

**SAMPLE SYLLABUS - SUBJECT TO MINOR CONTENT CHANGES BASED ON INSTRUCTOR**

**COURSE SYLLABUS**

**ESL 21: PRONUNCIATION**

Instructor:

Email:

Office:

Office hours:

**COURSE DESCRIPTION**

This course is designed to improve clarity, accuracy, and understanding of spoken English through study and practice of pronunciation features as they occur in real speech, using models from television, movies, and online talks. Emphasis is on individualized feedback through audio and video recording technology as well as on student self-evaluation of speech.

**COURSE MATERIALS/ACCOUNTS**

There is no textbook for this course, but you will purchase an access card to an online service called "English Central". The three-month academic subscription is \$25.

You will also be given an account in Voice Thread where you will record yourself reading various scripts focusing on different pronunciation features.

In addition, you will be asked to print out course materials available on our course website (ccl.e.ucla.edu).

**GRADING**

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| • Attendance & participation             | 15% |
| • Homework assignments                   | 15% |
| • Speech Recording Assignments (3-4)     | 30% |
| • Native Speaker Analysis Assignment     | 20% |
| • Final Presentation and self-evaluation | 20% |

**COURSE COMPONENTS**

**Attendance and participation:**

The success of the course depends upon your participation in all class activities including completion of assigned homework, participation in discussions and group work, careful preparation of assignments, and thoughtful and constructive feedback to classmates. Missing class, arriving late, or half-hearted participation in class work is not participating "fully" and will negatively impact your participation/attendance grade.

**Homework:**

You will be assigned various short exercises to practice pronunciation at home.

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**Speech Recording Assignments using VoiceThread (videos from englishcentral.com)**

You will practice different pronunciation features in a number of youtube videos located on an English learning website called *Englishcentral.com*. I have chosen 4-6 videos to address different pronunciation points in the class. Each video is presented line by line so that you can record your voice and then listen and compare your recording to the original. These assignments are designed to encourage you to practice and improve outside of class. You will be evaluated on the pronunciation feature(s) being targeted in each performance as well as your reflection on your recording.

**Native Speaker Analysis Assignment**

In order to acquaint you with real-life examples of the pronunciation features presented in the course and to improve your listening comprehension, you will be asked to listen to the speech of UCLA undergraduate students and complete a variety of exercises. These samples of UG speech are accessible from the course website. You will be assigned one recording, and you will do this in the computer lab.

**Final Presentation**

This assignment consists of a short, 5-10 minute mini-presentation/teaching activity. You will be asked to explain, compare and teach your peers how to pronounce a particular set of sounds within American English. These pairs will be assigned well before your presentation, and you will be video-taped in order to help you improve your speaking style. You will also be asked to produce a self-evaluation after giving the presentation.

**COURSE POLICIES**

1. All cellular phones, and other electronic media must be silent and not visible to the student during class unless I ask you to use them.
2. Only English may be used in the classroom.
3. Do not talk while somebody else is presenting.
4. More than 3 unexcused absences will result in failure of the course.
5. If you miss a class, it is your responsibility to find out what content was covered in class that day.
6. If you miss the deadline for an assignment, your grade will be lowered one full letter grade. For example, if you hand in the assignment late and you get a B, you will end up getting a C because you were late.

**COURSE WEBSITE**

The Moodle Website is an integral part of this course, containing the calendar of assignments, the class discussion board and many class handouts and resources. To access the ESL 38B course website,

- 1) Go to <http://ccle.ucla.edu>
  - 2) Click on “login” in the upper righthand corner.
  - 3) Your logon ID is whatever comes in your email address before       @ucla.edu
1. So, if my UCLA email address is: [joebruin@ucla.edu](mailto:joebruin@ucla.edu), then my UCLA logon name is

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“joebruin”.

4) The password is the same one you use to log in to <my.ucla.edu>

To post spoken entries, we will be using Wimba, which you can also access through the course Website (<http://ccle.ucla.edu>). We will be going to the computer lab to learn how to use Wimba, but feel free to explore on your own.

**OTHER INFORMATION:**

- BruinCard: UCLA picture identification card
  - o <http://secure.bruincard.ucla.edu/bcw/web/Home.aspx>
- UCLA logon ID
  - o <https://logon.ucla.edu/activate.php>
- BOL: bruin online
  - o <http://www.bol.ucla.edu/>
- UID: university identification (usually the number on your BruinCard)
- myUCLA login = BOL login = University login
  - o <http://my.ucla.edu>
- Moodle login = myUCLA

**Tentative Schedule**

WEEK	Tuesday	Thursday
1	Syllabus/overview of oral skills course Overview of pronunciation concepts Lab Part done in class: Introduction to VoiceThread, English Central, and other sites of interest <b>LAB: Self-Introductions</b>	<u>Thought groups and Intonation</u> Common intonation patterns Pausing after thought groups Pausing after sentence groups <b>LAB: Thought Groups and Intonation</b>
2	Consonants: Classification according to place and manner of articulation and voicing <u>Consonant distinctions</u> /l/, /n/ and /r/, aspiration, flap	Consonant Clusters Common mispronunciations – ‘ed’ and ‘s’ <b>LAB: Focus on Consonant Sounds</b>
3	<u>Vowels</u> Review vowel chart and symbols Review articulation	After studying “Statistics and Probability”, you will record this speech in VoiceThread <b>LAB: Focus on Vowel Sounds</b>
4	<u>Stress and Rhythm</u> Word stress and sentence stress Content words vs. function words	<u>Linking and Reductions</u> Common reductions Rules for Linking <b>LAB: Focus on Stress and Rhythm</b>
5	<b>Native Speaker Analysis Assignment</b> You will be assigned a short speech of a native speaker and transcribe exactly what you hear. Due on Wednesday in class.	Linking and Reductions <b>LAB: Focus on Linking and Reductions</b>
6	Final Presentations/Mini-teaching <b>Self-Evaluations</b>	Final Presentations/Mini-teaching. <b>Self-evaluations</b>

**Note: The lab is located in the Powell Library, Classroom C (third floor).**