

## Community English Program – Fall, 2014

### *Teachers College, Columbia University*

**Instructor:** Fei Deng, Qi Zhang

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**Level:** Intermediate 6

**Classes:** Monday, Wednesday, Thursday

**Class time:** 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

**Classroom:** Monday & Wednesday: Grace Dodge Hall 273A; Thursday: Thorndike 157

#### **Course Description:**

The course is designed to help Intermediate English language learners develop English listening, speaking, reading, writing, and comprehension skills that is required for everyday life. Using a theme-based teaching approach, students will learn grammar, pronunciation as well as relevant vocabulary to meet daily needs. Each class will be centered on a theme in order to centralize learning and functions associated with each particular topic.

#### **About the CEP**

The Community Language Program (CLP) is a unique and integral part of the TESOL and Applied Linguistics Programs at Teachers College, Columbia University. It provides English as a second language and foreign language instruction to adult learners of diverse nationalities and backgrounds. In addition, the CLP serves as an on- site language education lab in which TESOL and Applied Linguistics faculty and students enrolled in the programs teach the courses and use the CLP as a setting for empirical inquiry. Here at Teachers College we believe that observation and classroom research are the best way to learn about how we teach and gain insights into how teaching might take place. Thus, we encourage observation and classroom research and want people to use it as a tool for learning. Ongoing assessment and program evaluation allow us to make the CLP a better program.

#### **Important dates:**

Week 1	Monday, Sept 22	First day of classes
	Friday, Sept 26	<b>Last day for refunds and transfers</b>
Week 9	Monday, Wednesday and Thursday, Nov 24, 26 & 27	Thanksgiving break: No classes
Week 10	Monday or Wednesday, Dec 1 or 3	Final exam
	Thursday, Dec 4	Last day of classes

**Course Textbook and Workbook:** (available at the Columbia University Bookstore at 115th and Broadway)

1. **On Target 2 Intermediate** (2nd edition). (2000). Longman.
2. **On Target 2 Workbook** (2nd edition). (2000). Longman.

\* We will cover units 9 – 12.

**Course Objectives:**

At the end of the course students will be able to develop:

- Listening and speaking skills through classroom participation, discussions, and oral presentations
- Reading comprehension skills through reading and interpreting texts on and from everyday life sources
- Writing skills
- Grammar by focusing and practicing form, meaning, and use.

**Course Requirements:**

Unit tests 1, 2, 3: 15% each (45% total)

Final test: 30%

Attendance and Participation: 10%

Homework: 15%

**Attendance Policy:**

If a student misses **5 or more** classes, s/he cannot pass the course. If a student is late for **10 classes**, s/he cannot pass the course.

**Participation:**

Self-Learning Presentation: During each class, students are required to note down at least two new words which the teachers did not explain. After class, students need to use dictionary, the Internet, or any other resources to understand the meaning and usage of the words, and then present these words in the next class. We will randomly ask two students to do this mini presentation in the beginning of each class. So, please be prepared when you come to class! The presentation should take less than 5 minutes.

**Tests:**

There will be 3 unit tests. Each test will be around 40 minutes long and will cover 1 unit. The final exam will be in Week 10. Please see the Approximate Schedule for dates.

**Grading:**

A+/-	Excellent	A+ 97-100%	A 94-96%	A- 90-93%
B+/-	Good	B+ 87-89%	B 84-86%	B- 80-83%
C+/-	Satisfactory	C+ 77-79%	C 73-76%	C- 70-72%
Fail/Repeat	Poor (no pass)	69% or Below		
W	Withdrawal – (With permission from the teacher and the Director, the student withdrew from the course due to extenuating circumstances)			

**Classroom Norms:**

1. Don't use cell phone for calls, texts, or entertainment in the classroom. Try to keep cell phone just for dictionaries.
2. Don't bring food to the classroom. Drinks are fine.
3. Don't be late for class.
4. Finish homework on time. Points will be marked off for late submission.
5. Be respectful of other people and their cultural backgrounds.
6. Participate in class activities.

**Approximate Schedule**

<b>Week</b>	<b>Theme</b>	<b>Grammar</b>	<b>Listening and Speaking</b>	<b>Reading and Writing</b>	<b>Test Dates</b>
1 & 2	Unit 9: Home Sweet Home	Getting things done; Expressing purpose	Listening to confirm predictions;  Pronunciation: /i/ versus /I/  Speaking: How to...  Asking for clarification and clarifying	Reading: Play Palace  Writing: A Descriptive Paragraph	Test 1: Oct 1 or 2
3 & 4	Unit 10: Mysteries of Science	Speculating About the Past; Expressing Past	Listening: Tropical Rain Forests – Recognizing facts and opinions;	Reading: Tricks of Nature – Distinguish	Test 2: Oct 15 or 16

		Ability or Missed Opportunity;  Drawing Logical Conclusions About the Past	Pronunciation: Reducing <i>Have</i> with Past Modals  Speaking: Influential People – Describing the Opposite of Past Reality	g Between Facts and Opinion  Writing: Using Formal Language	
5 & 6	Unit 11: Sadder but Wiser	Using Past Modals: Advice, Criticism, and Regret;  Speculating About the Past: The Third Conditional	Listening: Job Performance – Making inferences  Pronunciation: Reducing <i>Have</i> with Negative Past Modals  Speaking: Influential People – Describing the Opposite of Past Reality  Speaking: Influential People – Describing the Opposite of Past Reality	Reading: See Ya! – Personalizing  Writing: a Persuasive Paragraph	Test 3: Oct 29 or 30
7 & 8	Unit 12: Wishful Thinking	Wishing for Changes to the Present;  Wishing for Changes to the Past;  Wishing for Changes to the Future	Listening: Share a Wish – Recognizing Speaker's Roles  Pronunciation: Saying Content Words Together  Speaking: A Wish – Evaluating and Justifying	Reading: UNICEF – Working for a Better World – Outlining a Text  Writing: A Persuasive Letter	
10	Revision and Final Exam				Final Exam: Dec 1 or 3

**Program Policies:**

The College will make reasonable accommodations for persons with documented disabilities. Students are encouraged to contact the Office of Access and Services for Individuals with Disabilities (OASID) for information about registering with the office. You can reach OASID by email at [oasid@tc.columbia.edu](mailto:oasid@tc.columbia.edu), stop by 163 Thorndike Hall or call 212-678-3689. Services are available only to students who are registered and submit appropriate documentation. As your instructor, I am happy to discuss specific needs with you as well.

It is the policy of Teachers College to respect its members' observance of their major religious holidays. Students should notify instructors at the beginning of the semester about their wishes to observe holidays on days when class sessions are scheduled. Where academic scheduling conflicts prove unavoidable, no student will be penalized for absence due to religious reasons, and alternative means will be sought for satisfying the academic requirements involved. If a suitable arrangement cannot be worked out between the student and the instructor, students and instructors should consult the Program Director. If an additional appeal is needed, it may be taken to the Provost.

*Have a great semester!*