Why take our Summer Language Courses?

UCLA offers a wide range of coursework for international summer students. Though other programs may market to English language learners, the Summer ESL Program is the only program with professionally trained instructors whose expertise is English language instruction. We provide high quality teaching, built around theoretically grounded, skills-based curriculum designed to meet the diverse needs of our students. All of our instructors hold advanced degrees in linguistics, or are TESOL certified, and all consistently receive stellar evaluations from students. Our mission is to ensure that our students succeed, while also challenging them with new and interesting ideas that are fun and engaging, as well as beneficial to their future studies and careers.

Please take a moment to look at the many English Language offerings that are detailed below. Should you require help or assistance in choosing a course, please feel free to contact the program coordinators directly at sesl@ucla.edu, or browse our program’s website. We would love to hear from you and are looking forward to helping you make your study abroad summer a success!
ESL 20: Conversation and Fluency (4 Units)
Students who take this course are interested in enhancing their ability to hear and speak in English language interactions. For these students, conversational communication, norms, and practices are key.

ESL 21: Pronunciation (4 Units)
Students who take this course are interested in fine-tuning their speaking skills, specifically focusing on their pronunciation of sounds and on how they use and understand larger features of the spoken language, such as rhythm, stress, intonation, and reduction of sounds.

ESL 22: Public Speaking (4 Units)
Students who take this course are interested in developing their oral skills in public settings, such as in classroom discussions and during presentations.

ESL 23: American Culture through Film (4 Units)
Students who take this course desire to know more about the culture of the United States and how that culture interacts with language. They also want to better understand why Americans are the way they are, why they believe the things that they believe, how their language reflects their cultural mindset, and how all of this information compares to one’s own culture.

ESL 24: Preparation for American University (4 Units)
Students who take this course are interested in learning how to conduct analytical inquiry, report their findings, articulate their interests with regard to inquiry, and develop original written materials that they can apply to their educational goals.

ESL 25: Academic Reading and Writing (4 Units)
Students who take this course want to focus on increasing their reading comprehension and on improving their academic writing skills. They want to read engaging pieces that challenge their own unique thoughts and perspectives, and they draw upon this reflexive process to build new arguments that they develop over short essays.

ESL 26: Business Communication: Speaking (4 Units)
Students who take this course want to polish their oral professional skills in meaningful and impactful ways. They are interested in learning more about everyday business interactions, conceptualizing and leading meetings, pitching new information through presentations, and addressing business related interactional scenarios. For these students, learning how to successfully conduct spoken business interactions is of the highest importance.

ESL 28: English Through Language, Culture and Society (4 Units)
Students who take this course are interested in surveying language structures as they emerge through contemporary cultural and societal topics. Topics may include gender, sexuality, politics, humor, intercultural communication, media, environmental issues, local/regional identity, etc. This class focuses on developing students’ oral and written ability to use language within authentic contexts through meaningful discussions and assignments.

ESL 105: Advanced Grammar and Style (4 Units)
Students who take this course want to gain higher proficiency in their structural command of English. They want to ensure that others fully understand the meaning they wish to convey, be it through written or spoken messages. They know how difficult grammar can be, but are determined to crack the code so that it is more readily accessible to them. For these students, the chief objective is a general refinement of form and meaning.