

Purdue University Calumet
ELP 013 Advanced Conversation
Spring 2009 Syllabus

Class Time / Room:
Instructor: Heather Torrie
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Office Hours: Wednesday 12:30-2:00pm or
by appointment
Blackboard:
www.calumet.purdue.edu/ecourses

Course Description

This course is designed to prepare students for speaking in a university context, using academic presentations, discussions, formal and informal role-plays, interviews, and pronunciation activities. Specifically, students will:

- Manage a conversation using turn-taking, agree/disagree, interrupting, etc
- Discuss a controversial issue
- Give and support an opinion
- Discuss a past event
- Ask for and give clarification
- Participate in group projects and planning
- Discuss problems/solutions
- Lead a discussion
- Can make at least a ten-minute prepared presentation
- Effective use of eye contact, appropriate pace, volume, and use of visual aids during a presentation

Assignments and Activities

Homework

- **Weekly Blackboard Discussion** Each week, you will be required to post an audio/video comment on the discussion board (this will be a response to a listening passage or reading I'll put on each week). You will then need to submit 2 audio responses to some of your classmate's postings. This will be like an audio discussion board. See Blackboard for details.
- **Debate** Please see the attached instructions for this assignment.
- **Native Speaker Surveys** For each topic, you will design survey/interview questions in class. For homework, you will be required to survey/interview native speakers using the questions/language learned in class. You will then need to either write a summary, record a summary, or prepare a presentation to give in class. (Your instructor will let you know.)

- **Research Projects.** For some of our units, you will need to do more extensive research by interviewing and surveying native speakers, and then preparing a presentation.
- **Attendance and Participation**

Quizzes

- **Quizzes** These quizzes will be recorded using computer software.
- **Presentations.** You will have 3 major presentations, and several mini-presentations which you will be graded on.

Midterm

Final Exam

Assessment and Grading

The goal of assessment is to enhance learning. Therefore, in order for students to be accountable and responsible for their learning, regular quizzes and tests will be part of every class. In addition to regular quizzes, students will take a midterm and a final exam. Furthermore, attendance, general class participation, and performance will be taken into account and will count towards the required criteria for moving to the next level or completing the program.

Students will also receive a mid-term progress report for each class followed by a conference with their teachers to discuss their progress in class and what they need to successfully complete their courses. At the end of the semester, students will receive a final grade for each class they took: “S”, *Satisfactory*, indicates they have passed the class; “U”, *Unsatisfactory*, indicates they need to take the class again. Important Note: failing a class twice will result in expulsion from the program.

Class quizzes (30%)

Midterm Exam (20%)

Final Exam (30%)

Homework, Participation, and Performance (20%)

Total (100%)

Late Homework and Exams Policy

- No late homework accepted, unless because of technical/computer-related problems. If you have a problem submitting your homework, please email me immediately! For instance, if Blackboard is not working, if possible, email me your work instead before the due date
- No late or early midterms or final exams, unless you are in the hospital

Course Policies

Attendance

Regular attendance is mandatory. In order to learn English, you need to attend all class sessions, arrive on time, and be prepared and attentive (which means No sleeping in class). On the occasion that you are absent, it is your responsibility to make up missed work. Please ask other students for any due homework. **NOTE:** "I was absent" is not an excuse for not doing homework!

Students can be absent up to three times without being penalized. A fourth unexcused absence will result in a mandatory counseling session with the ELP Advisor (Beth or James in CLO 226). An sixth unexcused absence will automatically result in failure of the course and possible expulsion from the program. **NOTE:** Being expelled from ELP means that the student will no longer be part of Purdue University Calumet and will need to leave the United States immediately.

Plagiarism

A student who is found to have plagiarized an assignment or part of it can face any of these consequences:

- Fail the assignment and be issued a warning.
- Fail the course.
- Be reported to the Dean of Students for disciplinary action, usually involving suspension. (In this case, suspension also means being dropped from the program and departing the United States immediately.)

A student who plagiarizes again after having been warned will automatically be referred to the Dean of Students.

Disruptive Behavior

Any behavior that could possibly interfere with learning will not be tolerated. This includes (but is not limited to):

- Cell phone ringing in class
- Private conversations when someone (eg. professor, guest lecturer, or student presenter) is addressing the class
- Conversations in your native language (this is disruptive to the class and considered impolite). See the **ELP English Policy**

Please speak only English in class out of respect for others who are attending Purdue University Calumet to further develop their English language skills. The first violation of the policy will be a verbal warning. Subsequent violations will result in dismissal from

class and unexcused absences, which may lead to failure of a course (see “Attendance Policy”).

Disruptive behaviors will result in you being given a “red card.” Keep the red card on your desk throughout the class. At the end of class, return the card to the instructor.

*Every 3 red cards = 5% lower grade at the end of the semester

Tentative Calendar

Tasks will be integrated with the topics from ELP 033- Listening Comprehension

WEEK	TOPICS	TASKS	SAMPLE HOMEWORK ASSIGNMENTS
Week 1 Jan 12 / 14	Introduction	Diagnostics	
Week 2 Jan 19 / 21	Maintaining a Conversation / American Culture	Conversation Skills	Meeting Native Speakers Cultural Research
Week 3 Jan 26 / 28	Rights and Responsibilities	Conversation Skills (review) Discussion Small Group Discussion Getting Information*	Meet the Mentor Native Speaker Survey & Audio Blog
Week 4 Feb 2 / 4			
Week 5 Feb 9 / 11			
Week 6 Feb 16 / 18	Genetically-engineered Food / Cloning	Conversation Skills (review) Discussion* Small Group Discussion*	Mentor Appointment Case Study Review & Audio Blog
Week 7 Feb 23 / 25			
Midterms	Midterm Assessments		
Week 9 Mar 9 / 11	Work / Business	Conversation Skills (review) Discussion Small Group Discussion Presentation Skills* Getting Information*	Mentor Appointments Case Study Review & Audio Blog Native Speaker Interview/Research & Present Results

Spring Break			
Week 10 Mar 23 / 25			
Week 11 Mar 30 / Apr 1	Healthcare and Government	Conversation Skills (review) Discussion Small Group Discussion* Presentation Skills* Getting Information	Mentor Appointments Case Study Review & Audio Blog Native Speaker Survey
Week 12 Apr 6 / 8	Philanthropy and Wealth	Conversation Skills (review) Discussion Small Group Discussion Presentation Skills Getting Information	Mentor Appointments Case Study Review & Audio Blog Native Speaker Survey
Week 13 Apr 13 / 15			
Week 14 Apr 20 / 22	Review topics	Getting Information Small Group Discussion	Native Speaker Interview/Research & Present Results
Week 15 Apr 27 / 28	Final Exams		