

University of Florida
English Language Institute
EAP 5836 (Academic Spoken English) – Spring C 2025

Class Section	Class Times/Locations	Instructor	Office	Email/Phone
EAP 5836-2864	R 11:45-1:40pm MAT 0012	Maya Shastri	MAT 221or MAT 217	mshastri@ufl.edu 352-392-2070

Office Hours:

- TBA, or by appointment

EAP 5836 Coordinator: Maya Shastri, MAT 217, mshastri@ufl.edu

Course Description

The course is designed to familiarize international teaching assistants (ITAs) with academic culture in the US and to help develop specific language skills and interaction strategies needed for effective instruction.

Course Objectives

- To increase awareness of cross-cultural differences in educational settings
- To practice presentation skills that are important to classroom instruction
- To develop cross-cultural communication skills and intercultural competence
- To increase awareness of American culture affecting the classroom and students
- To improve communication for instructional purposes, including listening and speaking
- To improve oral fluency

Course Prerequisites

The course has 2 prerequisites:

1) Participants must be international students with the following language test scores:

- TOEFL iBT Speaking Section: 23-27
- IELTS Academic Speaking Band: 7-8
- Or SPEAK: 45-50

2) Participants must be teaching for the first time at UF with contact hours with undergraduate students (lecturing, discussion sessions, lab sessions, Zoom office hours, etc.)

Method

This course has three basic components:

1. Seminar - The seminar meets weekly for two consecutive periods. The seminar will address issues of language, culture, and pedagogy. See the list of assignments below.

2. Individual observation and feedback –Your instructor (or the EAP 5836 Coordinator) will visit and record the class you are teaching. Most students will be observed 2-3 times during the semester, but your teacher may opt for more or fewer observations. Your teacher will review your teaching video and will meet with you one-on-one to discuss strengths and weaknesses noted during the observation. Individual needs in areas such as pronunciation, grammar, fluency, and clarity will be addressed in the conferences.

3. Final Project and Self-evaluation - From your teaching videos throughout the semester, you will identify and time stamp important features of classroom communication (which we will identify during the semester) that you have performed proficiently, and you will write a reflection. Your final project is used when representatives of your department want to review your teaching, evaluate your language skills, and determine whether you need further coursework in English.

There is no final exam in this course, and students do not need to take the SPEAK test again.

Assignments

Assignments may include, but are not limited to the following, and will be determined by your instructor:

- Your observation of another instructor, with a reflection on teaching strategy
- Review and evaluation of your own teaching video
- Prosody projects
- Presentation with instructional language (defining a term, using visuals to explain concepts, and teaching a process)
- Presentation with field-specific content
- A language lab session at the Dial Center

Grades and Transcript

The course is graded as Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory (S/U). A grade of Satisfactory (S)* will be based on the following grading system.

Requirements for Satisfactory (S) grade	Description
Class attendance for 80% of seminar days	In a 15-week semester, 12/15 seminar sessions are required. In other words, you can miss no more than the equivalent of 3 class periods in a 15-week semester.
100% attendance for the one-on-one feedback session after your classroom observation	These are meant to work within your schedule. Notify your instructor well in advance to reschedule individual conferences.
Completion of <u> 3 </u> of <u> 3 </u> assignments.	These will be assigned individually by your instructor. Not completing designated assignments can result in a grade of U.
Final Project and Self-evaluation	Not completing and submitting the final project can result in a grade of U.

EAP 5836 does not count toward a graduate degree. However, they are University of Florida graduate classes, listed in the catalog and eligible for fee waiver. *EAP 5836 appears on the academic transcript.*

**A grade of S does not guarantee exemption from further classes in English, nor does it ensure future teaching assistantships. Your department and the Graduate School make these decisions. They will take into consideration the EAP 5836 final evaluation.*

UF attendance policies are available

here: <https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/attendance.aspx>

Information on the UF Grading System is available here:

<https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/grades.aspx> - hgrades

Accommodations for Students with Disabilities

Students with disabilities who experience learning barriers and would like to request academic accommodations should connect with the Disability Resource Center (352-392-8565, <https://disability.ufl.edu/get-started/>) by providing appropriate documentation. It is important for students to share their accommodation letter with their instructor and discuss their access needs, as early as possible in the semester.

Evaluation of Instructors/Course

Students are expected to provide professional and respectful feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing course evaluations online via GatorEvals. Guidance on how to give feedback in a professional and respectful manner is available at <https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/students/>. Students will be notified when the evaluation period opens and can complete evaluations through the email they receive from GatorEvals, in their Canvas

course menu under GatorEvals, or via <https://ufl.bluera.com/ufl/>. Summaries of course evaluation results are available to students at <https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/public-results/>.

Campus Resources:

- Health and Wellness
 - UGIFT International Initiatives is a diverse team of campus service providers to help international students. They provide consultation, present workshops, identify needs and challenges particular to international students, ensure cross-departmental communication, champion initiatives, and support students in need.
<https://counseling.ufl.edu/outreach/international/>
 - U Matter, We Care: If you or someone you know is in distress, please contact umatter@ufl.edu, 352-392-1575, or visit U Matter, We Care website to refer or report a concern and a team member will reach out to the student in distress.
 - Counseling and Wellness Center: Visit the Counseling and Wellness Center website or call 352-392-1575 for information on crisis services as well as non-crisis services.
 - Student Health Care Center: Call 352-392-1161 for 24/7 information to help you find the care you need or visit the Student Health Care Center website.
 - University Police Department: Visit UF Police Department website or call 352-392-1111 (or 9-1-1 for emergencies).
 - UF Health Shands Emergency Room / Trauma Center: For immediate medical care call 352-733-0111 or go to the emergency room at 1515 SW Archer Road, Gainesville, FL 32608; Visit the UF Health Emergency Room and Trauma Center website.
 - GatorWell Health Promotion Services: For prevention services focused on optimal wellbeing, including Wellness Coaching for Academic Success, visit the GatorWell website or call 352-273-4450.

- Academic Resources
 - Dial Center Public Speaking Lab: <https://cwoc.ufl.edu/public-speaking-lab-2/>
 - Writing Studio: 2215 Turlington Hall, 352-846-1138. Help brainstorming, formatting, and writing papers: <https://writing.ufl.edu/writing-studio/>
 - Center for Teaching Excellence: <https://teach.ufl.edu/>
 - Library Support: Various ways to receive assistance with respect to using the libraries or finding resources: <https://uflib.ufl.edu/find/ask/>
 - E-learning technical support: Contact the UF Computing Help Desk at 352-392-4357 or via e-mail at helpdesk@ufl.edu.
 - Career Connections Center: Reitz Union Suite 1300, 352-392-1601. Career assistance and counseling services.
 - Student Complaints On-Campus: Visit the Student Honor Code and Student Conduct Code webpage for more information.

Course Outline—Topics subject to change based on the needs of an individual class.

<p>Week 1: 1/16 Assignment 1: Diagnostic presentation assignment—presenting yourself as the expert and approachable</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Course Overview, General Introduction, Needs analysis • The importance of knowing your students’ names • The First Day of Class
<p>Week 2: 1/23 Assignment 1: Diagnostic presentations in class</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Characteristics of a "Good" Teacher, Cross-cultural perspectives • What do American students want from their teachers? Lectures vs. Collaborative Learning vs. Active Learning
<p>Week 3: 1/30 Assignment 2: presenting the agenda</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Starting class right <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Instructional Language: Before Class—Small Talk • Instructional Language: Beginning of Class—Agenda
<p>Week 4: 2/6 (Begin TA observations: plan for 2-3 observations from me)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Questions as a Teaching Tool • Vocabulary and pronunciation in your discipline
<p>Week 5: 2/13 Assignment 2: Agenda presentations in class</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prosody—American teaching performance
<p>Week 6: 2/20 Assignment 3: Hot topic presentation (with prosody and attention to audience)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prosody—American teaching performance • Instructional Language: Clarifying, Agreeing, and Disagreeing
<p>Week 7: 2/27 CP hour</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prosody—American teaching performance • CP hour (small talk and volume control)
<p>Week 8: 3/6 Assignment for Final project and self-evaluation</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Office hour interactions • Idioms and slang on the university campus
<p>Week 9: 3/13 CP hour</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CP hour (office hour practice) • Idioms and slang on the university campus
<p>Week 10: 3/27</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How to say “no” in academic English • Encouraging participation through discussion
<p>Week 11: 4/3 Dial Center</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Visit to the Dial Center with hot topic presentation
<p>Week 12 :4/10 Assignment 3: Hot topic Presentations</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Surprises in teaching, language for unexpected moments • Classroom management language and scenarios
<p>Week 13: 4/17 Final project and self-evaluation is due Assignment 3: Hot topic Presentations</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presentation of a hot topic in your field (CPs and other guests) • Perspectives on American culture • Getting Involved on Campus • Reflections on the semester