and role-plays) which reflect speaking proficiency and content mastery.

Materials
I will provide you with the materials for this class.

Course Schedule
The course will have both synchronous (meetings in Main 343) and asynchronous components (completing assignments individually during the class time). On Mondays and Wednesdays, we will meet together and work on the focal topic of the unit by completing reading and speaking activities. On Tuesdays and Thursdays, you will be working individually by completing a series of either listening (Tuesday) or writing (Thursday) assignments, which you will submit on Canvas by the end of the class period (i.e., by 10:50 am). On Friday, we will meet in class, and you will present your project of the unit--i.e., an oral presentation.
Grading
Course grades will be calculated on the following scale:

- A=93-100%
- A-=90-92%
- B+=87-89%
- B=83-86%
- B-=80-82%
- C+=77-79%
- C=73-76%
- C-=70-72%
- D+=67-69%
- D=63-66%
- D-=60-62%
- F=below 60

Grades will be awarded in the following amounts:
- Unit 1 assignments: 20%
- Unit 2 assignments: 20%
- Unit 3 assignments: 20%
- Unit 4 assignments: 20%
- Unit 5 assignments: 20%

Assignments
All assignments must be submitted through Canvas in a Word Doc file. Please do not submit PDFs or pictures taken by your phone: they are not going to be graded and you will lose points.

Independent Work
These are the assignments that you will complete individually each Tuesday and Thursday from 8:40 to 10:50 am. The assignments will appear on Canvas promptly at 8:40 am and become unavailable at 10:50 am. You must submit all completed work by 10:50 am (the end of the class period) to receive the credit. Completing these assignments shows that you were present in class that day. If you don’t submit the assignments by that time, that means you “missed the class,” which means the participation and attendance policy will apply (see below). Please DO NOT schedule anything for the Tuesday and Thursday class period: it is your class time! Late assignments will not be graded.

Attendance/Participation
Classroom participation is an important part of being a college student. You are expected to participate in each class to the best of your ability. Merely being present does not constitute participation. Just like in the workplace, it is not enough to just show up. It is expected that you come to class prepared and on time. Coming prepared means having your materials, completed homework, being ready to contribute to class discussion, and projecting positive attitude. It is also expected that you conduct yourself in a respectful manner.

For each synchronous (on campus) class, you are granted 10 points: 5 for attendance and 5 for participation. If you are absent, you lose those 10 points automatically. If you are late/leave class for more than 10 minutes, you are marked absent. As far as participation goes, you will lose 5 points for the following kinds of behavior:

- You are late for class--less than 10 minutes (2 late arrivals are allowed for the entire semester);
- You seem to be unprepared (e.g., haven’t read the assigned pages of the book, haven’t completed the assigned task that requires classroom discussion and participation).
You are not engaged in class activities and seem to be doing something else on your computer.

For each asynchronous (Tuesday & Thursday) class, you will automatically be given 5 points if you submit the independent work assignment (graded separately) of the day.

### Course Calendar

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Unit</th>
<th>Unit’s Project</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Week 1: July 12-16</td>
<td>Globalization</td>
<td>Domain affected by globalization</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 2: July 18-23</td>
<td>Medicine</td>
<td>Innovation in medicine</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 3: July 26-30</td>
<td>Education</td>
<td>University of your dream</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 4: August 2-6</td>
<td>Aging</td>
<td>Aging tips</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 5: August 9-13</td>
<td>Energy</td>
<td>Renewable energy of the future</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### 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. Remember that an excused absence for illness purposes will only be granted if a valid proof of absence (e.g., a medical excuse from a doctor) is provided.

#### 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.”

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.