



English Listening and Speaking Spring 2022

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Course Objectives:

In this course, students improve oral communication fluency and conversational strategies necessary to communicate in a wide range of personal, professional, academic, and cultural situations. Students also listen to English speakers in a variety of authentic real-world situations to understand different points of view to function in a global community.

Upon successful completion of the course, students will be able to:

1. Distinguish and use formal and informal language such as persuasion, negotiation, and debate in contextual settings.
2. Clearly use rhythm, stress, and intonation to convey precise meaning.
3. Speak extemporaneously on diverse topics.
4. Comprehend and summarize extensive discourse.
5. Take notes during lectures and presentations (e.g. authentic, audio and video recordings) and explain ideas, issues, and positions.
6. Critique, evaluate, and discuss their observations, interpretations, and understanding.

This course will lightly follow a textbook but will be supplemented with debates, in-class discussions, presentations and a group presentation project which will require teamwork.

Course Materials:

- Textbook: Q: Skills for Success – Listening and Speaking, Robert Freire and Tamara Jones
- Supplementary readings will be provided as handouts.
- Web & Multimedia Resources: Google, Wikipedia, YouTube, DVDs, etc.
- Any materials required for the group presentations should be requested in advance.

Assessment Plan:

Attendance (10%): Any absence without permission based on proper documentation will hurt your grade substantially. Being late more than 10 minutes will be considered as an absence. If you are going to miss a class be sure to tell your teacher beforehand.

Homework (15%): Several homework assignments will be given throughout the semester.

Final Exam (15%): The final exam will consist of a vocabulary test and a multiple choice listening test.

Presentations (20%): Students will be required to do several presentations.

Discussions & Participation (20%): Strong participation means you pay attention to what your teacher and other students say, ask and answer questions, make comments, and do not sleep during class. This course is centered around discussion.

Project (20%): This project will be explained to you separately including details regarding the grading procedure and breakdown.

Weekly Plan:

The following schedule is subject to change. Any change will be announced in advance. Each class/ week will include a variety of activities such as vocab work, lecture, in-class reading/writing, multimedia screening, Q&A, and discussion. Handouts and supplementary materials will be used as needed.

Week 1:

- Course Introduction and Breakdown
- Unit 1: Business and Leadership. Syllable stress, summarizing.
- Speaker Study: Donald Trump (Interview)

Week 2:

- Unit 1 continued: Business and Leadership.
- Debate 1 - Is power best kept all in the hands of one man?
- Group Project - General

Week 3:

- Speaker Study (persuasive): Varun Sivaram - You Should be Proud to be Patriotic (Oxford Union)
- Body Language/ Persuasive speaking
- Solo persuasive presentations
- Group Project - Power & Politics

Week 4:

- Speaker Study (informative): Latif Nasser - The Amazing Story of a Man Who Gave Us Modern Pain Relief (TED Talk)
- Unit 2: Appearance, Restating Information.
- Group Project - Economics, Work & Leisure

Week 5:

- Unit 5: Science & Food, Comparative forms.
- Discussion & Debate - GM food Vs. Organic food.

Week 6:

- Solo informative presentations.
- Group Project - Health & Medicine

Week 7:

- Unit 3: Developmental Psychology, Sentence stress.
- Group Project - Children & Education
- Catch up.

Week 8:

- *Midterm Examinations.*

Week 9:

- Speaker Study: Dananjaya Hettiarachchi - I See Something in You (2014 World Champion of Public Speaking)
- Unit 4: Science, Basic Intonation Patterns.
- Group Project – Antisocial behavior & conflict resolution.

Week 10:

- Discussion & Debate 3: The Death Penalty Should be Abolished
- Group Project.

Week 11:

- Final solo presentations (All Week).

Week 12:

- Unit 6: Education, Simple, compound and complex sentences.
- Group Project

Week 13:

- Unit 7: Anthropology, combining ideas.
- Group Project

Week 14:

- Group Presentations (All Week).

Week 15:

- Debate & Discussion 4: Open
- Catch Up.

Week 16:

- *Final Examinations.*