

# Program Design

## Levels

The ELI offers the following six levels of intensive English study:

- Level 1: low beginning
- Level 2: high beginning
- Level 3: low intermediate
- Level 4: high intermediate
- Level 5: low advanced
- Level 6: high advanced

Students are placed into classes at the appropriate levels of study based on their results on the ELI Placement Exam, which is administered on the first day of each session.

## Core Classes

Core classes, which meet for a total of 20 hours per week, are the foundation of the ELI program of study. “Required core classes” are offered each session at each level and consist of the following:

Reading/Writing	Levels 1–6	9 hours/week
Speaking/Listening	Levels 1–6	6 hours/week
Structure (grammar)	Levels 1–6	5 hours/week

A student may be placed into a different level for each required core class, depending on his or her ability in that area. For example, a student may have Reading/Writing 3, Speaking/Listening 4, and Structure 2. Students advance from level to level as a result of the grades they earn in each of their required core classes; students who excel may be eligible to skip a level.

The ELI also offers a variety of advanced elective classes which are available to students in Levels 4, 5, and 6. For example, Oral Communication is designed for students who wish to concentrate on improving their speaking and listening in English, and TOEFL Preparation is available to students who wish to focus on improving their TOEFL scores.

## Culturally Speaking

Culturally Speaking is an optional conversation class in which ELI students meet with US students for informal conversation, primarily about cultural topics. The class meets for 2 hours per week. Culturally Speaking is held during ELI Fall and Spring sessions only; it is not offered during ELI Summer sessions.

## Friday Seminars

ELI Friday Seminars are offered on most Friday afternoons during each IEP session. These seminars, which meet for 1.5–2 hours, are optional and free of charge to students enrolled in the IEP. A schedule of the seminars available each session is available at the beginning of the session, and students who wish to attend a particular seminar must sign up in the ELI office by 3:00 pm on the Thursday before the seminar. Seminars must have a minimum of 10 participants in order to make, and students will be notified by email each Thursday afternoon as to which seminars have made and which have been cancelled for that particular Friday.

Examples of seminar topics include the following: Advertising, American/Alabama Football, American Idioms, Spelling in English, Civil Rights in Alabama, Celebrating Halloween, Celebrating Thanksgiving, and Geocaching.

## Student Activities

Each session, the ELI plans a variety of activities that allow students to visit areas in Alabama and in the southeastern United States, practice their English skills, and become better acquainted with their teachers and each other. Typical student activities include movies, concerts, shopping, recreational sports, and weekend trips to nearby locations-the beach, the mountains, and cities such as Atlanta, New Orleans, and Memphis.

## Study Center

When not in class, ELI students may use the ELI Study Center, where they can check out books, listen to audio materials, and watch videos, including popular movies. In addition, students can receive individual instruction and assistance from qualified tutors in the ELI Study Center.

## Class Schedules

For core classes, students typically have RW (Reading/Writing) and SL (Speaking/Listening) classes in the morning and STR (Structure) classes in the early afternoon. Some core classes have alternate meeting times.

Elective courses are scheduled in several different time slots, and Cultural Speaking (CS) courses are scheduled in the afternoons.

## SAMPLE IEP CLASS SCHEDULE

### Summer Sessions

	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
8:00 AM					
8:30 AM					
9:00 AM	RW or elective	RW or elective	RW or elective	RW or elective	RW or elective
9:30 AM					
10:00 AM					
10:30 AM					
11:00 AM					
11:25 AM	SL or elective	SL or elective	SL or elective	SL or elective	SL or elective
12:00 PM					
12:45 PM					
1:15 PM					
1:45 PM	STR or elective	STR or elective	STR or elective	STR or elective	Friday Afternoon Seminars (optional)
2:30 PM					
3:15 PM	OPTIONAL: Homework, Study Center, Computer Lab, Recreation Center, cultural activities	OPTIONAL: Homework, Study Center, Computer Lab, Recreation Center, cultural activities	OPTIONAL: Homework, Study Center, Computer Lab, Recreation Center, cultural activities	OPTIONAL: Homework, Study Center, Computer Lab, Recreation Center, cultural activities	OPTIONAL: Study Center, Computer Lab, Recreation Center, cultural activities
4:00 PM					
4:30 PM					
5:00 PM					
5:30 PM					

CORE CLASSES: RW = Reading/Writing, SL = Speaking/Listening, STR = Structure (grammar)

#### Notes

- 1) Students register from available class times each session and typically take all three core classes.
- 2) Core classes in all levels (Levels 1 - 6) are offered each session.
- 3) Electives are typically limited to particular levels of study and are not offered in each time slot every session.