

Course: Oral Training 1 (A+ Level)
Semester: Spring 2008
Instructor: Ms. Rebecca Tang
taiwantesol@yahoo.com
Room 229, Liberal Arts Building
Office Hours 10-12 Fridays and by appointment

Course Description:

This advanced English speaking course strives to expand upon the student's previous experience with and knowledge of spoken English, including that from the fall semester coursework. The course promotes the student's confidence and ability to use and understand spoken English effectively through the development of various competencies, including sociolinguistic competence, communicative competence and strategic competence. Key to this is building the student's 1) tolerance for ambiguity, 2) ability to negotiate meaning from interaction in listening and speaking, 3) receptive and productive vocabulary knowledge, and 3) real life knowledge, especially relating to the English-speaking world.

The aim of most class time is to provide ample opportunity for each student to engage in speaking English, expressing himself/herself in an increasingly compelling, logical and articulate manner with growing language fluency and accuracy across a variety of topics. This includes but is not limited to small and large group discussions, short-term projects and simulations. Students will be encouraged and required to develop and demonstrate the ability not only to engage in but also effectively lead group discussions among classmates. The aim of all homework assignments and projects is to prepare for class and to develop the skills necessary for success in future endeavors requiring spoken English.

Students will receive direct instruction in speaking skills related to pronunciation, intonation, rhythm and word stress. Specific instruction in other elements of the English language (i.e. grammar) will reflect the needs of the class. Throughout the course, students will develop skills to support both their oral presentations and debates in Oral Training 2 in their sophomore year and their overall success in the major and in post-university life.

Academic Integrity and Plagiarism:

Language skills are developed within a language community, and for success students will need to learn to work well with others and negotiate meaning from the larger English language environment. *However, there will be no tolerance for overt cheating, copying, or plagiarizing in student work;* such action prevents students from developing their own skills and knowledge and constitutes a violation of university

standards of academic integrity. Students are required to use the Modern Language Association (MLA) format to document any cited materials throughout the course.

Course Grading Policy:

- 15% Discussion Leader Project 1 (with a partner)
 - 15% Discussion Leader Project 2 (with a partner)
 - 10% Controversial Topic Team Debate (Final Activity)
 - 30% Vocabulary Homework, Quizzes and Unit Tests
 - 30% Class Preparation, Attendance, and Participation (Daily Grade below)
- Daily Grade: 3 Points: Engaging, Articulate
 2 Points: Involved, Clear
 1 Point: Detracting, Distracting
 0 Points: Absent (Literally or Figuratively)

Tentative Course Schedule:

Intro V # = *Advancing Vocabulary Skills* given chapter introduction
 VD # = Vocabulary discussion for given chapter of *Advancing Vocabulary Skills*
 UT # = Unit Test for *Advancing Vocabulary Skills*
 SS = Speaking Skills Lesson (rhythm, intonation, word stress, pronunciation)
 CE = Current Events Discussion
 DL = Discussion Leader Project

	Monday (5, 6)	Thursday (5)
Feb 18	Syllabus; Intro V 13; SS/CE	21 VD 13
25	Intro V 14; SS/CE	28 Holiday; No Class
Mar 3	VD 14; Intro V 15; SS/CE	6 VD 15; Intro V 16
10	DL 1; DL 1	13 VD 16; Intro V 17
17	DL 1; DL 1	20 VD 17; Intro V 18&19
24	DL 1; DL 1	27 VD 19; Intro V 20
31	UT 3; DL 1	4/3 VD 20; Intro V 21
Apr 7	DL 1; DL 1	10 VD 21; Intro V 22
14	DL 1; SS/CE	17 VD 22; Intro V 23
21	DL 2; DL 2	24 VD 23; Intro V 24&25
28	DL 2; DL 2	5/1 VD 25; Intro V 26
May 5	UT 4; Debate Info; SS/CE	8 VD 26; Intro V 27
12	DL 2; DL 2	15 VD 27; Intro V 28
19	DL 2; DL 2	22 VD 28; Intro V 29
26	DL 2; DL 2	29 VD 29; Intro V 30
Jun 2	Debate Practice	5 VD 30
9	Debate 1; Debate 2	12 To be determined
16	UT 5 with 1-4 Review	19 To be determined