

English as a Second Language

Director, Professor J. Dormer
Instructor G. Hoffman

IELS Program

Through its Institute for English Language Studies (IELS), Taylor University offers a variety of programs to non-native English speakers who wish to improve their English proficiency either for entrance to an English-based academic program or for general proficiency.

Students who are planning to study at the associate, baccalaureate, or graduate level in English can enroll in the academic English program which is comprised of one or two semesters depending on the entry level of proficiency and rate of progress.

For students who wish to earn a certificate in Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages (TESOL), the Education Department offers the TESOL program. Students who have completed the ESL program at a level sufficient for matriculation into the university's degree programs can complete the four required courses to obtain the TESOL certificate. This option provides the credential often required to teach English in their home countries.

English as a Second Language (ESL) Courses

ESL 100 1 hour
ESL Orientation
Taken during a student's first semester in the ESL Program, ESL Orientation provides instruction and a discussion space on academic, cultural, and spiritual issues facing ESL students.

ESL 101 2 hours
English Grammar
This course integrates classroom grammar instruction with meaningful, individualized grammar practice in an independent lab setting.

ESL 102 2 hours
TOEFL Preparation
This course provides students with the skills and strategies needed to succeed on the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) through test simulations, vocabulary building, and four-skill instruction and practice.

ESL 103 3 hours
Class Audit
This course, to be taken in the semester immediately preceding admittance to a degree-seeking Taylor University program, gives students extended exposure to a Taylor University class of their choosing. Students will learn the content of the course as well as gain insight into the linguistic and cultural demands of an American university.

ESL 104 2 hours
Advanced Academic Vocabulary
For English students who have attained their desired level of English proficiency, but who are planning to enter graduate or professional schools where the curriculum will be taught in English, this course provides a supplemental vocabulary pertaining to activities and subjects commonly encountered in these programs (e.g., research terminology).

ESL 105 2 hours
American English Pronunciation
Non-native English speakers typically have particular sounds that are troublesome depending on their native language. This course provides instruction in clearly and correctly pronouncing these sounds that are important to communicating effectively in English.

ESL 106 3 hours
American Pop Culture
This course is designed to cause students to reflect on their home culture while learning through discussion, lectures, and experience key aspects of American pop culture.

ESL 107 2 hours
Academic Listening Strategies
An intensive academic listening tutorial that prepares advanced level English language learners for American undergraduate-level lectures and classroom interactions through authentic listening texts.

ESL 108 2 hours
Academic Reading Strategies
An intensive academic reading tutorial that prepares advanced level students for college undergraduate-level reading requirements through attention to strategies for reading and using authentic texts.

ESL 109 2 hours
Academic Presentation Skills
This course provides instruction and practice in the speaking, organizational, and academic skills required to make successful academic presentations in American universities.

ESL 110 4 hours
Academic Reading and Writing
Through this course, students will be introduced to the world of academic reading and writing in an American university. Students will learn reading skills necessary to comprehend a text as well as strategies to manage a typical reading load for a university student. Students will also receive practice and instruction in composing many different forms of writing assignments found in American classrooms.

ESL 111 4 hours
Academic Listening and Speaking
This course provides students with the tools necessary to thrive in an American university, in and out of the classroom. Students will gain focused instruction and experience in speaking skills and listening skills through practical assignments that tailor the classroom experience to fit each student's academic interests and needs. Students will learn and practice classroom communication, group work, presentation skills, note-taking strategies, classroom lecture comprehension, and conversational listening.

ESL 200 3 hours
Advanced Academic Language Skills
This integrated skills course ensures that English Language Learners are equipped with the linguistic tools necessary to meet the demands of an American academic environment. Students will receive focused instruction and practice in advanced academic speaking, listening, reading, and writing through college-level books, lectures, film, and other forms of academic media.

ESL 201 3 hours
The American Classroom
This course prepares advanced students for the university classroom through content-based instruction that closely follows the curriculum format of Taylor University classrooms. Students will gain a broad perspective of historical, religious, and societal influences on American educational culture through lectures, class discussions, and practical assignments.

ESL 202 3 hours
Academic English Preparation for Biblical Literacy
Designed to prepare advanced English language learners for the academic rigors of Taylor University's Biblical literature courses (survey of the Old and New Testaments). It is not an introduction to the literature, content, and history of the Bible, but rather is a course that builds necessary academic reading, writing, listening, and study skills for success in these courses in subsequent semesters.