



CAMOSUN COLLEGE – COURSE OUTLINE

ELD 077- 001 – English Pronunciation Winter 2012

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Office hours: Monday and Thursday 10:00 to 10:50
Tuesday 8:20 to 9:00
Other days and times by appointment

Class times and locations: Monday: 2:30 – 4:20 WT 201 and E200
Wednesday: 2:30 - 4:20 WT 201

Credit Value: 2

In-class workload: 4 hours per week
Estimated out of class workload: 4 hours per week

Required Texts and Materials:

1. Well Said: Pronunciation for clear communication, Third edition by Linda Grant. Heinle & Heinle (with CDs)
2. Headset with microphone (Recommended type is available at the College Bookstore - COSONIC 790MV).

Background to the course:

Everyone has an accent. Native speakers have the accent of the country they come from, and ESL learners have “foreign” accents. Some people have accents that are easier to understand than others – but why?

It is not just the sounds of the words that make the difference. It is other things as well, such as speed, loudness, pitch and the way words are linked together. Because these things are not written on the page when we read English, it’s easy to imagine that they don’t exist or aren’t important, but they are *very* important.

Can you ever get rid of your accent? Probably not. But, neither can anyone else. You can improve both the sounds of the words and the other factors involved in clear speech. This will make you understandable to a wide range of listeners.

Goals of the course:

This course provides a wide variety of methods and activities to improve your pronunciation. Listening practice will be an integral part of each lesson, since pronunciation and listening are

closely linked skills. The main goal of the course is to enable you to interact clearly, naturally and confidently with native speakers of English in a variety of social settings.

Many people think of an English pronunciation class as mainly one where students' vowel and consonant sounds are practiced and corrected. Most pronunciation teachers, and most of their students, however, have found such pronunciation work, if it forms the bulk of class activities, to be only minimally satisfactory. They report that such in-class drill and correction techniques often have little effect in "real life" situations.

Recent research and experience has shown that factors other than vowels and consonants are the most important to master. This course is designed to help you practice these aspects of English pronunciation, such as word stress, sentence intonation, phrasing of word groups, and pausing as well as the consonants and vowels. All of these aspects need to be mastered to some degree in order to communicate intelligibly in English.

Overview of course content:

In this course, you will improve your ability to:

- produce more natural English speech
- understand natural English speech
- predict the correct pronunciation of words and phrases

These abilities will be improved by studying and understanding the English sound system and using it correctly. This will be achieved by learning how to:

- Understand how speech sounds are physically made and why, and understand the sound system of English
- Use vowels, diphthongs, consonants and consonant clusters correctly
- Understand and use intonation, rhythm, word stress, speed, loudness, phrasing and pausing in both listening and speaking
- Use a dictionary to aid pronunciation of words
- Use spelling rules in determining the pronunciation of words.

Attendance:

Regular attendance is very important in this course, as most of the work we do will be in class. If you attend regularly, participate actively in class work, and work consistently both in class and outside class, you will make progress.

Evaluation:**Camosun College Standard Grading System**

Percentage	Grade	Description	Grade Point Equivalency (GPA)
90-100	A+	Superior level of achievement	9
85-89	A		8
80-84	A-		7
77-79	B+	High level of achievement	6
73-76	B		5
70-72	B-		4
65-69	C+	Satisfactory level of achievement	3
60-64	C	Sufficient level of achievement to proceed to next level of study	2
50-59	D	Minimum level of achievement for which credit is granted; a course with a "D" grade cannot be used as a prerequisite	1
0-49	F	Minimum level has not been achieved	0
	I	Work is not complete, but instructor has granted an extension. Mark will become an "F" unless the work is completed within six weeks	

Your final grade will be based on presentations and tests that will be given over the course of the semester:

Test 1	30 marks
Test 2	30 marks
Presentation 1	20 marks
Presentation 2	20 marks
Total:	100 marks

The tests will examine both your pronunciation skills and competence in listening comprehension. You will also get practice tests before the actual ones.

Except in cases of verified illness or other legitimate reasons, **all tests and presentations must happen on the due dates.**

All assignments must be completed entirely by the student. See Note 3 below regarding Academic Honesty.

No electronic devices (electronic dictionaries, cell phones, music players, etc.) can be used during tests. This policy also applies to other in-class assignments at the discretion of the instructor.

Notes:

1. **Academic Progress and Attendance:**
 If you attend regularly and work consistently at your English, you will make progress. The ELD Department has Academic Progress and Attendance Requirements designed to enhance a learner's likelihood of success. Students should become familiar with the content of this policy which is attached to this course outline.
 A minimum of **80% attendance** is required to follow course content, understand and prepare assignments, and benefit from the course.
If you are sick or have another valid reason for an absence, please telephone, email, or relay a message through a friend or classmate. Failure to inform the instructor of your absence may result in being denied a mark for work missed during the absence. Students unable to produce a medical certificate or other valid documentation to explain their absence from class may be denied make-up tests or assignments.
 If you know that you will miss some classes during the course due to family or health reasons, please inform the instructor of your absence at the beginning of the course. As a general rule, **do not plan to travel during the course.**
 If you attend regularly and work consistently at your English both in class and out of class, you will make progress.

2. An "I" grade will be assigned when a student has been unable to complete the requirements of the course due to hardship or other circumstances such as illness or death in the family. Extension of deadlines may be negotiated, **provided the student has made every effort to keep the instructor informed.** Course requirements must be completed within 6 weeks or the "I" grade will be changed to an "F".

3. Except in cases of verified illness or other legitimate reasons, all assignments must be handed in when due and all in-class assignments must be done on the specified date. Failure to complete assignments on time during the term will result in a loss of up to 10% of the grade per late day per assignment.

4. **Academic Honesty:** All assignments must be completed entirely by the student. Work that is copied from another person or source without proper citing of sources or done in whole or in part by another person is plagiarism – the theft of another person's ideas and work.
Plagiarized work will result in a zero grade for the assignment. In extreme cases, plagiarism will result in a failing grade for the course.
 This policy is in accordance with the Camosun College Calendar –Student Conduct section – <http://camosun.ca/about/policies/education-academic/e-2-student-services-&-support/e-2.5.1.pdf>

5. Students may not use recording devices in the classroom without the prior permission of the instructor. However, the instructor's permission is not required when the use of a recording device is sanctioned by the College's Resource Centre for Students with Disabilities in order to accommodate a student's disability and when the instructor has been provided with an instructor notification letter which specifies the use of a recording device. Recordings made in the classroom are for the student's personal use only, and distribution of recorded material is prohibited.



**ELD Department
Academic Progress and Attendance Requirements
Advanced and Provincial Levels¹**

Progress

In most cases, the ELD department expects students to be able to complete a level (Advanced or Provincial) in one four-month semester (hours shown are per week).

Advanced

- 072 (10 hours)
- 074 (5 hours)

Provincial

- 092 (5 hours)
- 094 (5 hours)

Students are responsible for

- attending classes regularly (see “Attendance” below)
- speaking English in class
- doing assigned homework and in-class work
- participating in class activities

Instructors are committed to providing quality education in a learning-centered manner. They will monitor course prerequisites and student progress and endeavor to place students in courses where they can succeed. When progress is unsatisfactory, appropriate interventions will occur.

Satisfactory progress requires that a student maintain a Grade Point Average of 2.0 (C) on the four most recent courses. A student whose performance is unsatisfactory will be placed on academic probation for the next session attended². A student in this situation must consult with an Academic Advisor. A student who is on academic probation and who fails to obtain a sessional GPA of at least 2.0 (C) will be required to withdraw from the School for one year. The student will be also placed on academic probation for the next session attended.

A student who is required to withdraw a second time will be refused registration for credit courses in the School of Access for two years. The student will be placed on academic probation for the next session attended. A student will be denied registration in any School of Access credit course for at least one year after twice receiving an F grade in that course. A student who is on academic probation may appeal this decision to the Dean.

¹ See the Camosun College Academic Progress Policy at <http://www.camosun.bc.ca/policies/Education-Academic/E-1-Programming-&-Instruction/E-1.1.pdf>

² Spring and Summer are considered as one session.

Attendance

It is each student's responsibility to attend the first class meeting of each course. If a student does not attend the first class and does not contact the instructor, an ELDD instructional assistant, or an international education advisor within two working days following the first class with a satisfactory explanation, admittance to the course may be denied.

If a student does not attend classes and does not officially withdraw (via Camlink or Student Services) prior to fee deadlines, he or she will be required to pay all outstanding fees, will receive no further service until the fees are paid and may receive an "F" / "IP" grade.

During the term, if a student misses one week of class(es) without official documentation, s/he will first meet with the instructor to resolve the problem. If no resolution can be made, then the student will meet with the Chair of the department who may recommend the following:

- attend Help Centre
- counselling
- program changes
- withdrawal
- discussion with an academic or an International Student Advisor (where appropriate)

At the end of term, if a student has missed 50% of class after having received departmental support, a letter will be sent to the student's local and permanent address regarding his or her absence in the course. A student with an attendance problem may not be allowed to register for the following term.

Students in any level who are receiving funding for their courses are expected to attend classes regularly. If the student is unable to attend classes, s/he is expected to contact his/her instructor(s) or an ELDD instructional assistant. Official documentation to justify absences (e.g. doctor's note) is expected.