FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Who can use the English Language Learners Program services?

English language classes and tutoring are open only to international graduate students currently enrolled at Northwestern, or international scholars such as staff, visiting faculty, and post-doctoral fellows. Undergraduates may take our courses only with written permission from their academic advisors. We do not offer classes for the general public or to spouses of NU affiliates. Check our website for a list of private tutors who offer services for the general public. Contact the Assistant Director directly for advice on local classes that are available to the public.

What is ‘auditing’?

Auditing students participate in all of the class activities, but do not receive a grade, and the course will not appear on their official transcript. Many students need to audit our courses rather than officially registering through CAESAR, especially visiting scholars, faculty, staff, and students from Kellogg or the School of Law.

How do I audit English Language Learners courses?

Graduate students, faculty, staff, and visiting scholars may audit an ELLP course if space is available. To audit a course, you will need to register online via the English Language Programs website. See the back of this page for registration dates, or visit our website. Our courses are limited to 15 students each to give the maximum amount of attention to each student.

How do I register for English Language Learners classes?

Anyone wishing to participate in any of our programs must register online via our registration page (link below). PhD students are also required to register for the course through CAESAR.

http://groups.linguistics.northwestern.edu/esl/registration.htm

How much do the English Language Learners classes cost?

ALL of our services are free.

When do English Language Learners classes start?

ELLP courses follow The Graduate School's academic calendar, with classes in the fall, winter, and spring quarters. No classes are held in the summer quarter. Check the university's academic calendar for information on registration dates and the start date for the current quarter.

Where can my spouse/friend take English classes?

The conversation courses offered by the Community Council for International Students, the Speech and Language Clinic in NU’s School of Communication are both open enrollment programs. Oakton Community College also provides both free and tuition based English courses at locations in Evanston, including Evanston Township High School, Evanston Public Library, and NU’s McManus Living-Learning Center. See the Resources section on our website for more information on local courses in ESL.

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NU-ESL Mailing List

Our mailing list allows you to keep in touch with other international graduate students! Get the latest news and updates on ELP classes, tutoring, and workshops. Ask questions, share advice, or look for a roommate; it’s up to you.

To subscribe to the list, send an e-mail message from the account that you want to receive messages from list in. Address the message to:

listerv@listserv.it.northwestern.edu

Put the following request on the first line of the message and do not use a subject header:

subscribe NU-ESL yourfirstname yourlastname

For example:

subscribe NU-ESL Mary Smith

To cancel your list membership, send an e-mail to

listerv@listserv.it.northwestern.edu

with the following request on the first line of the message and no subject header:

unsubscribe NU-ESL

Be sure to send your messages from the same account you used to subscribe to the listerv.

Contact Us:

Dr. Julia Moore, Director:
jmm@northwestern.edu

Dr. Erin Leddon, Associate Director:
e-mcmahon@northwestern.edu

Kathleen Geraghty, Speech Language Pathologist
kathleen.geraghty@northwestern.edu

Daniel Tucker, Assistant Director (2015-2016):
elp@northwestern.edu

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English Language Learners Program
Northwestern University

Fall Quarter 2015

English Language Learners Program
Department of Linguistics
2016 Sheridan Road, Rm. 205
Evanston, Illinois 60208-4090

Phone: 847.491.5776
Fax: 847.491.3770
Web: http://groups.linguistics.northwestern.edu/esl/
E-mail: elp@northwestern.edu
Classes

In the fall quarter, we offer two sections of Linguistics 380, “Spoken English for Non-native Speakers—Focus on Pronunciation, Intonation, and Word Stress”, and one section of Linguistics 381, “Written Academic English”.

Linguistics 380: Spoken English for Non-native Speakers (Section 28)
Focus on Pronunciation, Intonation, and Word Stress
Time: Monday/Wednesday 5:00PM - 6:20PM
Room: Annenberg Hall, Room G-28
Instructor: Alex Schumacher
First day of class: 9/21/2015

Linguistics 380: Spoken English for Non-native Speakers (Section 21)
Focus on Pronunciation, Intonation, and Word Stress
Time: Tuesday/Thursday 5:00PM - 6:20PM
Room: Annenberg Hall, Room G-28
Instructor: Dr. Tanya Wysocki-Niimi
First day of class: 9/22/2015

Linguistics 381: Written English for Non-native Speakers (Section 20)
Academic Writing for International Graduate Students
Time: Wednesday, 7:00 PM to 8:15 PM (hybrid course with additional online work)
Room: Annenberg Hall, Room G-28
Instructor: Dr. Kenneth Konopka
Textbook: No required textbook for this course
First day of class: 9/23/2015

Who is eligible to take these courses?
Only Northwestern students, faculty and staff are eligible for our programs. Spouses and other family members are not eligible. PhD students and postdoctoral fellows are given first priority for enrollment, then students enrolled in a TGS masters program, and then professional master’s students, research associates, faculty, staff, and visiting scholars.

How can I enroll in these courses?
Anyone who wishes to enroll must complete our online registration process first. PhD students (and some masters students) must also register for credit through CAESAR. For complete registration instructions and eligibility information, please visit our registration web page at http://groups.linguistics.northwestern.edu/esl/registration.htm

Tutoring

Meet individually with a tutor from the Department of Linguistics for 30 minutes each week for English language practice that is tailored to your specific needs, which may include:

• Conversation practice
• Cross-cultural communication
• Grammar
• Pronunciation/Intonation/Stress & Rhythm
• Practice in writing
• Presentations
• SPEAK/Versant preparation
• Other topics

To Register for Individual Tutoring:
Anyone who wishes to enroll must complete our online registration process first. Please visit our website at the link below to register. Registration dates are listed in the table below.

http://groups.linguistics.northwestern.edu/esl/registration.htm

Tutoring Registration Dates for Fall 2015

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Registration Type</th>
<th>Registration Period</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Open Registration for returning and new PhD students, postdoctoral fellows, and TGS Master’s students</td>
<td>September 21-25, 2015</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Open Registration for professional master’s students, research associates, visiting scholars, visiting pre-doctoral fellows, faculty, and staff</td>
<td>September 28-October 3, 2015</td>
</tr>
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</table>

Office Hours

Our tutors hold office hours each week during the academic quarter. Any NU international student or scholar may stop by the English Language Programs Office at any time during office hours without an appointment to work with a tutor. The ELP Office is located in Room 205 of the Department of Linguistics at 1500 Sheridan Road. The Fall Quarter schedule is posted on our website.

InterCultural Explorers

The InterCultural Explorers program is designed to complement learning in the classroom by providing ways for new international students to connect with each other and with American graduate students. American group leaders (Guides) lead groups of ten international graduate students on weekly social outings in Evanston and Chicago in the Fall Quarter. These outings will provide spontaneous, informal practice in spoken English, opportunities to learn about American culture, and a supportive social network for new international students. American Guides will also be available by phone or e-mail during the week to answer student questions on cultural and practical issues in getting settled in the U.S.

To apply for the InterCultural Explorers program, contact Associate Director Dr. Erin Lehdon (e-mahon@northwestern.edu). Space is limited and new students are given priority over continuing students.

Integrated Academic Skills

Integrated Academic Skills is a suite of programs designed for new international students who are identified as needing extra support as a result of their Versant test scores. Enrollment will be determined by The Graduate School in conjunction with the English Language Learners Program.

In the fall, IAS students will be automatically enrolled in one of two special sections of Linguistics 380, as well as tutoring. They will also be required to complete 15 hours of training with the NativeAccent Speech Training software. IAS students who fail to pass the Versant test again in late fall will take an additional class in the Winter Quarter.

For questions about this program, please contact Associate Director Dr. Erin Lehdon (e-mahon@northwestern.edu).

NativeAccent™ Online Software

Developed at Carnegie Mellon University’s Language Technologies Institute, NativeAccent™ Speech Training software provides individualized instruction that is accessible through the University’s MultiMedia Learning Center (MMLC), or online from any computer with an Internet connection, headset with boom microphone, and Adobe Flash enabled browser.

To use the software, students must register online at our website, and then create an online account. Registration begins on September 19th at 10:00 AM for PhD students, postdocs, and TGS masters students. Registration begins on Monday, September 30th for all other affiliates, such as professional masters students, visiting scholars, visiting pre-doctoral fellows, research associates, faculty, and staff.

To register, visit us at: http://groups.linguistics.northwestern.edu/esl/registration.htm

NativeAccent™ Registration Dates for Fall 2015

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Headsets

Access to the software is free, but students must have a quality headset with microphone in order to use the software at home. Students may also use the headsets in the University Library Listening Space computer labs (Deering Library Room 208). Visit the MMLC site to see when the labs are open.

http://web.mmlc.northwestern.edu/
English Language Programs
Weinberg Graduate Program Assistant Meeting
10/29/2015

Overview

• What We Do and Who We Serve
• Updates & Changes to Policies
• How to Support Students

Who do we serve and what do we offer?
WHO DO WE SERVE?

CORE COHORT
• PhD Students and MFA Students
• Postdoctoral Fellows
• Students in a TGS Masters Program

WHO DO WE SERVE?

AFFILIATES
• Professional masters students
• Research associates
• Faculty
• Staff
• Visiting scholars
• Visiting pre-doctoral fellows
• Undergraduates

WHAT DO WE OFFER?
• Language instruction
• Orientation programs
• Assessment
• Advising
Updates and changes to policies

Integrated Academic Skills

• Formerly known as CLINIC
• Required for all students testing at 59 or below on the September Versant test
• Two quarters of Linguistics 380-Integrated Academic Skills
• Weekly one-on-one tutoring
• Weekly NativeAccent™ software work

Kathleen Geraghty, MS, CCC-SLP

Accent Modification
Speech Language Pathologist

• Teaches in Integrated Academic Skills
• Oversees tutoring and works with students individually
• Program development
More access to services

- Added additional tutors and instructors to better meet demand
- Tutoring and one section of 380 to be offered in summer for first time
- Added more NativeAccent™ capacity and drop in sessions
- Open access to InterCultural Explorers
- Exploring options for Chicago campus

New Non-Credit Courses

- Linguistics 482-Individual Tutoring for Nonnative Speakers of English
- Linguistics 483-Individual Speech Training for Nonnative Speakers of English

Testing Policy Changes

- Students who earn a score of 26 or higher on the Speaking subsection of TOEFL are exempted from being tested with Versant
- ISI Students who score 50 or higher on the August SPEAK test do not have to take the September Versant test
- Students who score within the margin of error for passing (63 or 64) twice fulfill the English Proficiency Requirement (tests need not be consecutive)
Linguistics 480: Language of Teaching and Teachers

- Offered Summer 2015
- Limited to 15 students
- Co-taught by ELP and Searle Center
- Training in communication for teaching and teaching skills
- Prepares students for a teaching demonstration: successful demonstration fulfills the proficiency requirement
- Students must be nominated by their departments to participate
- Participation in ELP services during the previous academic year is required

Suggestions for Supporting Students

- Encourage students to sign up for our listserv e-mail list to be informed of registration procedures
- Nominate PhD/MFA students for ISI (February 1st-April 17)
- Call or e-mail us with questions
- Set up an advising appointment

Contact us

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