

**Course: ELI*226*1 Evidence-based Presentation and Discussion Skills for University
Success Listening and Speaking**



NORTH CENTRAL COLLEGE
English Language
Institute

Credit Hours: 2

Days and Times: Tuesday/Thursday, 1:45PM – 3:20PM

Location: Business & Entrepreneurship (BE), room 132

Dates: October 16 – December 4, 2025

Term: Fall 1 2025

Instructor: Rachel Israel

Office Hours: by appointment

Email: risrael@noctrl.edu

Course Description:

Welcome to our class! I look forward to continuing to work with you this term. In this course, you will continue to refine your listening and speaking skills in academic settings. You will actively listen to challenging speech acts and ask probing questions or make contributions that draw on prior knowledge, notes, or your personal experiences. When speaking, you will continue to increase fluency and accuracy in English by leading and participating in academic discussions and giving academic presentations that require analysis and synthesis of outside sources. You will continue to work on monitoring and correcting your spoken English and incorporating course grammar and vocabulary into every day and academic speech. If you have any questions, please talk to me; I am here to support you and your learning.

Required Texts and Materials:

- Cavage, C. (2018). *University Success Oral Communication, Advanced*. (R. B. Lockwood, Ed.). Hoboken, NJ: Pearson Education, Inc. ISBN: 0-13-465268-1
- Folder and notebook ONLY for this class
- Calendar for course assignments
- Technology as required for online work (e.g., laptop, smartphone, tablet, WiFi connection, headphones, etc.)

Learning Outcomes – To pass this course, you should be able to:

1. politely interrupt during a formal conversation to ask for clarification or reasoning;
2. take detailed notes on complex topics that can be used to study for exams and prepare for spoken or written responses and presentations;
3. understand and answer different question types (short answer, true/false, multiple choice, etc.) about spoken critiques, arguments, and opinions;
4. understand and answer different question types about advanced-level general education lectures and talks.
5. give a clear 6 – 7-minute presentation on a familiar academic or professional topic;
6. orally critique and review lectures and literature from class;
7. verbally express abstract ideas and complex opinions, arguments, reactions, and justifications when appropriately modeled;
8. give clear, detailed descriptions on a wide range of subjects and connect it to personal experiences in detail;
9. develop clear narratives and arguments and support your ideas with relevant supporting detail examples;
10. communicate spontaneously, often showing fluency and ease of expression; and
11. use grammatical structures and academic vocabulary from class in your everyday spoken communication.

Course Structure:

This course is divided into multiple textbook units over eight weeks. Each week, you can expect to engage in a variety of in-class tasks and activities in both individual and group settings, such as textbook exercises, listening tasks, discussions, presentations, exams, and other tasks as appropriate.

Criteria for Evaluation:

<u>Assignment</u>	<u>Percentage of Grade:</u>
Class Participation	20%
Homework	10%
Speaking Tasks (2, 20% each)	40%
Exams (2, 15% each)	30%
	100%

Grade Scale:

A = 93-100%	C+ = 77-79%
A- = 90-92%	C = 73-76%
B+ = 87-89%	C- = 70-72%
B = 83-86%	D = 60-69%
B- = 80-82%	F = below 60%

Assessments*

Class Participation:

- You are expected to attend and participate in all classes. In other words, you are expected to be an active participant in each discussion - sometimes, you might be actively listening - other times, you might be speaking. While in class, I expect you to have your full attention on the class discussion so you can maximize your learning.
- If you are unable to attend a class, it is your job, as a student, to review the class material and talk to your instructor to make up any missed work. For more information on our class's Late Work policy below.

Homework:

A lot of work is completed outside of class. Every day, you will have homework assignments that will be assessed by your instructor. The main purpose of most homework assignments is to practice the skills learned in class. With some exceptions, most homework will be graded for timeliness, completion, and honest effort. Homework assignment details will be given explicitly in class.

Speaking Tasks:

During this term, you will have a variety of speaking projects, such as presentations, discussion circles, projects, and other tasks connected to topics in our textbook or other relevant topics of interest. Before each speaking task, your instructor will give you a detailed assignment description and rubric to outline the requirements.

Exams:

You will have two exams on which you will demonstrate your knowledge of the materials covered during the course. You will receive a study guide and have approximately one week to study for each exam.

Course Policies and Expectations

Time Management and Homework Expectations:

English Language Institute courses are designed to be intensive, meaning you do a lot of learning in a short period of time to meet your goals quickly. In general, you can expect about 4 hours of homework in this class every week.

Late Work:

- If you are absent, it is **your job** as a student to learn about and complete the assignments you missed.
- In general, all late work must be submitted within one week. I usually will not accept work submitted after one week of your return to class. Exceptions are rare and made only on a case-by-case basis.
- Late work can be accepted for full credit only if you were absent from a class and the absence is excused.
- The highest grade you may earn when you submit a late assignment from an unexcused absence is a 75% (C). Points will be deducted appropriately from the 75% mark.

Technology:

Using technology is now a fundamental part of your coursework. While in class, we expect you to focus on the technology that is required to engage in class activities and discussions. Please remember, **it is disrespectful to your instructor and your classmates if you are not fully engaged in class**. For example, you should not check messages on social media or respond to non-emergency text messages during class time. If you focus on things outside of class while in class, your participation grade will be affected and your language skills won't improve as quickly.

Plagiarism and Artificial Intelligence (AI):

Plagiarism, copying someone else's work without giving him or her credit, is a very serious issue in American universities. **Plagiarism is not acceptable.** If you plagiarize an assignment, you will be given an "F" and may be asked to re-do your assignment for a lower grade.

You are required to do your own intellectual work. This also means that using online artificial intelligence (AI) tools to write your homework, essays, outlines, etc. is not permissible in this class, unless guided by your instructor. If you have any questions about this policy, please ask.

Communication:

- As your instructor, I will work hard to communicate with you clearly, quickly, and often. If you have a question specific to you, the best way to communicate with me is via email or Microsoft Teams. During the work week (Monday – Friday), my goal is to respond to your inquiry in 24 hours or less. On the weekends, it may take me up to 48 hours to respond to an email or Teams message.
- If you would like to meet to discuss a question, I am happy to set-up a meeting; Microsoft Teams is often the easiest meeting platform.
- **Canvas** (<https://canvas.noctrl.edu/>) is the platform that holds your class information. I expect you to log into Canvas every day. After each class, I will post the homework for the following class in the Canvas Homework List on under **Modules > Our Class Resources > Homework List.**
- If you have questions, please ask!

Netiquette:

As a citizen in a digital world, you are responsible for maintaining appropriate communication in all academic situations, including online. Netiquette is a set of guidelines for appropriate online communication. You are responsible for adhering to the following:

- Be sensitive to differences (cultural, political, religious beliefs, etc.) and respecting others' views and opinions.
- Online discussions may take the place of an in-class discussion, so be careful and thoughtful of your language.
- Avoid using all capital letters as it implies "shouting" on the Internet and is considered impolite or aggressive.
- Use appropriate grammar and spelling; avoid text message slang/short-cuts.

English:

You are here to speak English. When you are in the classroom, you must speak English at all times. If you do not speak English, your participation grade will be lowered.

NCC Resources for Students

Our course syllabus includes by extension the college policies and resources for students posted on Canvas. Visit **College Policies and Resources for Students** (link below) or scan the QR code to learn more about college policies that apply to all courses and the support services available to students.

<https://canvas.noctrl.edu/courses/2538/pages/college-policies-and-resources-for-students>

