

English as a Second Language (ESL)

Bricault (director)

The English as a Second Language program provides international students a fundamental grounding in spoken and written English to prepare them for the demands of mainstream academic coursework. Students will also be helped in their understanding of American culture.

Notes and restrictions

Open only to students for whom English is a second language. Three levels are offered: low-intermediate, high-intermediate, and advanced. Placement is by testing and/or departmental recommendation. Previous study of English is assumed. A total of 8 semester hours is applicable towards graduation and fulfills the foreign language requirement.

0800 Speaking/Listening (0 sh)

0810 Reading/Vocabulary (0 sh)

0820 American Culture (0 sh)

0850 Am Studies Seminars (0 sh)

Co-requisite: ESL 0830, 0840 (required).

0900 Low-Intermediate Speaking and Listening (4 sh)

Provides students with intensive practice in speaking and understanding American English. Particular attention is given to developing fluency, refining language skills, and building vocabulary. Recommended TOEFL score 133-153 on the computer-based version or 450-475 on the paper-and-pencil version. Co-requisite: ESL 0910, 0920.

0910 Low-Intermediate Reading and Writing (4 sh)

Provides students with intensive practice in reading and writing academic English. Particular attention is given to extensive and intensive reading, the composing process, and proofreading. Co-requisite: ESL 0900, 0920.

0920 Low-Intermediate Structure (4 sh)

Provides students with a review of basic sentence patterns and verb tenses. Attention will be given to parts of speech and written production. Co-requisite: ESL 0900, 0910.

0930 High-Intermediate Speaking and Listening (4 sh)

Provides students with intensive practice in speaking and understanding American English. Particular attention is given to discussions, projects, refining language skills, and building vocabulary. Recommended TOEFL score 153-173 on the computer-based version or 475-500 on the paper-and-pencil version. Co-requisite: ESL 0940, 0950.

0940 High-Intermediate Reading and Writing (4 sh)

Provides students with intensive practice in reading and writing academic English. Attention is given to more difficult extensive and intensive reading. Different types of compositions (e.g., narrative, descriptive) are examined, and proofreading skills are honed. Co-requisite: ESL 0930, 0950.

0950 High-Intermediate Structure (4 sh)

Provides students with a review of compound tenses, the passive voice, and more complex structures. Co-requisite: ESL 0930, 0940.

0990 Academic and Cross-Cultural Transition (0 sh)

Provides students with an introduction to life in an American academic setting. Cultural, cross-cultural, and academic themes will be discussed and guest lecturers will be invited. Co-requisite: Enrollment in any ESL class.

1000 English Language Clinic (1-4 sh)

Provides students with an opportunity to receive additional, personalized attention in English as needed. Co-requisite: ESL 0960, 0970, or 0980.

1010 Advanced Speaking and Listening (4 sh)

Provides students with intensive practice in topic control and participation in various discussion formats (e.g., debates, presentations). Students become familiar with lecture and seminar-styles of teaching. Recommended TOEFL score 173 or higher on the computer-based version or 500 or higher on the paper-and-pencil version. Co-requisite: ESL 1020, 1030.

1020 Advanced Reading and Writing (4 sh)

Provides students with intensive practice in reading and writing academic English. Students read short stories and essays. Different types of compositions (e.g., narrative, descriptive) are examined, and the students are exposed to different formats of research projects. Co-requisite: ESL 1010, 1030.

1030 Advanced Structure (4 sh)

Provides students with a comprehensive review of complex sentence structure. Proofreading forms an important part of the course. Co-requisite: ESL 1010, 1020.