

National Tsing Hua University
Upper Intermediate English III — Listening and Speaking
Fall 2023 (112-1)

Instructor: James C.L. Wu, PhD
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Phone: 03-5715131 ext. 34423
Class Time: Fridays 10:10-12:00PM
Location: GEN II 綜二 203

Student Placement: Proficient
Office: General Building II 206 (中心)
Office Hours: By appointment
Course Number: LANG103040

Course Description

This course teaches students to use English for everyday situations and purposes related to school, social life, work, and leisure. Throughout the course, students are presented with natural and useful language. In addition, students will have the opportunity to personalize the language they learn, make use of their own knowledge and experiences, and express their ideas and opinions. Students in this course will work as individuals, in pairs/groups, or with the whole class. The activities involve information sharing and role playing to encourage real communication.

Course Objective

This course aims at stimulating students to share their ideas, opinions, and experiences with one another through class activities and group facilitations. Authentic scenarios seen or heard in university lectures, interviews, podcasts, and classroom discussions will act as thought-provoking contexts for students to discuss the main ideas, details, inferences, pronunciation, etc. and apply that information to a new situation. In addition, this course aids students in developing their fluency in English and building active listening and thinking skills by incorporating TED Talks. The main concern is to train students to speak and listen for meaning, for a purpose, and for realistic situations. This course will also build on the listening and oral skills learned before Freshman year to improve all-round confidence and competence.

Textbook

Christien Lee (2017) **21st Century Communication, Listening, Speaking, and Critical Thinking**. Student Book 4. National Geographic Learning & Cengage Learning. ISBN: 978-1-305-95547-9

Additional Materials

1. Online workbook MyELT myelt.heinle.com
2. Class material site eeClass <https://eeclass.nthu.edu.tw/>

University Student Core Competency Indicators

25%	1. The ability to communicate and express oneself in English
25%	2. The ability to think critically and organize ideas logically in English
25%	3. The knowledge of English learning strategies and techniques
15%	4. Global views of English and multicultural diversity

10%	5. The ability to use existing English learning resources and development of independent self-learning habits
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Requirements & Rules

1. No cheating or plagiarism.
2. There will be no make-up exams unless you have valid and official reasons for absence beforehand.
3. The handouts I give you should be kept at least to the end of this semester for later reference or final exam.
4. Mobile devices are for educational purposes only.
5. AI utilization for this course is conditionally open. You are encouraged to use AI for collaboration and mutual learning to facilitate your understanding the content, vocabulary, author's background, and themes of each short story. However, all oral and written assignments must not be AI generated.
6. No extra sign-ups are allowed after the class reaches maximum class limit. See Center for English Education for any inquiries.

Course Evaluation

Attendance and class participation 20%

Listening Session & Quizzes 15%

Individual Presentations 20%

Course Facilitation (Group Project) 20%

Final Exam 25%

Attendance & Class Participation

Students are expected to come to class every week and actively participate in class discussions. Please notify the instructor of your absence. If you're absent, it is your responsibility to find out what you have missed. ONE absence from class is granted to each student to account for genuine emergencies, but FIVE points will be deducted from the semester grade for each absence following the first occurrence. I will take attendance once in a while. If you miss more than FOUR classes, you will be dropped from the course. Please note that there is no distinction between "excused" or "unexcused" absences, except for extreme situations clarified by department, college or university policy.

Listening Session & Quizzes

The listening session aims to help students gain clarity on the main point(s) each TED Talk in our assigned videos by engaging them to think critically and reflect on the central message of the speaker. Students will complete a listening role sheet beforehand and take one of the following roles: director, decoder, connector, summarizer, and illustrator. Students must upload their worksheets on eclass before every class gather in groups to reflect on the listening videos. The instructor will review your work at the end of each class meeting. Your score for this section is based on your participation in the group discussions and listening assignments. On top of the listening role sheets, the goal of the unit quizzes is to assist you in understanding the central ideas and vocabulary in each chapter. Quizzes will include a range of different listening, speaking skill comprehension and vocabulary structures.

Individual Presentations

Each student will be responsible for 1 individual talk (12 minutes) during the semester. The instructor will allow students the freedom to select their own subjects to discuss under the topic heading. Students will be required to inform the instructor of their subjects the week before their presentation. If they cannot decide on a subject, the instructor will recommend relevant issues for presentation. Students are required to submit supporting materials online – e.g. PowerPoint Presentations BEFORE classes begin.

Course Facilitation (Group work)

Students will work with several partners to facilitate a 40-minute course discussion. The purpose of this facilitation is to aid the class in understanding the central concepts in each book chapter. Please review a section in the unit your group thinks is important, but more importantly, encourage class discussion. Your facilitation should include activities or thought-provoking questions to allow a lively debate throughout your group's presentation. You group leader is required to send the instructor the package that enlists the activities, questions, and materials (e.g., PowerPoints, handouts, video clips...) that you will use while facilitating the discussion 24 hours before the class time.

Final Exam

Mainly on listening, vocabulary, and speaking

60% on designated units #3, 5 & 8 (listening & vocabulary)

20% on self-study units #2, 4 & 6 (Part 2 TED Talks for listening only)

20% on interactive speaking with the instructor and a partner

SYLLABUS

WEEK	Date	Course Progress	Activities & Assignments
1	9/15	Course Introduction	
2	9/22	Unit 8	
3	9/29	Holiday — No class (Moon Festival)	
4	10/6	Unit 8 Individual Presentations x 3	LS 1
5	10/13	Unit 8 Individual Presentations x 3	
6	10/20	Unit 5 Individual Presentations x 2	Unit 8 Quiz
7	10/27	Unit 5 Individual Presentations x 3	LS 2
8	11/3	Unit 5 Individual Presentations x 3	
9	11/10	Midterm Review Individual Presentations x 2	Unit 5 Quiz
10	11/17	Unit 3 Individual Presentations x 3	
11	11/24	Unit 3 Individual Presentations x 3	LS 3
12	12/1	Unit 3 Individual Presentations x 3	
13	12/8	In-class course facilitation [1]	
14	12/15	In-class course facilitation [2]	
15	12/22	In-class course facilitation [3]	
16	12/29	Course Review	Unit 3 Quiz
17	1/5	Speaking Exam (Final)	
18	1/12	Final Exam (units 2,3,4,5,6,8)	

*The instructor reserves the right to make modifications to the syllabus and/or grading criteria throughout the semester.