

Bergen Community College
Division of Arts, Humanities, and Wellness
Department of ESL Speech
Student Guide
SPE 006: American Language Pronunciation

Please turn off all electronic devices before entering the classroom. Texting, camera use, recorders, and cell phones, etc. are not allowed during class.

Course Description:

This course is designed to help non-native speakers of North American English improve their American English pronunciation. Basic drill material on all the individual sounds, the more important combinations of the English sound system, and the study of intonation and stress in ordinary speech patterns will be provided for practice.

Course Goals:

Increased clarity of speech
Increase or gain confidence in speaking English in various situations
Increase listening comprehension skills
Improve presentation skills

Text: *Well Said Intro: Pronunciation for Clear Communication*, Linda Grant

(You are not required to buy this book, although you may find it helpful to do so. You can purchase it from the BCC Bookstore or the Barnes and Noble website, or you can borrow it from the BCC library.)

Recommended: *Longman Dictionary of American English for English Language Learners* (any edition)

Course Requirements: Students are expected to speak voluntarily during each class meeting. Students who do not voluntarily speak for at least 90% of the total classes for the semester will not pass this class. Participating means contributing to class discussions, giving oral presentations, participating in group or paired activities, reviewing homework assignments, etc. Your class participation will be noted at each class meeting, so come to class prepared to speak. You are responsible for all assigned course work and must be prepared with assignments when they are due. Homework or other assignments will not be accepted late, and there will be no make-up projects, make-up orals, or make-ups for other missed assignments. If you are absent or late, contact a classmate to find out what you have missed so that you can return to class prepared with that day's assignment; **DO NOT CALL or EMAIL ME FOR AN ASSIGNMENT.** Being absent or late does not excuse you from assignments.

Attendance Policy:

Students are expected to attend class regularly and punctually. Attendance will be taken at the beginning of class. You are allowed only 2 absences in this class. If you enter class late, please quietly take a seat. At the end of the class, please let me know that you were present so that I can change your absence to a present. Do not wait until the next class because unless I can personally verify that you were present, I will not change the absence. To be excused for any absence over the allowable 2, you must present documentation in the form of an official letterhead from the doctor, immigration, motor vehicles, funeral director, etc. Excessive absences without documentation will result in a failing grade.

Grading Policy:

Class Participation: 60%

Oral Presentations and Homework: 40%

(It is strongly suggested that you attend the ELRC in E156 for additional practice and help with pronunciation and speaking throughout the semester.)

Tentative Schedule

(Students are expected to practice and study the phonetic alphabet throughout the semester as a running homework assignment.)

Weeks 1-9:

Depending on class needs, we will follow the book chapters skipping some chapters that may not be necessary. I will attempt to cover at least two chapters per class meeting: one from Part 1, and another chapter (in order) from Part 2. Chapter coverage will be synchronized whenever possible. Not everything in each chapter will be covered. We will begin with Chapters 1 and 2 in Part 1 and Supplements 1 and 2 in Part 2. (You can also make copies of pages of the book by getting the book from the Reserve Desk in the library.)

Week 10:

Spring Break: No classes. March 26-30.

Weeks 11-15:

Oral Projects, continuation of book chapters

Student and Faculty Support Services

ELRC (English Language Resource Center)	Room E156	201-612-5292
The Office of Specialized Services (for students with disabilities)	Room S131	201-612-5270
The Sidney Silverman Library—Reference Desk	Room L226	201-447-7436