



CAMOSUN COLLEGE – COURSE OUTLINE

ELD 077 - 001 – English Pronunciation Winter 2014

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Office hours:

**Class times
and locations:**

Credit Value: 2

Pre/Corequisite: ELD 050, OR ELD 062 AND 064, OR ASSESSMENT

In-class workload: 4 hours per week

Estimated out of class workload: about 2 - 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. An English-English paper dictionary (Collins Cobuild Advanced Learner's Edition or Longman Dictionary Of Contemporary English recommended)
3. Headset with microphone (Recommended type is available at the College Bookstore - COSONIC 790MV).

Course Description:

This course focuses on improving pronunciation to develop the communicative ability of non-native English speakers. The intent is to develop spoken English that is reasonably easy for native speakers to understand. Students' ability to understand native speakers will also be enhanced.

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.

Course Outcomes:

At successful completion of the course students will be able to understand and use the English sound system correctly as follows

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

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Attendance:

Regular attendance and active participation in this course is essential, 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:

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

Scheduled tests (1 @ 10 marks and 2 @ 20 marks)	50 marks
Weekly in-class assignments and homework	40
Final presentation (in class)	<u>10</u>
Total:	100 marks

- **All assignments must be completed** to fulfill the requirements of this course.
- Except in cases of verified illness or other legitimate reasons, **all assignments must be submitted on the due dates**, at the **beginning** of the class in which they are due.
- Late assignments will not be accepted. If you have a valid reason that makes it impossible for you to hand in an assignment on time, you must speak to the instructor **before the due date**.
- All assignments must be completed entirely by the student. See Note 4 below regarding Academic Honesty.
- The tests will examine both your pronunciation skills and competence in listening comprehension.
- 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. A minimum of **80% attendance** is required to follow course content, understand and prepare assignments, and benefit from the course. There is an Academic Progress Policy designed to enhance a learner's likelihood of success. **Students should become familiar with the content of this policy.** The policy is available in each School Administration Office, Registration, and on the College web site in the Policy Section.
<http://camosun.ca/about/policies/education-academic/e-1-programming-&-instruction/e-1.1.pdf>
 - The ELD Department also has specific **Academic Progress and Attendance Requirements**. See the attached handout.
 - **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.**
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.

Camosun College Standard Grading System

<http://camosun.ca/about/policies/education-academic/e-1-programming-&-instruction/e-1.5.pdf>

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	See Note 2 on the next page	