



UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN
PLATTEVILLE

2014 Catalog Addendum

English Language Program

ENGLISH LANGUAGE PROGRAM

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About UW-Platteville English Language Program

The English Language Program (ELP) at UW-Platteville is administratively housed under the International Programs office. This program primarily serves prospective international students who meet all admission requirements except for their English language proficiency to prepare them for academic success at UW-Platteville as well as improve their proficiency in English. Upon successful completion of the ELP, students are admitted as full-time degree-seeking students at UW-Platteville. In addition to providing services to academically bound international students, the program serves non-academically bound students who are interested in improving their English language proficiency and/or understanding of the U.S. culture for professional and/or personal development. The ELP offers three sessions during a regular academic year (i.e., fall, spring, and summer sessions). A fall or spring semester lasts 16 weeks, and a summer term lasts 8-10 weeks, catering to students' schedules. In collaboration with other campus units, the ELP contributes to the university's strategic goals of internationalizing the campus.

English Language Program Admission/Placement:

Conditional Admission is open to prospective international students whose TOEFL iBT (internet based) scores fall within 45 and 61 or whose IELTS scores are either 4.5 or 5.0. To be granted conditional admission, applicants must meet all other admission requirements for a full time degree-seeking student.

The TOEFL: Test of English as Foreign Language exam is developed and administered by ETS (www.ets.org/toefl). IELTS: International English Language Testing System is an international test of English language proficiency (www.ielts.org). All students will take an additional placement test during orientation. Students are placed into courses at the appropriate levels based on their placement test results and upon the recommendation of the ELP coordinator.

Students who receive a TOEFL score of 61 or higher (internet based) or an IELTS score of 5.5 or higher meet the university's English language proficiency requirement and may apply for admission as a degree-seeking student.

ELP Curriculum

The ELP currently offers English as a Second Language (ESL) courses at three levels (i.e., Level III Intermediate, Level IV Advanced I, and Level V Advanced II/Bridging). ESL courses at Level III Intermediate and Level IV Advanced I are designed to improve students' general language proficiency for practical, social, academic, and intercultural needs. ESL courses at Level V Advanced II/Bridging focus on improving students' academic language proficiency and preparing them for success in college-level courses. ESL courses are staffed by qualified experienced ESL instructors.

Level III: Intermediate

Students at the intermediate level are approaching readiness for academic study but still have some significant weaknesses using their English skills. This level is designed to broaden and deepen students' linguistic foundation as well as to refine their language skills within a communicative academic context. Intermediate level instruction classes consist of:

- ESL 131 Intermediate Listening and Speaking
- ESL 132 Intermediate Reading and Vocabulary
- ESL 133 Intermediate Writing and Grammar
- ESL 134 U.S. Culture
- ESL 135 Special Topics for Intermediate Level (Elective)

Level IV: Advanced I

Students at the Advanced I level will focus on improving their general language proficiency for practical, social, academic, and intercultural needs. Instruction at this level is designed to familiarize students with organizing, paraphrasing, summarizing, and synthesizing in English in both spoken and written forms. Advanced I level classes consist of:

- ESL 141 Advanced Listening and Speaking
- ESL 142 Advanced Reading and Vocabulary
- ESL 143 Advanced Writing and Grammar
- ESL 144 Topics in U.S. Higher Education
- ESL 145 Special Topics for Advanced I Level (Elective)

Level V: Advanced II

Students at the Advanced II level are nearly ready to begin academic study or participate with confidence in professional settings. ELP courses at Advanced II level will focus on improving students' academic language proficiency and preparing them for success in college-level courses. Advanced II level classes consist of:

- ESL 151 Academic Listening and Note-taking
- ESL 152 Academic Speaking
- ESL 153 Academic Reading and Writing
- ESL 155 Special Topics for Advance II /Bridging Level (Elective)

Please note: Beginning Level I and II ELP programs are not available at this time but will added to the ELP curriculum at a later date.

Student Credit Load

A full time ELP student should take a minimum of 12 credits during a regular semester.

Credit Hours/Clock Hours

UW-Platteville English Language Program: ESL Credits and Clock Hours Conversion

15 ESL credits = 25 clock hours

12 ESL credits = 20 clock hours

9 ESL credits = 15 clock hours

6 ESL credits = 10 clock hours

3 ESL credits = 5 clock hours

1 clock hour = 50 minutes of classroom instruction

All ESL courses are non-degree credit courses that do not count towards graduation credits.

Concurrent Enrollment in Undergraduate courses

Students at Level V Advanced II/Bridging are eligible to take 1-6 undergraduate credits upon the recommendation of the ELP coordinator in addition to completing a minimum of 9 required ESL credits.

English Language Program Satisfactory Progress Rules

A student may repeat a required ESL course at any given level only once.

Course Descriptions

ESL 131 3 credits

Intermediate Listening and Speaking

Focuses on listening and speaking skills needed for oral communication in a range of practical contexts with special attention given to oral communication strategies. This course enables students to participate in oral communication about common topics with confidence and with decent fluency and accuracy. (Transcript credit only-does not count toward degree)

Components: Lecture

Prereqs/Coreqs: English Language Program Consent

ESL 132 3 credits

Intermediate Reading and Vocabulary

Teaches reading strategies such as skimming, scanning, making inferences, identifying main ideas and supporting details, and using discourse markers to aid comprehension. Reading assignments and vocabulary activities enable students to develop their ability to read authentic materials on common topics for different purposes. (Transcript credit only-does not count toward degree)

Components: Lecture

Prereqs/Coreqs: English Language Program Consent

ESL 133 3 credits

Intermediate Writing and Grammar

Focuses on general characteristics of good writing and elements of a writing process; teaches intermediate-level grammar with special attention to grammatical errors in students' writing. This course enables students to write short essays about topics of interest with decent fluency and accuracy. (Transcript credit only-does not count toward degree)

Components: Lecture

Prereqs/Coreqs: English Language Program Consent

ESL 134 3 credits

U.S. Culture

Focuses on various aspects of U.S. culture such as everyday life, living styles, holidays and festivals, traditions, sports culture, pop culture, behavioral norms, cultural expectations, values, beliefs, and diversity. This course may provide students with field trip opportunities that enhance their practical understanding of U.S. culture. (Transcript credit only-does not count toward degree)

Components: Lecture

Prereqs/Coreqs: English Language Program Consent

ESL 135 3 credits

Special Topics for Intermediate Level

Accommodates individual needs of Intermediate Level students enrolled in the English Language Program. This course aims to help students attain Intermediate Level by focusing on improving their area(s) of weakness, for example, grammar, vocabulary, English skills, idioms, and slang. (Transcript credit only-does not count toward degree)

Components: Lecture

Prereqs/Coreqs: English Language Program Consent

ESL 141 3 credits

Advanced Listening and Speaking

Develops students' abilities to engage in sustained oral communication in a variety of social contexts and to comprehend authentic listening materials from different sources. This course helps students communicate effectively about general topics in both formal and familiar contexts with a strong awareness of audience and purpose. (Transcript credit only-does not count toward degree)

Components: Lecture

Prereqs/Coreqs: English Language Program Consent

ESL 142 3 credits**Advanced Reading and Vocabulary**

Helps students become successful readers through familiarizing them with different types of written discourse, expanding their vocabulary, and reinforcing effective reading strategies. This course incorporates both intensive and extensive reading to improve students' ability to read authentic materials effectively and efficiently. (Transcript credit only-does not count toward degree)

Components: Lecture

Prereqs/Coreqs: English Language Program Consent

ESL 143 3 credits**Advanced Writing and Grammar**

Prepares students for college-level essays with emphasis on writing strategies and every stage of the writing process; teaches advanced grammar with special attention to grammatical errors in students' writing. Students learn to write college-level essays about topics of interest with an awareness of audience and purpose. (Transcript credit only-does not count toward degree)

Components: Lecture

Prereqs/Coreqs: English Language Program Consent

ESL 144 3 credits**Topics in U.S. Higher Education**

Introduces students to U.S. higher education, majors of interest, and a range of topics that are typically covered in undergraduate general education courses. General education topics may include, but are not limited to, fine arts, literature, world civilization, history of the United States, U.S. government and politics, gender and ethnicity, psychology, sociology, human geography, and biology. (Transcript credit only-does not count toward degree)

Components: Lecture

Prereqs/Coreqs: English Language Program Consent

ESL 145 3 credits**Special Topics for Advanced I Level**

Accommodates individual needs of Advanced Level students enrolled in the English Language Program. This course aims to help students attain Advanced Level by focusing on improving their area(s) of weakness, for example, grammar, vocabulary, English skills, idioms, and slang. (Transcript credit only-does not count toward degree)

Components: Lecture

Prereqs/Coreqs: English Language Program Consent

ESL 151 3 credits

Academic Listening and Note-taking

Develops students' ability to comprehend academic lectures and take effective notes of academic lectures. Students develop familiarity with the discourse of academic lectures, refine note-taking strategies, and expand their understanding of academic topics as well as content-based vocabulary. (Transcript credit only-does not count toward degree)

Components: Lecture

Prereqs/Coreqs: English Language Program Consent

ESL 152 3 credits

Academic Speaking

Develops students' ability to speak effectively in a variety of academic contexts. This course introduces students to the fundamental aspects of public speaking, improves their speaking skills for academic purposes, and expand their understanding of academic topics through oral communication. (Transcript credit only-does not count toward degree)

Components: Lecture

Prereqs/Coreqs: English Language Program Consent

ESL 153 3 credits

Academic Reading and Writing

Prepares students for college-level reading and writing challenges with emphasis on critical reading strategies, basic research paper writing skills, and essay exam strategies. Students learn the basics of writing source-based papers – researching, evaluating, synthesizing, summarizing, paraphrasing, quoting, and documenting. (Transcript credit only-does not count toward degree)

Components: Lecture

Prereqs/Coreqs: English Language Program Consent

ESL 155 1-3 credits

Special Topics for Advanced II/Bridging Level

Accommodates individual needs of Advanced II/Bridging Level students enrolled in the English Language Program. This course focuses on improving a student's area(s) of weakness for college-level studies, for example, grammar, academic vocabulary, academic English skills, and academic topics. A student may register for one to three ESL credits in a given semester.

(Transcript credit only-does not count toward degree)

Components: Lecture

Prereqs/Coreqs: English Language Program Consent