

Course Descriptions: ELI Continuing Education Classes

Grammar 1

Identify and produce basic structures correctly in your speaking and writing. Structures include singular and plural nouns, possessive nouns and adjectives, simple present and present progressive tenses, simple past tense, and "be going to" future tense.

Grammar 2

Get instruction and practice with basic grammatical forms. Learn to form correct sentences including questions, use the simple present and present progressive tenses, past tense, and future forms, and utilize pronouns and comparative and superlative adjectives and adverbs.

Grammar 3

Continue learning and practicing basic grammatical forms including past, present, and future verb forms. Write simple and compound sentences using transition words to combine sentences. Use adverbs of frequency accurately and learn about article use in the context of specific exercises.

Writing 1

Develop your basic writing skills. Focus on developing sentence-level writing skills leading to being able to compose simple paragraphs. Practice writing well-structured, detailed paragraphs using basic sentence types and simple grammatical structures.

Writing 2

Get instruction and practice utilizing basic grammatical structures and vocabulary to improve your written communication. Practice formatting and writing standard personal, consumer, and business letters, e-mail, and memos in addition to narrative writing.

Writing 3

Develop skills to produce well-organized, cohesive paragraphs and correspondence with topic sentences and adequate support. Gain practice editing your own writing for format, organization, sentence structure, and basic grammar.

Reading 1

Increase your basic reading skills. Practice identifying topic, main idea, supporting details, and text references. Demonstrate understanding of the use of definitions, causes and results, examples, sequencing, and comparisons/contrasts in reading texts. Utilize vocabulary-building strategies.

Reading 2

Employ pre-reading strategies including skimming for main ideas, making predictions, recalling background information, and using graphics, subtitles, and text boxes to extend understanding of a written text. Learn to identify main ideas, supporting details, and the purpose of a text, and to create a short summary.

Reading 3

Develop reading fluency by learning to use reading strategies including skimming, scanning, identifying main ideas and supporting details, separating fact from opinion, and understanding point of view and tone. Learn to use context clues to understand the text and the meanings of unfamiliar words.

Conversation 1

Practice listening and speaking strategies through interviews, group discussions, and interactive class presentations. Learn to identify topic, main idea, and details, and ask and answer questions, give opinions, and express agreement/disagreement.

Conversation 2

Develop listening comprehension skills by responding to questions about main idea and specific details. Share opinions about listening selections and participate in guided and impromptu conversations and role plays with classmates. Work on vocabulary development and clear pronunciation.

Conversation 3

Get instruction and practice to develop your speaking and listening skills. Practice social speaking skills by discussing topics from daily life and popular culture in pairs, small groups, and as a whole class. Expand your vocabulary and improve your pronunciation.

Language Lab 1

Get practice using basic sentence structures and verb tenses to produce clear writing about familiar topics. Vocabulary development is another focus. Research planned English Experience field trip destinations to prepare for visits and reflect on your visits afterwards.

Language Lab 2/3

Plan English Experience field trips by conducting Internet-based research and preparing questions to guide your visits and engage with people you meet. After field trips, complete activities to clarify and record your impressions. *Language Lab 2/3 is a required course for International Students (F-1 visa) at these levels.*

English Experience 1/2/3

Get a cultural introduction to the U.S. Participate in experiential learning activities including field trips, participation in holiday/celebrations, and interaction with Americans in varied real-life settings. *English Experience 1/2/3 is a required course for International Students (F-1 visa) at these levels.*

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Grammar 4

Increase your understanding and use of correct grammar. Learn to form and use the perfect tenses, connect ideas using conjunctions, use modals appropriately, avoid run-on sentences and sentence fragments, and produce structurally correct simple and compound sentences.

Grammar 5

Receive instruction and practice in advanced grammar topics. Practice using modals, gerunds and infinitives, and all verb tenses and learn to construct noun, adjective, and adverb clauses. Polish your sentence structure and practice editing your own and others' work.

Fluency and Vocabulary

Gain understanding of common collocations, idioms, and phrasal verbs. Practice the expressions to develop accuracy and fluency in English. Employ expressions in classroom discussions, notice them in daily life, and utilize them in natural contexts. Get exposure to academic vocabulary to benefit you professionally and in U.S. higher education. *This course is open to students at level 4 and 5.*

Writing 4

Concentrate on writing logical and cohesive paragraphs and progress to producing multi-paragraph essays. Acquire skills to formulate a topic sentence and compose a thesis that you develop fully with attention to grammatical correctness. Learn self-editing skills to improve the clarity and impact of your writing.

Writing 5

Develop skills to produce well-organized, cohesive paragraphs with clear topic sentences, support, and unity among paragraphs, editing your writing for grammatical errors in verb tense, subject/verb agreement, and pronoun reference, and avoiding run-on sentences. Learn to produce effective correspondence, including emails.

US Culture

Explore themes from contemporary life in the U.S. including American values, race relations, gender, and communication styles. Through articles, audio and video, consider multiple views of topics. Examine models to describe national culture, stereotypes, and one's own cultural bias. Prepare to navigate American society and interact effectively in a multicultural environment. *This course is open to students at level 4 and 5.*

Reading 4

Increase your reading fluency while doing extensive reading in a variety of non-fiction and fiction genres. Effective reading strategies are reviewed and the use of an English-English dictionary is emphasized. Extend your vocabulary knowledge through the use of context clues, word families, roots, and affixes.

Reading 5

Do extensive, authentic reading across genres while improving your reading fluency. The course emphasizes the ability to distinguish personal opinions from an author's opinions. Summarize contents of reading selections and develop and support your personal perspectives in response to texts.

Pronunciation 4/5

Develop skills to speak English clearly by learning and applying rules of stress, rhythm, and intonation in conversation and formal discourse. Identify areas of personal difficulty and practice overcoming them through task-based activities that include recording your own voice to improve comprehensibility. *This course is open to students at level 4 and 5.*

iBT TOEFL for Reading and Listening

Get instruction and practice in the reading and listening skills tested on the Internet-based TOEFL exam. Instruction focuses on reading comprehension, vocabulary development, listening comprehension, pragmatic understanding, and connecting information. Topics include test format familiarity, test-taking strategies, and integrated tasks. *This course is open to students at level 4 and 5.*

iBT TOEFL for Writing and Speaking

Focus on the speaking and writing skills tested on the Internet-based TOEFL exam. Plan and write short responses and independent compositions, plan and practice oral responses, and utilize correct grammar. Topics include test format familiarity, test-taking strategies, and integrated tasks. *This course is open to students at level 4 and 5.*

Listening 4/5

Refine your listening skills by identifying main ideas and details in listening texts, engaging in listening strategies that enhance your overall comprehension, determining the meaning of new vocabulary from context, and participating in interchanges that depend on effective listening/speaking strategies. *This course is open to students at level 4 and 5.*