CWRU Action Form for Majors/Minors/Programs/Sequences/Degrees

College/School: College of Arts and Sciences
Department: Office of the Dean/Department of English/Department of Psychological Sciences

PROPOSED:

___ major
___ minor
___X program
___ sequence
___ degree

TITLE: Academic English Proficiency for International Graduate Students

EFFECTIVE: Spring (semester) 2018 (year)

DESCRIPTION: The Academic English Proficiency Certificate for International Graduate Students provides English language development for students who need to raise their scores on the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL), International English Language Testing System (IELTS), or equivalent evaluation, for acceptance into a CWRU graduate degree program. Successful applicants will receive provisional acceptance into their graduate program, with the provision being satisfied by their achievement of the necessary language score. The program's English language and speech production curriculum will be taught by faculty in the College of Arts and Sciences (CAS) and will consist of two modules, each module lasting one semester and consisting of three three-credit courses.

Students will enroll in one module (one semester) or two modules (two semesters) depending on their incoming language achievement. Students will take courses that focus on academic writing and grammar, academic reading and vocabulary, academic communication and presentations, academic research and writing, and English speech production. Each module will have a unique curriculum, with module two being the more advanced. Additionally, students will enroll in a weekly required zero-credit workshop designed to assist students in engaging effectively at CWRU. In Module 1, students will attend a cultural workshop. Module 2 will concentrate specifically on TOEFL preparation.

Is this major/minor/program/sequence/degree: ___X new

___ modification

___ replacement

If modification or replacement please elaborate:

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

Does this change in major/minor/program/sequence/degree involve other departments? ___X Yes   ___No

If yes, which departments? Academic coursework will be offered by the Department of English and the Department of Psychological Sciences

Contact person/committee: Molly W. Berger, Associate Dean, College of Arts and Sciences

SIGNATURES:  DATE: September 8, 2016

Department Curriculum Chair(s)/Program Directors:  Molly W. Berger

Department Chair:  Christopher A. Hart

College/School Curriculum Committee Chair:  

College/School Dean(s):  

FSCUE Curriculum Subcommittee Chair:  

File copy sent to:  ___ Registrar  ___ Office of Undergraduate Studies/Graduate Studies  ___ Other:  

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1 See attached course descriptions.
Academic English Proficiency for International Graduate Students

Certificate Requirements

Module 1 – 9 Credits
Academic English Proficiency—Intermediate Certificate

ENGL 8XX (3 credits) – Academic Writing and Grammar
This course will develop the academic reading and writing skills necessary for graduate study in the United States. Graduate students will learn how to understand, summarize, respond to, and integrate graduate-level texts. The course provides a comprehensive review of the essential grammar for research writing.

ENGL 8XX (3 credits) – Academic Reading and Critical Thinking
Graduate students will develop strategies to process texts in their discipline more quickly, efficiently, and accurately, while at the same time reading more analytically and critically. Participants will expand their vocabulary for both speaking and reading fluency.

COSI 8XX (3 credits) – Speech Production I
Students will develop new speech habits and patterns that will improve production of spoken English. Specific sound and prosodic patterns used in Standard American English will be targeted. Each student will have an individualized plan based on testing.

Module 2 – 9 Credits
Academic English Proficiency—Advanced Certificate

ENGL 8XX (3 credits) – Advanced Academic Communication and Presentations
Students will develop the interactive speaking skills needed to effectively participate in seminar-style discussions and other formal group situations. The class will focus on the skills students need to organize and deliver presentations for academic and professional audiences. The course will reinforce and expand on oral communication strategies learned in the previous semester.

ENGL 8XX (3 credits) – Academic Research and Writing
This course focuses on the skills graduate students need to write research papers. It will reinforce reading strategies learning in the previous semester. Students will learn to organize ideas, synthesize material from written and other sources, and develop organizational and rhetorical skills appropriate to their discipline. Students will learn to use reflection and self-assessment to become more independent and competent writers. Activities include small group work, analysis of academic texts, writing in a variety of academic genres, revising and editing, and tutorial sessions.
COSI 8XX (3 credits) – Speech Production II
Students will work on refining speech production skills necessary for effective conversation and oral presentations in academic and professional environments, through direct individualized instruction and practice.

Additional requirements:
Module 1: non-credit cultural workshop
Module 2: non-credit TOEFL preparation workshop

Students must successfully complete all courses and workshops to earn certificate.

Module 2 students must attain required proficiency on TOEFL ITP and pass an oral proficiency evaluation for full admission to graduate program.

**Justification**

Attracting top graduate students from a breadth of countries is a priority for CWRU. Many international students who apply to CWRU are typically the elite academic students in their home countries; however, some do not have the required level of English language skills to successfully matriculate at CWRU or elsewhere, though their broader academic skills are strong. This program will target those students whose TOEFL/IELTS are close to CWRU’s requirements and whose prior academic success and training is commensurate with departmental standards.

The Academic English Proficiency program at CWRU will address the language and speech needs of international graduate students, promote greater recruitment success, and facilitate student success in graduate programs across the university while contributing to the diversity in graduate and professional schools.
TO: A&S Committee on Educational Programs (CEP)
FROM: Christopher Flint, Chair, Department of English, CWRU
DATE: September 8, 2016
SUBJECT: Academic English Proficiency Certificates for International Graduate Students

Dear Colleagues,

I am writing to convey the English Department’s enthusiastic support for the proposed Academic English Proficiency Certificate for International Graduate Students (AEP), a program of courses to prepare prospective international graduate students to succeed academically, and consequently, help them improve their language skills.

Because CWRU has, over the last few years, repeatedly turned away highly qualified graduate students in various disciplines who did not quite meet entrance requirements in the area of language skills, and because the university faces a highly competitive market in attracting international students, this strikes us as a very prudent measure. It would proactively engage the students prior to admission and transition them into university study at CWRU in an efficient manner, preparing them to succeed academically with the reading, writing, comprehension, analytical, and presentation skills they need. While AEP addresses TOEFL preparation, the main purpose is to enable candidates who would otherwise be desirable matriculants to succeed. Given the recent escalation in ESL course demands and the rise in the international population here and at other universities nationally, it would serve students who eventually go to CWRU as well as some who might go elsewhere.

The English Department would be delighted to collaborate with the Department of Psychological Sciences and with Communication Sciences faculty in teaching the necessary academic courses. As this is anticipated to be, if approved, a revenue producing initiative of the sort that Dean Taylor has recommended, it serves the interest of the Financial Recovery Plan. It models the best practices in the field and capitalizes on our experience working with similar undergraduate student needs here at CWRU. We see this as an opportunity to build a unified approach to the needs of existing and potential students with superior academic skills who would benefit from strengthening their proficiency in English. It would also enhance the level and diversity of scholarship at CWRU. For these, and other reasons, the Department of English urges adoption of the AEP initiative.

All best,
Chris
September 2, 2016

Professor Molly Berger  
Associate Dean  
College of Arts and Sciences  
Case Western Reserve University  
Cleveland, OH 44109

Dear Professor Berger:

As chair of the Department of Psychological Sciences I am expressing my support for the proposal titled, "Academic English Proficiency (AEP) Certificate for International Graduate Students." The program represents a carefully crafted, rigorous, thoughtful, and sustainable curriculum. In my opinion, the AEP program will provide essential training for international students who have demonstrated academic excellence in their home countries. These students have tremendous potential for success in our graduate programs if they have the opportunity to improve and practice their English language skills in an academic environment.

The communication sciences (COSI) faculty who will teach in this program are highly trained, experienced, and licensed speech language pathologists. They have completed training in The Compton Pronouncing English as a Second Language program and are Compton Certified. The Compton program has been empirically supported with an excellent track record demonstrating a 50% improvement rate in individual participants. The functional goal of the speech production portion of the course is to improve the clarity of each student’s speech with the goal of enhancing success in communication exchanges across academic and professional environments.

Our involvement in the AEP program will also benefit the graduate students in the COSI program. We offer a M.A. in communication sciences which is accredited by the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association. The degree is the terminal degree required for licensure in speech-language pathology. The graduate students enrolled in this program must complete 300 plus hours of supervised clinical practice. While we currently have externship placements throughout the Greater Cleveland Area, we are lacking opportunities for work in the area of speech production targeting accent reduction. Our involvement in the AEP program will
provide a significant number of our graduate students with valuable supervised clinical training in a high demand area.

Staffing the Compton program is labor intensive and will require 2 COSI faculty for spring 2018. Once the full program is running, 3 COSI faculty will be needed each semester to cover three sections (one of the first semester and two of the second semester running concurrently each term including summers). Throughout the program, supervised graduate students will also provide each student with additional instruction and feedback. In spring 2018, two additional part-time lecturers will be needed to cover courses that the faculty in the AEP would normally teach. For summer courses, the faculty will be compensated with summer salary. Once the program is fully implemented, the department will need the addition of the equivalent of a full-time lecturer to cover courses currently taught by COSI faculty who will be involved in the AEP. The proposed budget for the AEP includes funds to cover these staffing costs.

The COSI faculty and graduate students are quite enthusiastic about their potential involvement in the AEP program. I fully support their involvement.

Sincerely,

Lee Anne Thompson, Ph.D.
Professor and Chair
September 2, 2016

Cyrus Taylor, Dean
College of Arts and Sciences
Case Western Reserve University
10900 Euclid Avenue
Cleveland, OH 44106-7068

Re: Academic English Proficiency Certificate for International Graduate Students

Dear Dean Taylor:

I am writing this letter to confirm my enthusiastic support of the Academic English Proficiency Certificate Program for International Graduate Students (AEP), a collaborative effort between the College of Arts and Sciences, the Center for International Affairs, and the School of Graduate Studies.

AEP allows international students with promising academic backgrounds the opportunity to develop their English language skills while under provisional acceptance into a CWRU graduate degree program. If approved, AEP will fill an identified gap in current programing and allow more international graduate students to pursue a degree of study at CWRU. AEP will help advance Phase Two of the Center for International Affairs' strategic plan, which focuses on internationalization at the graduate and professional level. The program will also advance the priorities in the College of Art's and Sciences' strategic plan, one of which is to "re-envision our research enterprise and the future of graduate education so as to provide infrastructure, support, and resources that advance our vision to be a national and international prime mover of discovery, innovation, and creativity."

The Center for International offers its full support to the proposal of the Academic English Proficiency Certificate Program and looks forward to continued collaboration with the College of Arts and Sciences.

Very truly yours,

[Signature]

David Flesher
Vice Provost of International Affairs
September 2, 2016

Molly Berger, PhD  
Associate Dean  
College of Arts and Sciences

Dear Molly,

The School of Graduate Studies is writing to express its support for the Academic English Proficiency Certificates for International Graduate Students. SGS is happy to partner with the College of Arts and Sciences and the Center for International Affairs in attracting top graduate students from around the world.

This program promotes the university’s goals of internationalization and its goal to be an exceptional university for international graduates to live and study. It also aligns with the CIA initiatives to expand its relationship with international government agencies to facilitate the admission of a breadth of international graduate students.

The intensive English classes coupled with the cultural components will facilitate student success in our graduate programs while contributing to the diversity in the graduate student population.

Sincerely,

Lynmarie Hamel  
Senior Associate Dean  
School of Graduate
Case Western Reserve University
Academic English Proficiency Certificates for International Graduate Students

College of Arts and Sciences
Center for International Affairs
School of Graduate Studies

Introduction
The College of Arts and Sciences, the Center for International Affairs, and the School of Graduate Studies propose the Academic English Proficiency Program (AEP), a two-module post-baccalaureate certificate program for international students planning to attend graduate school at Case Western Reserve University (CWRU) or elsewhere in the United States. Each module is one semester (9 credits each), and students will be placed in the appropriate module based on TOEFL (Test of English as a Foreign Language) or IELTS (International English Language Test System) scores. Students who complete both modules will have taken two semesters (18 credit hours) of academic English language and speech production preparation. Students who complete module one will receive an "Academic English Proficiency-Intermediate" certificate. Students who complete module two will receive an "Academic English Proficiency-Advanced" certificate. Students must receive the advanced certificate and score appropriately on the TOEFL ITP in order to meet the provisional requirements and enroll in degree specific graduate courses at CWRU.

The target audience is international students with promising academic backgrounds in their fields of study but whose TOEFL scores are just below CWRU’s or other institutions’ language proficiency requirements. This program is designed to prepare international graduate students for success by strengthening English language academic and speech production skills beyond typical English as a Second Language (ESL) preparation. The program will focus on academic reading, writing, and communication, as well as cultural adaptation and TOEFL preparation. In the initial phase, this program will be open only to students whose degree programs are administered through the School of Graduate Studies. These include masters and Ph.D. programs in the College of Arts and Sciences, the Case School of Engineering, the Weatherhead School of Management, the School of Medicine, the Frances Payne Bolton School of Nursing, and the Jack, Joseph, and Morton Mandel School of Social Work. In the future, this program could expand to all CWRU graduate students as well as to external graduate students once the program is fully established.

The sponsors hope to have all approvals in place by the end of the Fall 2016 semester to allow for Spring 2017 marketing. Fall 2017 applications, and Spring 2018 matriculation. At 18 credits, this certificate program requires approval from the College of Arts and Sciences faculty, Faculty Senate, and Board of Trustees, but not the Ohio Department of Higher Education, which has a 21-credit hour minimum threshold. Program revenue is expected to cover all program expenses and thus the AEP will be self-sustaining into the future.
Program Description
The Academic English Proficiency Certificate for International Graduate Students is intended to provide English language development for students who need to raise their scores on the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL), International English Language Testing System (IELTS), or equivalent evaluation, for acceptance into a CWRU graduate degree program. Successful applicants will receive provisional acceptance into their graduate program, with the provision being satisfied by their achievement of the necessary language score. The Center for International Affairs (CIA) will administer this holistic program and address the needs of international students from provisional acceptance through enrollment. The program’s English language and speech production curriculum will be designed and taught by faculty in the College of Arts and Sciences (CAS) and will consist of two modules, each module lasting one semester and consisting of three three-credit courses.

Students will enroll in one module (one semester) or two modules (two semesters) depending on their incoming language achievement. Students will take courses that focus on academic writing and grammar, academic reading and vocabulary, academic communication and presentations, academic research and writing, and English speech production. Each module will have a unique curriculum, with module two being the more advanced. Additionally, students will enroll in a weekly required zero-credit workshop designed to assist students in engaging effectively at CWRU. In Module 1, students will attend a cultural workshop. Module 2 will concentrate specifically on TOEFL preparation. Faculty based in the Department of English and the Department of Psychological Sciences have designed the language and speech curriculum based on current and best practices. The CIA will sponsor the cultural workshop and TOEFL preparation.

The program’s goal is to help students with TOEFL (75-89) or IELTS (6-6.5) scores prepare for successful entry into graduate degree programs. The credits will not count towards any degree but will earn a certificate. Full-time enrollment (a minimum of 9 credits per semester) meets the educational requirements necessary for international students to secure an F-1 visa.

Content Summary
The Academic English Proficiency Program is designed to equip students for whom English is a second language with the skills to succeed in an academic setting. While students enrolled in AEP will improve their language-based communicative skills, the AEP is not an immersion program whose intended outcome is for learners to build their second language proficiency through communicative learning. Rather, the AEP’s goals are to develop the academic skills that students need in order to succeed academically, professionally, and personally while studying in the United States. Studies have demonstrated that students who complete AEPs outperform those who do not when measured by disciplinary programmatic success, graduation

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1 See attached course descriptions.
rates, and overall GPA. [See Appendix p. 15 for literature review of AEP effectiveness and comparison between AEP and immersion programs.] While enrolled in Module 2, students will participate in an additional non-credit course that will specifically prepare them for the final TOEFL assessment.

The English AEP courses for writing, reading, and advanced communication use an English for Specific Purposes (or ESP) approach, which is multidisciplinary and investigates similarities in writing, reading, and communicating across disciplines and fields. This approach allows instructors to teach types of academic tasks common to graduate-level higher education. Each of these writing, reading, and advanced communication courses incorporates a task-based, genre-based curriculum where students develop transferable academic language skills germane to a number of disciplines.

The Speech Production two-module course is an integral component of the AEP curriculum. Modules 1 and 2 of this course focus on articulation and voice production with the goal to improve clarity of speech for effective oral communication in academic and professional environments. This two-module course complements the courses of the AEP program that focus on language comprehension and formulation. In contrast to the other courses in the AEP curriculum, the Speech Production course modules focus on the production of spoken English. Effective verbal communication in the academic and professional environments requires a speaker to both appropriately formulate the content of the information they wish to express and then verbalize it clearly, so the listener can easily understand the content. The functional goal of the Speech Production course is to improve the clarity of each student's speech resulting in success in communication exchanges across academic and professional environments. Detailed descriptions of the courses for Modules 1 and 2 are attached at the end of this proposal.

**Faculty and department information**
Molly Berger, Associate Dean, will serve as the interim faculty sponsor for the College of Arts and Sciences through program development, after which time, a faculty lead will be identified. The Department of English and the Department of Psychological Sciences will be responsible for teaching the academic courses. In developing this proposal, we have consulted with faculty from the Department of English, including Christopher Flint, chair, Kim Emmons, Hee-Seung Kang, T. Kenny Fountain, and Ana Codita. We have consulted with Lee Thompson, chair of Psychological Sciences, and with Communication Sciences (COSI) faculty Angela Ciccio, Jean Nisenbom, and Kay McNeal. Each of the COSI faculty is Compton Certified in second language speech production. The Center for International Affairs will be responsible for the cultural workshops and sponsoring the TOEFL preparation. The School of Graduate Studies fully supports the initiative and is collaborating with the CAS and CIA in developing processes for provisional admission and integration with CIA's administrative structure.
**Why this program is important to CWRU**
Attracting top graduate students from a breadth of countries is a priority for CWRU. Many international students who apply to CWRU are typically the elite academic students in their home countries; however, some do not have the required level of English language skills to successfully matriculate at CWRU or elsewhere, though their broader academic skills are strong. These students often come with full-pay scholarships and/or stipends from their home countries. This program will target those students whose TOEFL/IELTS are close to CWRU’s requirements and whose prior academic success and training is commensurate with departmental standards.

The Academic English Proficiency program at CWRU will address the language and speech needs of international graduate students, promote greater recruitment success, and facilitate student success in graduate programs across the university while contributing to the diversity in graduate and professional schools.

**Audience**
Several countries offer fully funded scholarship opportunities for a year of language study designed to send their top students to American universities for graduate degree programs. Developing partnerships with these governments is a priority for CWRU. These students will contribute to the level of scholarship at CWRU and add diversity and culture to our programs. An additional benefit is that these students have the potential to become leaders upon their return to their home countries, which strengthens governmental ties and the CWRU brand around the world. One of the conditions for students receiving these scholarships is that they are fully or provisionally admitted into a graduate degree program at a host institution. CWRU currently does not have a policy to admit graduate students who have not met the minimum English language requirements, currently set by a TOEFL of 90 or above or an IELTS score of 7 or above.

**Provisional Admission to Graduate Programs**
The School of Graduate Studies has in place a process for admitting students with provisions. These provisions might include such things as incomplete applications or other required documentation. The College of Arts and Sciences, Center for International Affairs, and School of Graduate Studies will collaborate to design a specific process to provisionally admit academically qualified graduate students for whom the Academic English Proficiency Program presents an opportunity. Students must meet the following requirements to meet the provisions:

1. Successful completion of the proposed post-baccalaureate certificate program in Academic English Proficiency and
2. Attainment of the required proficiency scores through an assessment administered by the Center for International Affairs under the aegis of the AEP.
The certificate program will enable the School of Graduate Studies to provisionally admit high achieving fully-funded or self-funded graduate students with English language needs to CWRU graduate programs under the provision that their first semester or first two semesters be spent developing their English language skills. Students will be placed into a one- or two-semester track, each with a unique language learning module, depending upon their entry-level score on the TOEFL/IELTS. Upon successful completion of the required semester/s and final English language evaluation using the institutional TOEFL, students will be fully admitted into their academic programs at CWRU, assuming all other conditions for admission are met as determined by the School of Graduate Studies.

Students who do not successfully complete the program and/or score appropriately on the institutional TOEFL will be denied admission and no longer be eligible to take classes at CWRU. Students cannot be on provisional admission for longer than two semesters. Students will sign a statement prior to enrollment in AEP indicating their understanding and acceptance of this policy.

Because students enrolled in the AEP will hold provisional status and will not be fully admitted, they will not be taking disciplinary courses, nor will they be working in laboratories or other sites of graduate training. Their focus will be on strengthening their academic English abilities.

As per usual practice, academic departments and the School of Graduate Studies will make all admission decisions. Academic departments will choose whether or not to participate in the provisional admission program. While general TOEFL/IELTS cut scores for admission into each module will be pre-determined, academic departments can set their own final language evaluation standards based on current TOEFL/IELTS requirements. Once these standards are determined, they will be available in a summary chart for students applying for the program.

An AEP provisional admission assumes that:

- Students considered for the program have strong/desirable academic backgrounds in their chosen field of study, as determined by department faculty
- Students meet all academic requirements for admission into a CWRU graduate program, with the exception of English language skills
- Departments and the School of Graduate Studies decide whether to admit students provisionally on English language achievement
- Students remain in provisional status until they demonstrate English language proficiency. Students have a maximum of two semesters to meet the language proficiency requirements. If they fail to demonstrate English language proficiency, then full admission will be denied
- Students meet the requirements to receive an F-1 student visa, including the requirement to show sufficient funding
Upon completion of the AEP program and achievement of the necessary English language skills, students will be fully admitted into the graduate program, if all other conditions (such as a complete application, etc.) are met. Language skills will be evaluated through a paper-based exam, the TOEFL ITP.

Proposed TOEFL/IELTS Scores for Admission and Final Evaluation

The proposed TOEFL scores for admission to the AEP are as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Admission Status</th>
<th>TOEFL Internet Based Test (IbT) Score</th>
<th>IELTS</th>
<th>Academic English Program Requirements</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Eligible for full admission</td>
<td>90</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>None required</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Provisional Admission</td>
<td>84-89</td>
<td>6.5</td>
<td>Module Two (one semester)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Provisional Admission</td>
<td>75-83</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>Modules One and Two (two semesters)</td>
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<tr>
<td>No Admission</td>
<td>74 or Below</td>
<td>5.5 or below</td>
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</tr>
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</table>

Once students are admitted into the AEP certificate program, they will be evaluated at the completion of Module Two by using the TOEFL ITP, a paper-based evaluation administered by CWRU but scored by Educational Testing Services (ETS), the creators of TOEFL. Students are required to score an approximate equivalent of a 90 on the TEOFL IbT. Because the TOEFL ITP does not include a speaking component, students will also be required to pass an oral proficiency evaluation conducted by trained faculty.

Administration

The Academic English Proficiency Certificate program for International Graduate Students will be administered as a collaboration between the Center for...
International Affairs, the College of Arts and Sciences, and the School of Graduate Studies as described below.

The Center for International Affairs will:
- Create marketing materials about graduate student provisional admittance and participating CWRU graduate programs
- Recruit students to the Academic English Proficiency Certificate program and to the graduate programs that participate
- Work with the School of Graduate Studies and the departments to facilitate the application process and admissions
- Facilitate student agreement forms that clarify their provisional status and the requirements for full admission
- Provide immigration and cultural support to the provisionally admitted students
- Conduct initial orientations each semester for students admitted to the program
- Assist the students in registering for the appropriate English language preparatory courses
- Track admitted students through the provisional process, keeping the departments and the School of Graduate Studies informed of student progress
- Conduct a weekly cultural workshop for provisionally admitted students and sponsor the TOEFL preparation workshop
- Provide services and support related to student life
- Administer the Module 2 TOEFL ITP and oral proficiency evaluation of the students
- Provide a recommendation letter to the School of Graduate Studies for full admission or a denial of full admission based on the final English language evaluation.
- Manage student appeals

The College of Arts and Sciences will:
- Provide faculty leadership
- Design and teach the English language and speech production preparatory curriculum
- Ensure that courses are staffed appropriately and adequately with highly trained experts
- Provide English language advising to students
- Collaborate with the Center for International Affairs to design the oral evaluation rubric and process
- Award the Intermediate and Advanced Certificates

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5 See attached process.
The School of Graduate Studies will:
- Facilitate the application and admission process for the provisional students
- Determine that students meet all other admission requirements for graduate programs

Participating Academic Departments and Units will:
- Admit students into the programs provisionally upon successful completion of the Academic English Proficiency program
- Hold space for the provisional students so that the students are able to begin their academic program as planned
- Provide academic advising to students in their last semester of provisional status

Analysis of competing programs
There are many English language programs in the United States that cater to a wide range of ages and audiences, i.e. high school students, college students, members of the community. While each peer institution that was surveyed (Johns Hopkins, Emory, Washington University, Rochester, Vanderbilt) offers English as a Second Language courses and programs to support their international students, these are short-term or semester-long non-credit courses (with or without cost) taken while matriculated or in a summer immersion program prior to matriculation. In the northeast Ohio region, Cleveland State University and Cuyahoga Community College offer similar programs to those surveyed. Only Kent State University offers a program somewhat similar to the proposed AEP program in year-round seven-week credit-bearing modules with required core skills courses (speaking, listening, writing, reading, grammar) and electives (pronunciation, American culture).

This proposal focuses exclusively on semester-long tuition-bearing credit courses specifically for graduate students who have been provisionally accepted to CWRU graduate programs. It can also accommodate students accepted provisionally to programs at other universities, once our program reputation is established through ongoing international relationships. In addition, CWRU graduate programs may recommend that fully admitted students enroll in selected courses should language deficiencies prevent adequate progress in degree programs.

Relationship of proposal to strategic plans
The AEP addresses two specific goals of the College of Arts and Sciences as articulated in its strategic plan. It aligns with Priority #1 to develop, grow, sustain, and evaluate new and ongoing strategic initiatives that serve College and University missions and advance the College’s vision. And it advances Priority #3 for graduate education by enriching and enlarging the pool of superlative graduate candidates eligible for College programs. It promotes the university’s goal of internationalization by expanding the numbers of international graduate students and their countries of origin. It also expands possibilities for eventual interdisciplinary collaboration as students study together in cohorts.
Resources required
In its two-year start-up phase, July 2016-June 2018, AEP draws on existing institutional resources and also requires an investment of $128,264 for training, curriculum development, marketing, and administrative expenses across Fiscal Years 2017 and 2018 and $100,490 in instructional and other program expenses for the Spring 2018 semester. CAS and CIA will assume program start-up expenses, which will be covered by program tuition from Spring 2018 tuition revenue. In FY 2018, the program is expected to generate @$30,000 net revenue (after indirecs) with 20 students enrolled (unduplicated headcount).

In its first year of steady-state, July 2018-June 2019, total program operational expenses, including both program administration and instruction, are expected to be approximately $424,000, continuing annually thereafter. In FY 2019, the program is expected to generate $694,000 net revenue (after indirecs) with 75 students enrolled (duplicated headcount).

Total program operational expenses, including increased indirect expenses for the CAS, are expected to be completely supported by program tuition. Program tuition will flow to the CAS, which in turn will transfer revenue to the CIA for incurred program expenses.

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Startup/FY 2017-FY 2018</th>
<th>Expected Costs</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Faculty training and curriculum development</td>
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<td>Program development and marketing</td>
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<td>Instructional costs</td>
<td>$95,505</td>
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<td>Cultural workshops and language testing</td>
<td>$4,985</td>
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<td><strong>TOTAL OPERATIONAL EXPENSES</strong></td>
<td><strong>$228,754</strong></td>
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Total Expense                       $228,754
Expected Total Revenue              $328,860

**Program revenue after expenses**  $100,106
  less CAS increased indirect expenses at 47.5%* $70,437
**Program net revenue after indirecs**  $29,668

* will not be assessed in same program year. Shown for reference
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Steady State FY 2019</th>
<th>Expected Costs</th>
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<tr>
<td>Program administration</td>
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<tr>
<td>Instructional costs</td>
<td>$301,459</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cultural workshops and language testing</td>
<td>$17,080</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL OPERATIONAL EXPENSES</strong></td>
<td><strong>$423,754</strong></td>
</tr>
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</table>

Total Expense  $423,754  
Expected Total Revenue  $1,270,350  

**Program revenue after expenses**  $846,596  
  less CAS increased indirect expenses at 47.5%*  $152,657  

**Program net revenue after indirects**  $693,939  

* will not be assessed in same program year. Shown for reference

**Timeline**
The first year of implementation will be limited to a schedule based on anticipated Spring 2018 academic matriculation. For greatest flexibility and to meet the needs of students, the program’s steady state operations plan to offer both modules all terms, including summer. While the College does not normally admit graduate students in the Spring semester, other schools do. The following application timeline demonstrates options for academic program start dates in either fall or spring. Departments would determine which start date, or both, they are willing to matriculate students. AEP courses can be offered regularly to meet the needs of all cohorts.
**Timeline by Cohorts**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cohort 1</th>
<th>(TOEFL 75-83 or IELTS 6)</th>
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<tr>
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<tr>
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<td>Module 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Summer, 2018</td>
<td>Module 2</td>
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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>Summer, 2018</td>
<td>Module 2</td>
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<td>Module 1</td>
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<td>Module 2</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fall, 2018</td>
<td>Module 2</td>
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<td>Fall, 2018</td>
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<td>Cohort 2a</td>
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<td>Cohort 3a</td>
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APPENDIX

- Response to Committee Questions (p. 13)
- The Effectiveness of Academic English Programs Literature Review (p.15)
- Comparison of Immersion Programs and EAPs (p. 18)
- Course Descriptions – English (p. 19)
- Course Descriptions – Communication Sciences (p. 24)

Response to Committee Questions

The following questions summarize those raised by the College of Arts and Sciences committees that reviewed a preliminary proposal. These committees included the Graduate Studies Committee, the Budget Subcommittee, the College Strategic Planning Steering Committee, and the Committee on Educational Programs.

Is this an immersion program?
The Academic English Proficiency program for International Graduate Students is not an immersion program. It is designed to prepare students for whom English is a second language to succeed in an academic setting and also to raise their TOEFL scores. This question is addressed in the proposal narrative and explained further in the appendix.

Will there be a housing component?
No.

How do we know this will work?
A literature review on the effectiveness of Academic English Programs is included in the appendix.

Will students receive discipline-specific instruction?
While the content is designed more generally, faculty will incorporate discipline-specific documents in the coursework to develop as much as possible relevant proficiency. Specifically, the English language courses for writing, reading, and advanced communication use an English for Specific Purposes (or ESP) approach, which investigates similarities in writing, reading, and communicating across disciplines and fields. This approach allows instructors to teach types of academic tasks common to graduate-level higher education. In all of the courses, the content is designed so that students develop transferable academic language skills germane to a number of disciplines.
What will students’ interaction with departments be?
As students complete Module 2 and demonstrate progress, they will begin to be advised by their prospective departments. Because students are not fully admitted to their programs, they will not take disciplinary courses or engage in disciplinary work such as working in laboratories.
The Effectiveness of Academic English Programs Literature Review

Academic English Programs (AEP) are pre-sessional courses that equip non-native English-speaking students with the skills to succeed in an academic setting. AEPs were first introduced into the U.S. system of higher education in the 1970s and have been a crucial aspect in preparing international students for academic study in the United States. Unlike English as a Second Language (ESL) programs, AEPs focus on the academic skills that students will need in order to succeed academically, professionally, and personally in the U.S. With the adoption of Academic English Programs comes the inevitable question of their effectiveness and validity. Furthermore, if these programs are indeed effective, from whose perspective has that been determined? While the student is the largest stakeholder, universities and higher education institutions have a stake in the ability of Academic English Programs to adequately prepare international students for academic success in the U.S.

University Perspective

Universities and higher education institutions benefit from having international students enrolled in their programs, but more than simply maintaining an international presence, universities must ensure that its international student population succeed in their program of study. When students are ill-prepared for the rigors of higher education, the university suffers from low retention and graduation rates. It is therefore the responsibility of the university to ensure that international students understand the components of academic English, as taught in English for Academic Purposes (EAP) Programs, as opposed to communicative English, which is taught in general English or ESL programs. Goldenberg and Colman found that international students with no academic English preparation “will have virtually no chance of performing at a level remotely similar to that of their English-speaking peers” (2010) and that this is “one of the strongest rationales for providing academic instruction” (2010) otherwise students will “fall behind in their academic progress if they are only instructed in English, but their English skills are inadequate for full-on academic instruction” (2010).

An important aspect of Academic English Programs is task/content-based instruction that is used to ensure that the skills that are learned are transferable and able to be applied in the students program of study. According to James’s revision of 41 studies, there was “evidence of instruction leading to transfer” (2013) and he concluded that “various kinds of learning can transfer from EAP instruction to students’ work in other courses, including learning related to reading, writing, listening, speaking, and academic study in general, for example managing time, finding resources, preparing for tests, and conducting analyses” (James, 2013). Furthermore, such transfer lead to “various kinds of learning, including learning that is relatively specific (e.g., knowledge or words, phonemes) as well as learning that is more general (e.g., knowledge of grammar rules, reading and writing strategies)” (James, 2013). Finally, James found that the transfer of skills from AEPs
“can have a positive impact on the quality of students’ work” (2013). While the evidence of transfer of skills is clear, the question of long term impact on students’ academic career remains. Kasper and Song (as cited by James) compared students who received content-based EAP instruction to students who did not and “found that the former group outperformed the latter in terms of success in subsequent English courses, graduation rates, and overall GPA” (2013).

**Student Perspective**

International students have the most to gain, or lose, from participating in Academic English Programs. It is prudent to determine whether or not they are able to identify any significant gains in their level of preparedness when entering their program of study. According to one study, “most L2 (second language) students had received EAP support, and in general, they felt that it was necessary and helpful. Typically such language support developed academic skills, connected L2 students to academic disciplines, provided feedback on their English language development, and introduced them to recurring academic practices” (Fox, Cheng, Berman, Song, & Myles, 2006). How exactly are 'necessary' and 'helpful' qualifiable? Fox et al. delves deeper into more precise and measurable ways in which students felt they had benefited from EAP courses. Her research concludes that

L2 students generally thought they were in a better position than other students who did not take EAP courses. They indicated that EAP courses improved their English skills in reading, writing, speaking, and listening. EAP courses prepared students to enter universities and helped them to deal with the disciplinary classes and understand cultural differences in academic learning, including how to use library, how to take notes, how to write academic papers, how to quote others' work, how to critique, and how to think independently. EAP courses helped students deal with the language and academic expectations such as the questioning process during lectures. EAP courses also identified the level of English required for university and clarified the role English would play their university life. Thus, students had an idea of what universities were like. EAP courses, consequently, helped students get “better grades” and feel “more comfortable speaking English” (2006)

There is also the issue of international students’ level of cultural and academic acculturation. With the expansion of internationalization initiatives, more international students are choosing to study in U.S. universities. In addition to ensuring that students are positioned for academic success, universities also need to address personal success as it pertains to cultural adjustment and acculturation. Fox et al. conducted a study that indicated that “developing both learning and social skills, making strategic choices regarding academic and social supports that develop English and facilitate the acculturation process, and receiving formal EAP instruction are key factors in the successful academic acculturation of L2 students” (2006). She also indicated that international students in EAP courses have “more opportunity to form relationships with English speaking peers and feel included in
university life" (2006). Her research also indicated that students are “more motivated to succeed in credit-bearing academic courses” (2006) and that “as regular students they are required to perform academically, yet they have the EAP course to enhance their ability to do so” (2006).

**Structuring EAP Programs for Success**

The research on the effectiveness of Academic English Programs illustrates both the perceived and actual benefits to non-native English students. There was additional research conducted on how to best structure courses in order to optimize student learning in EAP programs and address inherent difficulties of academic English learning. Gillett and Wray found that

> Listening to lectures, and other students in seminar situations, is difficult for students. It is especially difficult for students to listen and take relevant notes. A typical approach to teaching listening for academic purposes would involve doing large amounts of in-class listening, probably pre-recorded, helping the students to be more aware of typical language used in lectures as well as strategies for dealing with difficulties. Reading is similar with students doing large amounts of in-class and out of class reading, as well as the lecturer helping the students to be more aware of typical language used in academic texts, text structure and strategies for reading critically and dealing with difficulties. A typical approach to teaching spoken English for academic purposes would again be tasked based with students taking part in seminar discussions and giving presentations, both supported by class teaching and individual tutorials (2006)

By heeding the current research on the benefits of AEPs and best practices in course structure, universities and higher education institutions will be able to prepare their international students to succeed in the academic, professional, and personal ventures.

**Works Cited**


## Comparison of Immersion Programs and EAPs

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Immersion Programs</th>
<th>English for Academic Purposes Programs</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Classroom instruction in L2 (second language)</td>
<td>Instruction focuses on skills to succeed in academic context</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Special topics and content taught in L2</td>
<td>Focus on area of study or subject (e.g. business English)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Support for language is present in community</td>
<td>Develops skills and academic practices</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Separation of L1 and L2 during instructional time (L1: first language; L2: second language)</td>
<td>Instruction in four skills (reading, writing, speaking, listening) with emphasis on learners’ academic needs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Communicative learning</td>
<td>Content/task-based instruction</td>
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</table>

Immersive Language Programs focus on the holistic development of a second language through complete linguistic and cultural ‘immersion.’ The intended outcome of immersive programs is for learners to build their second language proficiency and cultural awareness through communicative learning. Classroom instruction is often solely in the target language with an emphasis on special topics rather than linguistic skills.

English for Academic Purposes (EAP) programs focus on language development in order to succeed in an academic setting. Classroom instruction is often task-based and pertains to learners’ area of study and academic needs.
Course Descriptions

Courses offered by the Department of English

Hee-Seung Kang, Ana Codita, and T. Kenny Fountain
September 2, 2016

English Courses for AEP

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Module 1</th>
<th>Module 2</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Academic writing and grammar</td>
<td>Advanced academic communication and presentations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Academic reading and vocabulary</td>
<td>Academic research and writing</td>
</tr>
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</table>

General Rationale
All writing, reading, and advanced communication courses use an English for Specific Purposes (or ESP) approach, which is multidisciplinary and investigates similarities in writing, reading, and communicating across disciplines and fields. This approach allows instructors to teach types of academic tasks common to graduate-level higher education. Each of these writing, reading, and advanced communication courses incorporates a task-based, genre-based curriculum where students develop transferable academic language skills germane to a number of disciplines.

Class Descriptions and Learning Outcomes

Module 1

**Academic Writing and Grammar: 3 Credits**
The course is designed to develop the academic reading and writing skills necessary for graduate study in the United States. Graduate students will learn how to understand, summarize, respond to, and integrate graduate-level texts (from academic journals, high-quality journalism, professional websites, and textbooks). In addition, the course provides a comprehensive review of the essential grammar for research writing.

**Learning Outcomes**
After successfully completing this course, students will be able to do the following:

Writing
• Write sentences with varied and appropriate grammar, structure, and length
• Write paragraphs using different organizational structures
• Summarize, paraphrase, cite, document, and use sources appropriately
• Produce common types of academic rhetorical moves
• Write a variety of graduate-type texts effectively, including summaries, analyses, and persuasion-driven writing (Genres covered in class might include short written summaries and critiques, data commentaries, and abstracts)
• Use a writing process including topic selection and narrowing, gathering information, organizing and outlining, drafting, reviewing, and revising

Grammar
• Write structurally accurate clauses and sentences
• Write effectively using parallelism, coordination, subordination, and embedding
• Choose appropriate verb tense, aspect, and voice (passive or active)
• Identify one’s own errors of grammar and usage

Possible Texts


Course Rationale
In line with courses offered by other AE programs nation-wide, this course integrates two commonly connected academic skills, writing and grammar, and focuses on the foundational components of those skills in order for students to develop discourse competence in writing. In other words, the writing instruction and grammar instruction in this course are paired so that students learn them in a meaningful, communicative context where each mutually supports the other. Through structured writing activities, this class helps students investigate the language and grammar choices that are typical of their own academic disciplines.

Academic Reading and Critical Thinking: 3 Credits
In this class, graduate students develop strategies to process texts in their discipline more quickly, efficiently, and accurately, while at the same time reading more analytically and critically. Participants expand their vocabulary for both speaking and reading fluency.

Learning Outcomes
After successfully completing this course, students will be able to do the following:

Reading and Vocabulary
- Identify main ideas, structure, and purpose of reading passages
- Recognize and analyze the role of various textual or rhetorical features in academic genres
- Use various reading strategies (c.f. pre-reading process, skimming, scanning, inferencing, summarizing) and read at a speed suitable for graduate study
- Learn the appropriate disciplinary strategies used when reading academic research articles
- Recognize and evaluate arguments and evidence
- Respond critically to academic texts through class discussion and writing tasks (e.g., asking and responding to questions, negotiating and correcting misunderstanding, responding to opposing viewpoints, etc.)
- Understand academic vocabulary by using context, word parts, field-specific vocabulary and the Academic Word List (Coxhead, 2000)
- Know the basics of using corpora or online concordances to be able to find authentic examples of language use. (Both corpora and online concordance provide examples of how a specific word or phrase is used in all kinds of contexts.)

Possible Texts

Course Rationale
In line with other AE programs, this course teaches basic reading comprehension and analysis common to most academic contexts. The teaching of this academic skill is joined with the teaching of vocabulary and the use of concordances and other resources to provide students with foundational strategies for processing and critically analyzing general academic texts. In addition, this class challenges students to actively engage in what they read by first developing a clear understanding of the author’s ideas, then evaluating the arguments and evidence, and finally forming and expressing their own opinions.

**Module 2**

**Advanced Academic Communication and Presentations: 3 Credits**
In this course, graduate students develop the interactive speaking skills needed to effectively participate in seminar-style discussions and other formal group situations. In addition, the class focuses on the skills international graduate students
need to organize and deliver presentations for academic and professional audiences. This class will reinforce and expand on oral communication strategies students learned in the previous semester.

**Learning Outcomes**

After successfully completing this course, students will be able do the following:

- Use specific language and skills for effective interactive communication including:
  - Active listening
  - Asking questions to clarify or seek information
  - Interrupting and holding the floor
  - Stating and elaborating a viewpoint
- Organize and deliver discipline-specific presentations effectively using various strategies including:
  - Techniques for analyzing and responding to audience needs and situational/rhetorical constraints
  - Techniques for engaging audiences
  - Organizational strategies for major presentation types (using slideware as well as poster presentations)
  - Effective verbal, visual, and nonverbal communication skills
  - Leading and participating in productive Q&A sessions

**Possible Texts**


**Course Rationale**

Building on various courses from the previous module, this course focuses on advanced academic presentation skills that students will need to present their ideas in various contexts, from in-class discussions to conference presentations. By coupling instruction on, for example, leading and participating in discussions with responding to questions and designing presentation slides and posters, students will better understand how these forms of literacy shape and support each other. When teaching this course, the instructors will draw on the vast research in English for Specific Purposes (ESP) and Writing In the Disciplines (WID), both of which study the oral and visual communication practices specific to a number of disciplines.
**Academic Research and Writing: 3 Credits**

The course focuses on the skills graduate students need to write research papers. This class will reinforce reading strategies students learned in the previous semester and graduate students will learn to organize ideas, synthesize material from written and other sources, and develop organizational and rhetorical skills appropriate to their discipline. Students will also learn to use reflection and self-assessment to become more independent and competent writers. This class will reinforce and expand on writing strategies students learned in the previous semester. Activities include small group work, analysis of academic texts, writing in a variety of academic genres, revising and editing, and tutorial sessions.

**Learning Outcomes**

After successfully completing this course, students will be able to do the following:

- Understand and reproduce academic genre conventions common to their discipline
- Develop organizational and rhetorical features appropriate to their discipline
- Provide, explain, and support persuasive evidence
- Construct a research-based paper by synthesizing source material appropriate to their discipline (e.g., published articles, original research data, books, archival materials)
- Write a variety of graduate-level genres effectively (e.g., annotated bibliography, literature review, and research proposal)
- Use a writing process including topic selection and narrowing, gathering information, organizing and outlining, drafting, reviewing, and revising
- Improve paragraph- and sentence-level flow and coherence in writing
- Reflect and self-assess their writing to become more independent and competent writers
- Learn the major principles of academic integrity in their discipline
- Analyze academic writing in terms of rhetorical purpose, audience, content, genre, pattern of development, and stylistic features
- Develop critical reading skills by analyzing and responding to advanced graduate-level texts

**Possible Texts**


**Course Rationale**

Building on the writing and grammar course from the previous module, this course focuses on the more advanced writing skills students will need for a number of academic disciplines. Here students engage in the research of their disciplines in order to recognize the written genres, conventions, and norms of their disciplines.
and to produce research-based writing that engages with those disciplinary elements. By incorporating research in ESP and WID, the course will provide students with writing and reading strategies to produce and process texts in their discipline more quickly, efficiently, and accurately.

Courses offered by Communication Sciences

AEP Curriculum Proposal for COSI
Speech Production Course
Modules 1 & 2

Description and Justification:
The Speech Production two-module course is an integral component of the AEP curriculum. Module I and II of this course focus on articulation and voice production with the goal being to improve clarity of speech for effective oral communication in academic and professional environments. This two-module course complements the courses of the AEP program that focus on language comprehension and formulation. In contrast to the other courses in the AEP curriculum the Speech Production course modules focus on the production of spoken English. Effective verbal communication in the academic and professional environments requires a speaker to both appropriately formulate the content of the information they wish to express and then verbalize it clearly, so the listener can easily understand the content. The functional goal of the Speech Production course is to improve the clarity of each student’s speech resulting in success in communication exchanges across academic and professional environments.

This course is based on The Compton Pronouncing English as a Second Language Program. This program is a “research based method of teaching non-native and regional American English speakers how to produce standard pronunciation patterns of American English spoken in the U.S.” (Compton 2016) The program has a 50% improvement rate in individual participants when the program is followed. Instructors must be Compton Certified and three members of the COSI Department completed the certification training in July 2016.

Each module in our program will include small group instruction with individualized initial assessment and feedback, at-home practice, and large group carryover activities.

Module 1:
Course Name: Speech Production I
Total Credits: 3

In this course, the provisional graduate student will “develop new speech habits and patterns” that will improve production of spoken English. (Compton, 2016). In module 1 specific sound and prosodic patterns used in Standard American English will be targeted. Each student will have an individualized plan based on testing. The focus of each individualized program in Module 1 will include:

1. discrimination of identified troublesome sounds of English
2. production of identified troublesome sounds in words and sentences
3. production of English rhythms and intonation patterns
4. transfer of skills into conversation. (Compton 2016)

These skills will assist the student in improving intelligibility of speech so that they can functionally be understood by others in the academic and professional environments.

In this module each provisional graduate student will be involved in 90 minutes of class time and 60 minutes per day of home practice. Home practice will be recorded daily and monitored with feedback provided outside of the classroom at a minimum of twice per week. Classroom instruction will be provided in small groups with a maximum of 4 students per group. A general outline for each class period in Module 1 is provided below:

Module 1: 15 weeks (Based on Compton Program)
Wk. 1 Individual spoken Language Assessment, Course introduction
Wk. 2 Review areas of need, introduce 2 target sounds
Wk. 3 3 new target sounds
Wk. 4 3 new target sounds
Wk. 5 3 new target sounds
Wk. 6 2 new target sounds, production strategy 1 (articulatory precision)
Wk. 7 2 new target sounds, production strategy 2 (volume & prosody)
Wk. 8 Mid-semester review of all target sounds
Wk. 9 Target sound practice/strategy use in structured reading (sentences)
Wk. 10 Target sound practice/strategy use in structured reading (paragraphs)
Wk. 11 Target sound practice/strategy use in monologue
Wk. 12 Target sound practice/strategy use in conversation
Wk. 13 Target sound practice/strategy use with academic discipline-specific materials (frequently occurring words and sentences)
Wk. 14 Final assessment of sound production, academic discipline-specific practice continued
Wk. 15 Final progress, Final academic discipline-specific short presentations

Outcomes:
Following successful completion of this course module:
1. the student will demonstrate a minimum of 50% improvement in speech production scores from baseline.
2. the student will demonstrate the ability to continue to practice sound production to refine any additional sounds identified that have not yet demonstrated consistent change. This will be measured via 90% compliance with home practice assignments.

Module 2.
Course Name: Speech Production II
Total Credits: 3

In this module the provisional graduate student will work on refining speech production skills necessary for effective conversation and oral presentations in the academic and professional environments, through direct individualized instruction and practice. Each student enrolled will have an individualized plan based on testing of spoken language at the word, sentence and conversational level. The focus in Module 2 will include:
1. instruction on use of appropriate vocal register and projection techniques
2. development of the skills necessary to analyze one’s own speech production skills including articulation, volume, rate, and prosody consistent with Standard American English
3. practice of speech production skills in conversation and short presentations.

Successful completion of this module will assist the student in improving speech production in conversation and formal presentations, leading to increased successful communication in the academic and professional environments.

In this module each provisional graduate student will be involved in 90 minutes of class time and weekly structured individualized assignments. Classroom instruction will be provided in small groups with a maximum of 4 students per group. A general outline for each class period in Module 2 is provided below:

Module 2: 15 weeks
Wk. 1 Individual assessment of spoken language skills through the conversational level
Wk. 2 Review areas of need, introduce presentation strategies (volume, rate, prosody, articulation)
Wk. 3 Presentation #1, within small groups, self-analysis
Wk. 4 Presentation #2, within small groups, self-analysis
Wk. 5 Presentation #3, within small groups, self-analysis
Wk. 6 Presentation #4, within small groups, self-analysis
Wk. 7 Individual short presentations in small groups with peer-based feedback
Wk. 8  Presentation #5, within small groups, self-analysis
Wk. 9  Presentation #6, within small groups, self-analysis
Wk. 10 Presentation #7, within small groups, self-analysis
Wk. 11 Presentation #8, within small groups, self-analysis
Wk. 12 Individual short presentations in small group with peer-based feedback
Wk. 13  Carryover practice, outside environment
Wk. 14  Final assessment of oral presentation skills, peer & instructor grades
Wk. 15  Final carryover activity, class selected

Outcomes:
Following successful completion of this course module:
  1. the student will demonstrate 90% agreement between self and instructor ratings of speech production skills.
  2. the student will demonstrate a minimum of 30% improvement from pretest scores on speech production skills at all levels tested.