Syllabus—Read and Save this paper!

0492  ESL Transitional Listening/Speaking  Spring, 2010
Section 2: 9:05-9:55 MTRF (M, F in Bldg 15, Rm 129; T, R in Bldg 20, Rm 406)
Section 3: 11:05-11:55 MTRF (M, F in Bldg 15, Room 132; T, R in Bldg 15, Rm 131)

Instructor: Leah Jenkins  ljenkins@mtu.edu
Office 145 Walker (Bldg #11)  Phone: 487-3271
Office Hours: 9 a.m.-Noon Wednesdays. Or, by appointment.

Required Textbooks/Materials:
  - Speech Communication Made Simple by Dale and Wolf
  - Pronouncing American English by Orion
  - Paper to take notes on, something to write with.

Course Expectations:
1. Arrive on time or early to class. After 2 late arrivals or absences I will notify Fran of your attendance. After 5 late arrivals or absences, IPS will be notified. Late=5+ minutes after the official start of class time. I reserve the right to have a pop quiz in the first 5 minutes of class.
2. Buy the textbooks and materials. Bring them to class!
3. Bring paper and something to write with.
4. Turn off all Ipods (MP3 players), cell phones, and laptop computers. There should be NO phone conversations, instant messaging (IM), emailing, or web-surfing in class. I need 100% of your focus on what we are learning.
5. Be ready to learn. Read ahead in the text books. Do the practice exercises and homework.
6. Respect the rights of others to learn.
7. Read this syllabus and look at it through the term. Bring it to class.
8. Use English any time you see Leah in the room.

Course Policies:
I. Attendance: Excellent attendance (coming to class on time and being an active participant for the entire hour) will improve your English skills and your grade.
  Participation is an important part of your grade. If you are late or skip classes, you are essentially choosing to NOT pass this class and to take it again. Be on time. It is disrespectful to the teacher and other students if you come in late. After 2 late arrivals or absences I will notify Fran of your attendance. After 5 late arrivals or absences, IPS will be notified.
II. Late work or making up work:
  In general, late work is not accepted. Turn in your assignments on time.
  If you need help with any problem that causes you to miss class, please let me or Fran know!

ESL Course Evaluation:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Number</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>96-100%</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>Pass/Satisfactory</td>
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<tr>
<td>91-94%</td>
<td>A/B</td>
<td>Pass/Satisfactory</td>
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<tr>
<td>85-90%</td>
<td>B</td>
<td>Pass/Satisfactory</td>
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<tr>
<td>79-84%</td>
<td>B/C</td>
<td>Pass/Satisfactory</td>
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<tr>
<td>72-78%</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>Pass/Satisfactory</td>
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<tr>
<td>66-71%</td>
<td>C/D</td>
<td>Fail/Unsatisfactory</td>
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<tr>
<td>60-65%</td>
<td>D</td>
<td>Fail/Unsatisfactory</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Below 59%</td>
<td>F</td>
<td>Fail/Unsatisfactory</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Grades will be based on:

**Speeches/Presentations:** Intro speech (50 points), News Speech (50 points), Poster/Persuasive (100 points) = **about 20% of final grade**

**Pronunciation work:** Individual assignments (6 x 25 points = 150), Choose your own songs (2 x 25 points = 50) = **about 20% of final grade**

**Quizzes:** 3 x 50 points = 150 or **about 15% of final grade**

**Journals and other homework:** 12 weeks x 10 points per week = 120 + other work = about 150 points or **about 15% of final grade**

**Attendance/Participation:** Up to 20 points per week. = about 300 points or **about 30% of your final grade.** This includes being on time to class, active participation in group work and discussions, note-taking, and other activities.

**Other important information:**

1. The Walker Computer Lab (HDMZ) is available to you to use while you are an ESL student. 113 Walker. Log in with your email login and password. Please sign in at the desk in the small room off of the PC side.

2. The Walker Writing Center (107 Walker) is also available for you to use while you are a student at Tech. [http://www.hu.mtu.edu/hu_dept/wc/index.htm](http://www.hu.mtu.edu/hu_dept/wc/index.htm) They are open for walk-in appointments from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. M-F.

3. Check your email regularly. I send many important announcements via email.

4. Check my Blackboard page regularly. Blackboard has websites for many of your classes! I put many assignments and additional readings on my webpage. I put links for research help and English Language Learning weblinks there as well.

**How to access Leah’s webpage: (Blackboard)**: (You will use this for your journals and other assignments!)

1. Go to [https://courses.mtu.edu](https://courses.mtu.edu)
2. Click on the MTU ISO Login link. (It’s the middle button.)
3. Type in your Blackboard login (the first part of your email and your email password).
4. This should bring up a main webpage that will list all of your classes.
5. Click on the ESL 0492 Listening/Speaking link.
6. You should see a colored screen.
7. On the screen will be folders (suitcases). Go to the folder for the week. Click on it.
8. Inside you will find links to websites, vocabulary lists, assignments, etc.
Journals:

Journals will at first be written and about listening/speaking experiences. Later, we will add “dialogue” or speaking journals.

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© Journals are due on Fridays. Turn in written journals to Blackboard (online) or via email before the start of your class. (See notes below on how to turn in journals.) You will turn in spoken journals via email or on a cassette tape.
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REQUIREMENTS:
Written journals will be typed on Blackboard! (See directions on page 2 to access Blackboard). Journals are due before class online on Fridays. Late journals will NOT be graded.

You must:
  a) Complete 2 entries each week.
  b) If there is a “group discussion question”, respond to at least 2 people in the group discussions AND answer any questions or comments people leave for your group discussion post. For the “personal/private” journals, you only need to respond to Leah’s comments or questions. (Personal/private journals are those where you did website activities, tv watching, etc. See next page.)
  c) Write 200+ words per entry; 30+ words for responses/comments.
  d) If you are doing a listening exercise, include the website, tv channel, radio station, and title. Speaking exercises should include a topic sentence so that I know what question you are answering!
  e) Type your name at the end.
  f) Not plagiarize. Any single entry found to be copied from a website, book, or other source will earn the entire journal a score of zero for the week. Plagiarism includes using the same journal for two classes!!!
  g) Answer assigned topics when given. You can write your journals on paper first and then type into Blackboard if that is easier for you.

How to find the journals page:
1) Go to Blackboard ESL 492 Listening/Speaking class. (Section 2)
2) Go to the folder for the week.
3) Inside the folder you will see the different journal assignments.
4) Click on Journal assignment.
5) Read the directions.
6) Title and Date your journal in the subject line.
7) You can re-open the discussion topic later in the week to add new entries or information.

Another way to get into the journals is to go to the Discussions link on the left side of the webpage and find the topics for the week.
JOURNALS: VERY IMPORTANT! VERY IMPORTANT! VERY IMPORTANT! VERY IMPORTANT! UNLESS I TELL YOU OTHERWISE, AT LEAST 1 OF THE 2 WEEKLY JOURNAL ENTRIES MUST COME FROM THE TYPES ON THIS LIST. THE OTHER ENTRY WILL BE ASSIGNED ON BLACKBOARD.

1) Watch 30-60 minutes of American television. Summarize and respond to what you saw, what you felt as you watched it, how much you understood, new vocabulary you learned or want to know, or questions you have. You could watch dramas, comedies, the news, whatever interests you. CITE THE NAME OF THE SHOW, THE DATE YOU WATCHED IT, THE CHANNEL IT WAS ON.

2) Listen to or watch internet news for 10-15 minutes. Summarize and respond to what you hear. You can also write about how much you understood, vocabulary or questions.

I recommend listening to Voice of America online. Their “Latest Newscast” and “News Now Live” links, or Learning English Podcasts are good.

http://www.voaenglish.com/specialenglish/index.cfm
www.voaenglish.com/english/podcasts.cfm

In Learning English Podcasts, start with either the 15 minute features, Special English TV, Issues in the News, or Our World.

DO NOT COPY FROM THE TEXT OF SOME OF THE STORIES. YOU WILL EARN 0 POINTS FOR THE ENTIRE WEEK. PARAPHRASE AND SUMMARIZE! CITE THE TITLE, AUTHOR AND WEBPAGE.

3) Go to www.esl-lab.com. Pick one of the “dialogues”. Read the pre-listening questions. Listen to the dialogue. Take the quiz. (Let me know how you did!) Then, WRITE answers to the POST-LISTENING EXERCISES in your journal. Tell me which level and topic you chose in the title of your journal! CITE THE WEBPAGE AND THE NAME OF THE QUIZ.

4) Participate in or listen to (eavesdrop on) a conversation in English. Summarize what was said. Did you learn any new vocabulary? Did you have any successes or difficulties talking or listening? How did you feel while listening/speaking?

You can find conversation partners in the Writing Center (107 Walker) or in the World Language Lab (113 Walker). All coaches would be happy to talk to you. Just walk in and ask if anyone is free to chat for 15 minutes!

5) Attend a sports, concert, or theater event or go to a movie. Go to a student organization meeting. Describe what you saw, heard and felt. See the mtu.edu Calendar link OR http://www.mtu.edu/arts/ for upcoming events in sports and arts.

Check out the film board website for weekly $3.00 movies (sometimes they are free!). http://filmbrd.students.mtu.edu/index.php (cite sources!)
How to express your opinion respectfully in a journal discussion:

You can say things like:

To agree:

I agree with _____ (name). I also think.... (add more information to show why you think the same way)

I agree with ______ (name) that ________________ (idea).

That’s a good idea. I also think....

What you said was really good (cool, neat, interesting, exciting) because........!

To add to an idea you agree with:

I agree with ______________ (idea or name). In addition (furthermore, moreover), I think.....

To disagree (to have the opposite point of view):

While what you say might be true, I...

I have a different opinion. I think that....

I have a different perspective. I think that....

What do you think about this idea? (and explain idea)

If we look at this in a different way....

Other people might say.....

I know that you feel strongly about this. I have a different way of looking at it. I think....

To clarify:

I would like to learn more. Can you explain what you mean by saying.....?

Can you tell me more?

What did you mean when you said “.....”?

To show that you think something is interesting or surprising:

I was really interested in the part that talks about....

The part that talks about ......was interesting because....

I was surprised to read the part about... (or ...to read that +clause)

I was surprised to learn about....