

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Who can use the ESL for Graduate Students services?

ESL classes and tutoring are open *only* to graduate students currently enrolled at Northwestern, or staff, visiting faculty, or post-doctoral fellows. We do not offer classes for the general public, undergraduates, or to spouses of NU affiliates. Check our website for a list of private tutors and other schools in the area who offer services for the general public. The School of Continuing Studies offers courses for international professionals on Northwestern's Chicago campus.

What is 'auditing'?

Auditing students participate in all of the class activities, but do not receive a grade. 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 ESL for Graduate Students courses?

Graduate students, faculty, staff, and visiting scholars may audit an ESL course if space is available. To audit a course, please come to the first class session and speak to the instructor to find out if the class has room for auditors. Our courses are limited to 15 students each to give the maximum amount of attention to each student. Registered students are given priority if the class is over-enrolled.

How do I register for ESL for Graduate Students classes?

If you are a graduate student, you may officially register for the class on CAESAR during the Fall 2009 Change of Registration Period. We strongly encourage you to register with the P/NC (Pass/No Credit) option. If you are a postdoctoral fellow, a staff member, a School of Law student or a Kellogg Graduate School of Management student, you will need to audit the course (see above).

How much do the ESL for Graduate Students classes cost?

ALL of our services are free for auditors. Most Ph.D. programs also provide tuition support for students who wish to register for classes. If you are a master's student, contact your director of graduate studies to find out if your department will provide tuition support for NU ESL classes (please do this before registering for classes).

When do ESL for Graduate Students classes start?

ESL 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 ESL classes?

The conversation courses offered by the Community Council for International Students, the ESL for Professionals Series in the School of Continuing Studies at Northwestern, and the Speech Clinic in the School of Speech are all open-enrollment programs.

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 ESL 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:

listserv@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

listserv@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 listserv.

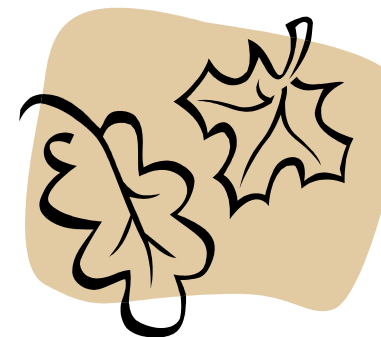
Contact Us:

Julia Moore, Director
Kenneth Konopka, Assistant Director

ESL Program
Department of Linguistics
2016 Sheridan Road, Rm. 205
Evanston, Illinois 60208-4090
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Web: <http://babel.ling.northwestern.edu/~esl>

English as a Second Language for Graduate Students

Northwestern University



Fall Quarter 2009

Graduate Student ESL Program
Department of Linguistics
2016 Sheridan Road, Rm. 23
Evanston, Illinois 60208-4090

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NORTHWESTERN
UNIVERSITY

ESL Tutoring

Meet with an ESL tutor and up to three other students for one hour 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
- TSE/SPEAK preparation
- Other topics

To Register for Small Group Tutoring:

Current NU graduate students may sign up for a one-hour tutoring small group for the Fall Quarter of 2009 by filling out a tutoring application form. This form will be available on our website, starting September 16, 2009.

Forms will be accepted until all available slots are filled. Forms may be submitted by any of the following means:

- 1) Electronically to jmm@northwestern.edu
- 2) In person at the Department of Linguistics, 2016 Sheridan Road (main office, mailbox MOORE)
- 3) By fax to 847-491-3770

Graduate students are given first priority for choice of groups. If any spaces are still available after all graduate students have been assigned to a group, then remaining spaces will be assigned to visiting scholars, postdoctoral fellows, research associates, faculty, and staff.

Office Hours/Individual Tutoring

Our tutors hold office hours each week. You may stop by the ESL Office at any time during office hours without an appointment to work with a tutor. The ESL Office is located in Room 205 of the Department of Linguistics at 2016 Sheridan Road.

Office hours for the fall quarter will be listed on our website starting Wednesday, September 16, 2009.

English Classes

In the fall quarter, we offer three sections of Linguistics 380, "Spoken English for Nonnative Speakers".

Focus on Pronunciation, Intonation, and Word Stress offers you the chance to learn more about how to produce the sounds of American English, and how to use appropriate word stress, rhythm and intonation in order to communicate more effectively. You'll find out more about how native speakers of American English talk in real situations, especially informal contexts. You'll get feedback on your performance, and discover which skills need the most work.

Linguistics 380: Spoken English for Non-native Speakers
Introduction to Pronunciation, Intonation, and Word Stress (Section 20)
Time: Tuesdays/Thursdays 4:00PM - 5:20PM
Room: University Hall Room 112
Instructor: Jen Alexander
Textbook: Well Said, THIRD Edition, by Linda Grant
First day of classes: 9/22/2009

Linguistics 380: Spoken English for Non-native Speakers
Introduction to Pronunciation, Intonation, and Word Stress (Section 21)
Time: Mondays/Wednesdays 4:00PM - 5:20PM
Room: Kresge Centennial Hall Room 2-430
Instructor: Caroline Engstler
Textbook: Well Said, THIRD Edition, by Linda Grant
First day of classes: 9/23/2009

Linguistics 380: Spoken English for Non-native Speakers
Introduction to Pronunciation, Intonation, and Word Stress (Section 22)
Time: Mondays/Wednesdays 6:00PM - 7:20PM
Room: Kresge Centennial Hall Room 2-430
Instructor: Meredith Larson
Textbook: Well Said, THIRD Edition, by Linda Grant
First day of classes: 9/23/2009

SPEAK Preparation

"All international applicants to The Graduate School and all international students in residence who wish to be considered for teaching assistantships and whose primary language is not English are required to submit the results of the Test of Spoken English (TSE) in addition to the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL). A minimum score of 50 is required on the TSE. The TSE and the TOEFL are administered by the Educational Testing Service (ETS). See the Test Scores page of the Admission section of this Web site for more information.

To ensure that the results of these tests will be available for timely appointment as a teaching assistant, the applicant should take these tests at least three or four months before the quarter of appointment."

--Excerpted from the Financial Support Regulations and Policies page of The Graduate School web site.

SPEAK Workshops:

The Department of Linguistics offers SPEAK workshops in the fall and spring to help you prepare to take the SPEAK test and other spoken English exams. These workshops focus on familiarity with the format of the exam, skills that increase fluency, and as much practice as possible. Practice for the SPEAK will improve your spoken English skills in many areas that will be useful in everyday life.

You must be a member of the Northwestern community to take this workshop, and pre-registration is required. Students must attend all five of the workshops in order to participate.

To pre-register, or to get more information about the TSE workshops, contact Assistant Director Ken Konopka at k-konopka@northwestern.edu.