ESL

English as Second Language

ESL 591: Intermediate Oral/Aural Skills Class
The purpose of this course is to do intensive work in aural and oral language skills. Emphasis is on the segmental level: vowel/consonant work, syllable work and word stress as well as rhythm on the sentence level. Summarizing and questioning are practiced with work on learning styles. Students' awareness of American teaching and cultural patterns are stressed. Observing American professors and students in class is encouraged. A student will receive a diagnostic assessment of her/his language segmental and suprasegmental difficulties from the instructor and will be expected to work on improvement in these speech areas both in the classroom and independently in the language laboratories. Successful completion (A- or higher) of the course leads to ESL 598; B+ or below leads to ESL 596. Prerequisite: SPEAK Test score of 40-44 or IELTS score of 5-5.5 or iBT Speak score of 15-18.
3 credits, Letter graded (A, A-, B+, etc.)

ESL 593: Advanced Composition
Advanced training in writing for ESL students who need to concentrate on paragraph development. The first half of the semester deals with paragraph construction, stressing concepts of the main thesis and supporting arguments. Some advanced grammar is reviewed, but the assumption is that basic structures and mechanics of writing have already been mastered. The second half of the semester stresses combining paragraphs into short compositions. Both descriptive and argumentative writing are practiced. Diagnostic test during first week of classes determines placement in the course. A through C/Unsatisfactory grading only.
3 credits, Letter graded (A, A-, B+, etc.)

ESL 596: High Intermediate Oral/Aural Skills Class
The emphasis of this course is threefold: developing language skills, teaching skills and cultural awareness. Language skills will focus on sentence stress, phrasing, linking and pausing with field specific language practice. Teaching skills stressed include questioning techniques for discussion and assessment, leading effective discussions and assessing student learning. The cultural awareness focuses on idioms, American cultural values and norms as well as non-verbal communication. Successful completion of this course (B or higher) leads to ESL 598.
3 credits, Letter graded (A, A-, B+, etc.)

ESL 598: Advanced Oral/Aural Skills Class
This course further develops language skills at the supra segmental level, teaching skills, cultural awareness and presentation skills. Intonation is taught with self-monitoring strategies. The teaching skills examine strategies for introducing yourself, your syllabus, explaining a visual, defining terms, giving presentations and giving successful lectures. Analysis of presentations is given to each student throughout the semester. Cultural awareness is centered on some assumptions affecting teaching in the American classroom. Success completion of this course (a B or better) clears the student from the oral/aural ESL requirements.
3 credits, Letter graded (A, A-, B+, etc.)