Intensive English Institute
Brief Course Descriptions

Level 400 (High Intermediate)

Level 400 required courses

1. **Listening and Speaking** (6 hours/week)
   In this course, students listen to materials from a variety of sources and contexts and develop skills to help them understand the meaning and purpose of the speaker as well as how the speaker uses specific language to help them communicate ideas clearly. Students will also use information from the listenings and their own experiences to think critically about topics and to participate in a variety of speaking tasks such as presentations, discussions, and group projects. There is a focus on speaking with accuracy and clarity.

2. **Reading and Writing** (6 hours/week)
   In this course, students focus on understanding the connections of ideas in reading and on clearly expressing connections of ideas in writing. There is a variety of types of reading from different contexts and in different styles, both from a course textbook and from outside sources. Students read not only to understand meanings but also to understand the organization of the texts. Regular writing assignments focus on expressing ideas in paragraphs in an organized way so that relationships between sentences are clear. There is also regular work with expanding vocabulary and understanding the relationship between vocabulary and context. Students also read a short novel over the course of the semester.

3. **Grammar** (4 hours/week)
   The aims of this course are for students to be able to use grammar to build more complex sentences to express themselves and for students to refine understanding of grammar systems in order to improve accuracy and fluency in writing and speaking. Regular exercises come from the course textbook as well as outside sources, and students practice grammar skills related to the work of the Reading / Writing and Listening / Speaking courses.

Level 400 elective courses
(Students must take ONE elective course. Each course is 4 hours/week.)

**College Writing**
This course focuses on developing basic paragraph writing skills with the aim of building an academic essay. Students learn the basics of such writing processes as generating and organizing ideas, the writing of paragraphs, and editing/re-writing their work. Both general English language skills as well as specific writing skills will be covered in this class.

**Pronunciation**
In this course, students do targeted work on pronouncing the sounds of English as well as work with rhythm, stress and intonation in English. In class, students work to understand the principles of the English sound system and practice with various speaking and listening activities. Students are also expected to complete independent work outside of class in order to improve accuracy in English pronunciation.
Introduction to the TOEFL iBT
This course combines listening, speaking, reading and writing exercises and assignments that will help learners to begin to prepare for the TOEFL iBT. Basic communication and vocabulary building skills will be developed through in-class exercises, homework exercises, quizzes, and pair and small group activities. Students will learn about the iBT test format, test sections, and the different types of test tasks. This course is a first step in identifying the skills needed for the iBT; however, it usually takes more than one semester for intermediate-level students to attain an English proficiency needed for success in an academic setting or in the TOEFL iBT.

*Occasionally, 400 level students will be allowed to enroll in the Advanced Pronunciation 500-600 level elective course. This is done on a case-by-case basis when student enrollments in the 400 Pronunciation elective are below the required number to form a class.