

## Achievement Scale for University Literacies Courses

**ELI 013: University Literacies 1** is a low-beginner level ESL writing and reading course focusing on the following course objectives:

- Produce phrases and some simple sentences and demonstrate some control over the simple sentence structures
- Show some control of basic, high-frequency vocabulary
- Demonstrate basic knowledge of capitalization and punctuation rules
- Demonstrate some control of full stops and commas as well as subject-verb agreement
- Demonstrate emerging skills to create a basic paragraph with some difficulty differentiating between topics and supporting sentences
- Demonstrate ability to write and respond with multiple sentences to simple questions on familiar topics but may lack logical connections and organization
- Show emerging use of discourse markers
- Use pre-reading activities and read and respond to very short discrete texts on predictable and familiar topics
- Demonstrate ability to read real life text, such as menus, train/bus schedules, and signs
- Develop word recognition skills to identify key words in readings
- Demonstrate ability to identify the main idea and some key details of a short passage on a concrete topic
- Demonstrate ability to answer closed and open-ended questions based on readings appropriate to the level
- Use visuals to predict content and use contextual clues to understand vocabulary

Interpretation:

Students in this course will demonstrate ability to write multiple sentences on a single topic using new vocabulary and grammatical structures. Students also will demonstrate reading comprehension of basic, modified ESL texts.

**ELI 023: University Literacies 2** is a high-beginner level ESL writing and reading course focusing on the following course objectives:

- Use vocabulary related to concrete concepts about everyday topics with details appropriate to the level
- Show some control over a variety of word forms
- Demonstrate some control over simple and progressive verb tenses and modals
- Demonstrate some control of full stops and commas as well as subject-verb agreement

- Show some control of semicolons, colons, and quotation marks
- Demonstrate ability to express ideas in paragraph forms by utilizing pre-writing activities and signal words
- Construct coherent and cohesive a multi-paragraph essay by using repetition of key nouns and substitutes, consistent pronouns, transitional devices and logical order in a variety of organizational patterns (eg. compare/contrast, cause/effect, argumentative)
- Demonstrate ability to respond with multiple sentences on a familiar topics which show emerging logical connections and organization by developing a topic, controlling idea, supportive sentences with concluding sentence
- Provide personal examples as support in narrative paragraphs
- Demonstrate ability to show some control of discourse markers
- Develop pre-reading skills to read and respond to short, simple texts containing familiar vocabulary
- Identify main idea and most details and their relationships to main idea
- Identify key words in readings on a concrete topic
- Demonstrate ability to answer most closed comprehension questions and some open-ended questions based on readings
- Demonstrate ability to use background knowledge and activate schema with pictures and graphics
- Develop decoding and critical reading skills
- Develop vocabulary building skills

Interpretation:

Students in this course will demonstrate ability to write developed paragraphs using new vocabulary and grammatical structures. Students also will demonstrate reading comprehension of longer ESL adapted texts.

**ELI 033: University Literacies 3** is a low-intermediate level ESL writing and reading course focusing on the following course objectives:

- Use a variety of word forms with errors that generally do not impede comprehension
- Incorporate compound and complex sentence structures
- Demonstrate control of simple and progressive tenses while incorporating perfectives
- Demonstrate ability to produce connected discourse most of the time
- Use transitions and increase accuracy with prepositions
- Use graphic organizers to write clear, well-organized outlines and paragraphs

- Create a basic essay with: an introduction paragraph with a simple thesis and some related background; a body paragraph(s) with mostly related sentences and discernible topic sentences; and a simple concluding paragraph.
- Demonstrate ability to write body paragraphs that provide some support for thesis
- Demonstrate ability to write with some cohesive discourse markers that help connect ideas
- Incorporate freewriting and journaling as brainstorming techniques
- Demonstrate ability to edit for grammar, spelling, punctuation and subject-verb agreement
- Identify main idea or theme and key supporting details of a multi-paragraph fiction, non-fiction, and/or intermediate-level academic texts
- Identify new vocabulary words and their functions in a reading
- Identify some rhetorical patterns (i.e., comparison/contrast, classification, description)
- Demonstrate ability to identify the order of main details from multi-paragraph readings
- Use background knowledge of subject to make inferences and activate schema with pictures, charts, and graphs
- Read and discuss short newspaper and magazine articles about current and familiar topics

Interpretation:

Students in this course will demonstrate ability to write developed paragraphs and short essays using new vocabulary and grammatical structures. Students also will demonstrate reading comprehension of longer ESL adapted texts in a variety of genres.

**ELI 043: University Literacies 4** is a high-intermediate level ESL writing and reading course focusing on the following course objectives:

- Demonstrate ability to use a wide range of general vocabulary and a limited but effective range of specialized vocabulary
- Use compound, complex, and compound-complex sentence structures
- Use parallel structure for symmetry and style
- Incorporate complex grammar structures (i.e., gerunds, infinitives, noun, adjective, adverb clauses.)
- Show some emerging use and control of semicolons, colons, and quotation marks
- Use quote or reported speech to relay information from readings with proper punctuation
- Construct coherent and cohesive a multi-paragraph essay with an introduction, body and conclusion and demonstrate ability to express ideas in narrative, expository, comparison, cause/effect, and/or argument
- Create introductory paragraph(s) with a relevant hook and background information and thesis statement; body paragraphs with topic sentences with clear topics and controlling ideas with evidence provided; and cohesive concluding paragraph(s) which effectively summarize main points

- Demonstrate ability to use and show control of discourse markers related to rhetorical genres to show connections between ideas
- Demonstrate ability to summarize and paraphrase from readings/sources
- Understand the importance of citing sources with in-text citation and use basic reporting verbs as well as providing bibliography
- Demonstrate ability to read in chunks for ease of comprehension
- Identify main idea as well as minor and major details of readings
- Identify the functions of parts of a reading passage and read critically for fact, opinion and logic
- Read and recognize different purposes of readings (i.e., persuasion, compare/contrast/ cause/effect, problem/solution)
- Determine meaning of vocabulary words through morphological information
- Skim the text for thesis, topic sentences, and concluding sentences to infer gist
- Identify key words within texts to predict content of readings
- Demonstrate ability to adjust reading strategies to purpose
- Recognize content and significance of news, articles, and reports on topics connected with areas of professional studies

Interpretation:

Students in this course will demonstrate ability to use low-advanced grammatical forms with accuracy, effectiveness of communicative meaning, and appropriateness in use during reading, writing, listening, and speaking tasks.

**ELI 053: University Literacies 5** is a low-advanced level ESL writing and reading course focusing on the following course objectives:

- Use a wide variety of word forms and synonyms
- Use complex grammatical structures (i.e., real vs. unreal conditionals, clause structures, active vs. passive voice, complex verb tenses)
- Form noun, adverb, and adjective clauses as well as participles and participial phrases (reduced noun, adverb, and relative—restrictive & nonrestrictive—clauses)
- Demonstrate some ability to move between time frames using appropriate verb tenses
- Show some control of semicolons, colons, and quotation marks
- Use direct and indirect quotations as supportive details; use of statistics
- Construct coherent and cohesive a multi-paragraph essay by using repetition of key nouns and substitutes, consistent pronouns, transitional devices and logical order in a variety of organizational patterns (eg. compare/contrast, cause/effect, argumentative)
- Construct an effective thesis statement supported by a body of paragraphs

- Adhere to academic essay format
- Demonstrate effective summarizing and paraphrasing of outside sources
- Cite sources with in-text citation (APA or MLA) and use basic reporting verbs
- Read and respond to academic texts with some guidance
- Identify main idea or theme and key supporting details in literary and academic texts
- Identify key words and synonyms within texts to predict content of readings
- Recognize patterns of organization (eg. listing, sequence, compare/contrast/ cause/effect, problem/solution, extended definition)
- Use context clues to assist comprehension of linguistically complex texts
- Skim and scan to infer gist
- identify author's arguments, reliability and bias; additionally, the purpose and tone in a variety of texts (i.e., literary, academic, social)
- Choose appropriate vocabulary to express some shades of meaning with some guidance

Interpretation:

Students in this course will demonstrate ability to write multi-paragraph essays that incorporate outside sources and include complex vocabulary and grammatical structures. Students also will demonstrate reading comprehension of authentic texts of a variety of genres.

**ELI 063: Advanced Literacies 6** is an advanced level ESL writing and reading course focusing on the following course objectives:

- Use a wide variety of word forms and synonyms
- Use advanced grammatical structures (i.e., hypothetical conditionals, subjunctive *that* clause, inverted negative adverbials.)
- Form noun, adverb, and adjective clauses as well as participles and participial phrases and use in initial, middle, and terminal sentential position
- Demonstrate some ability to move between time frames using appropriate verb tenses
- Demonstrate ability to organize sentences for variety and emphasis
- Use articles with increasing accuracy and self-editing
- Demonstrate ability to paraphrase, summarize and integrate quotations
- Write clear definitions, reports and critiques
- Demonstrate ability to revise for coherence, development and organization
- Recognize instances in which special word order is needed
- Use specialized field specific terms by providing extended definitions
- Show some control of semicolons, colons, and quotation marks

- Demonstrate ability to edit with greater attention to details and organization
- Employ proper citation of sources according to the style manual required by academic discipline
- Read and respond to texts which are conceptually abstract and linguistically complex, and/or which addresses unfamiliar topics and situations with minimal assistance
- Demonstrate ability to make appropriate and accurate inferences
- Predict and identify the author's tone, purpose, and meaning from content in a linguistically complex text
- Recognize properties of literature
- Analyze, interpret, synthesize and critique information from different sources on the similar genres
- Consider evidence and counterevidence in research to craft arguments with appeal to logos, ethos, and pathos
- Locate outside sources from a variety of sources and evaluate such sources for relevancy, reliability, currency, authorship, and purpose

Interpretation:

Students in this course will demonstrate ability to write longer essays that include scholarly sources and research utilizing complex vocabulary and grammatical structures. Students also will demonstrate reading comprehension of complex authentic texts of a variety of genres.

### **Achievement Scale for University Interactions Courses**

**ELI 012: University Interactions 1** is a low-beginner level ESL speaking and listening course focusing on the following course objectives:

- Demonstrate ability to answer most closed questions in response to listenings appropriate at this level
- Engage in common speech acts for everyday communication needs, such as asking for directions, clarification requests, comprehension checks, or confirmation checks to repair breakdown
- Develop an awareness of vowel and consonant production in order to form and recognize the sounds of English
- Demonstrate ability to pronounce segmentals even though pronunciation errors are frequent
- Participate in structured social situations using formulaic speech (i.e., greetings)
- Demonstrate ability to ask and answer Yes/No and formulaic information questions (i.e., *What time is it?*)
- Recognize word syllables, contractions and some common reductions

- Demonstrate emerging ability to tell a story or describe a place using basic chronological and spatial discourse markers
- Use limited vocabulary to talk about events
- Demonstrate intonation contours in questions

Interpretation:

Students in this course will demonstrate ability to understand and take part in spoken interactions on everyday subjects while focusing on basic vocabulary, pronunciation, word stress, and grammatical functions.

**ELI 022: University Interactions 2** is a high-beginner level ESL speaking and listening course focusing on the following course objectives:

- Demonstrate understanding of main ideas and some details in listenings with modified speech
- Identify individual words in spoken sentences and short conversations
- Understand natural speech and respond to modified speech on every day familiar settings
- Demonstrate ability to incorporate simple conjunctions and transitions to connect ideas in conversations or storytelling
- Use simple verb forms correctly and increase accuracy of production
- Create and respond to *Yes/No* as well as *Wh-* questions
- Demonstrate ability to pronounce segmental with some communication breakdowns
- Understand syllable and word stress
- Demonstrate ability to separate and count syllables
- Demonstrate intonation contours in questions

Interpretation:

Students in this course will demonstrate ability to understand modified listenings and actively take part in basic spoken interactions while focusing on vocabulary, pronunciation, word stress, and grammatical functions.

**ELI 032: University Interactions 3** is a low-intermediate level ESL speaking and listening course focusing on the following course objectives:

- Identify main ideas and most details in modified listenings
- Identify some main ideas and details in authentic listenings

- Use generally appropriate language; show emerging control of discourse markers; and use everyday speech acts (i.e., greeting/farewell, agreeing/disagreeing, requesting/giving information)
- Demonstrate ability to maintain conversations with some hesitation
- Engage in open discussion on social and modified academic topics
- Follow multi-step oral instructions (modified/scaffolded)
- Communicate with few segmental problems
- Demonstrate ability to explain and support topic with non-formulaic speech
- Demonstrate ability to repair communication breakdowns
- Demonstrate some control of stress and intonation and recognize and use reductions and contractions
- Demonstrate ability to use sufficient active vocabulary to discuss familiar and predictable topics
- Deliver a clear, well-structured presentation on a familiar topic
- Control use of simple present, simple past, and future tenses with infrequent errors
- Demonstrate ability to clearly pronounce word endings (i.e., -ed, -es(s))

Interpretation:

Students in this course will demonstrate ability to understand main ideas and most details in modified listenings and take part in intermediate-level spoken interactions while focusing on vocabulary, pronunciation, intonation patterns, and grammatical functions.

**ELI 042: University Interactions 4** is a high-intermediate level ESL speaking and listening course focusing on the following course objectives:

1. Identify logical connections between ideas using variety of discourse markers and transitions
2. Initiate and sustain conversations/discussions in most situations, using speech acts (i.e., pause fillers, stalling devices, and different rates of speech)
3. Use appropriate language, discourse markers, speech acts to define, analyze, and propose solution
4. Demonstrate ability to explain and elaborate on a variety of topics
5. Report information –main ideas and supporting details—from spoken and written sources by summarizing and paraphrasing
6. Produce phonemes in connected speech with emerging accuracy
7. Demonstrate accuracy in vowel and consonant production and awareness of pronunciation errors which many interfere with intelligibility

8. Demonstrate ability to fix communication breakdowns by asking for clarification and using confirmation check strategies
9. Demonstrate ability to engage in self-initiate discourse repair (i.e., self-correct to aid listener comprehension)
10. Demonstrate emerging control of stress and intonation patterns
11. Incorporate compound, complex and/or compound-complex sentence structures with some inaccuracies
12. Deliver short presentations and check audience comprehension

Interpretation:

Students in this course will demonstrate emerging ability to understand authentic listenings and actively take part in intermediate-level spoken interactions while focusing on vocabulary, pronunciation, intonation patterns, and grammatical functions.

**ELI 052: University Interactions 5** is a low-advanced level ESL speaking and listening course focusing on the following course objectives:

1. Identify main ideas and most details of most authentic listenings, as well as take increasingly accurate notes
2. Initiate, maintain, and close conversations using speech acts (i.e., pause fillers, stalling devices, and different rates of speech)
3. Use appropriate language, discourse markers, speech acts to define, analyze, and propose solution
4. Express some abstract ideas (i.e., hypothesizing, supporting arguments, negotiating)
5. Engage in advanced-level conversational and academic discourse, such as open discussion and group discussion, with some repetition and rephrasing necessary.
6. Follow multi-step oral instructions common in classroom & lab
7. Demonstrate awareness of pronunciation errors which many interfere with intelligibility
8. Use circumlocution techniques to extend an oral discourse
9. Self-initiate discourse repair (i.e., self-correct to aid listener comprehension)
10. Demonstrate control of stress and intonation patterns
11. Deliver a clear, well-structured presentation on a complex subject in field, expanding and supporting points of view with appropriate reasons and examples, organized from various sources
12. Paraphrase and summarize spoken materials
13. Use awareness of cultural differences in discourse to adjust oral presentations to audience

Interpretation:

Students in this course will demonstrate ability to understand authentic listenings and actively take part in advanced-level spoken interactions in a variety of contexts while focusing on vocabulary, pronunciation, intonation patterns, and grammatical functions.

**ELI 062: Advanced Interactions 6** is an advanced level ESL speaking and listening course focusing on the following course objectives:

- Demonstrate ability to identify main ideas and most details of authentic academic listenings, as well as take increasingly accurate notes by developing appropriate strategy
- Demonstrate ability to follow most lectures, discussions and debates both within and outside of academic discipline
- Make inferences based on tone (i.e., sarcasm, confusion, confidence)
- Identify and respond to a wide range of idiomatic and reduced speech
- Initiate, maintain, and close conversations using speech acts (i.e., pause fillers, stalling devices, and different rates of speech)
- Demonstrate ability to follow extended discussion even when it is not clearly structures and when relationships are only implied
- Use appropriate language, discourse markers, speech acts to define, analyze, and propose solution
- Express abstract ideas (i.e., hypothesizing, supporting arguments, negotiating)
- Engage in advanced-level conversational and academic discourse, such as open discussion and group discussion, with some repetition and rephrasing necessary but at minimal
- Use pronunciation, stress as well as intonation to improve intelligibility of oral presentations
- Demonstrate awareness of pronunciation errors which many interfere with intelligibility
- Use circumlocution techniques to extend an oral discourse
- Self-initiate discourse repair (i.e., self-correct to aid listener comprehension)
- Develop a support network of department faculty and academic resource personnel
- Deliver a clear, well-structured presentation on a complex subject in field, expanding and supporting points of view with appropriate reasons and examples, organized from various sources
- Demonstrate ability to summarize orally long, demanding texts
- Use awareness of cultural differences in discourse to adjust oral presentations to audience

Interpretation:

Students in this course will demonstrate ability to understand and engaged with authentic listenings and actively take part in advanced-level spoken interactions in a variety of contexts while focusing on vocabulary, pronunciation, intonation patterns, and grammatical functions.

## Achievement Scale for Grammar in Communication Courses

**ELI 014: Grammar in Communications 1** is a low-beginner level ESL grammar course focusing on the following course objectives:

- Form and use simple present with *do*
- Form and use basic affirmative and negative statements
- Form and use simple *Yes/No* questions and information questions
- Use possessive 's and possessive adjectives
- Identify parts of speech

Interpretation:

Students in this course will demonstrate ability to use low-beginner level grammatical forms with accuracy, effectiveness of communicative meaning, and appropriateness in use during reading, writing, listening, and speaking tasks.

**ELI 024: Grammar in Communications 2** is a high-beginner level ESL grammar course focusing on the following course objectives:

- Use simple present & present progressive
- Use simple past with regular and irregular verbs
- (Use past progressives)
- Use non-referential *it* and *there*
- Understand the past habitual forms in *used to* and *would*
- (Understand simple future tenses in *will* and *be going to*)
- Understand and use subjective, objective, reflexive, reciprocal, and possessive pronouns
- (Use modals of polite requests, suggestions, and offers)

Interpretation:

Students in this course will demonstrate ability to use high-beginner level grammatical forms with accuracy, effectiveness of communicative meaning, and appropriateness in use during reading, writing, listening, and speaking tasks.

**ELI 034: Grammar in Communications 3** is a low-intermediate level ESL grammar course focusing on the following course objectives:

- Use Comparatives and Superlatives
- Understand count and non-count nouns and its use with basic article system
- Use adverbials of frequency, time and place and factual conditionals in discourse
- Understand and use simple future tense (i.e., *will* vs. *be going to* vs. *present progressive*)
- Use gerunds and infinitives with emerging control

- Use simple present, simple past, and progressives
- Use modals of ability, opinion, advise and necessity
- (Understand and use phrasal verbs in everyday social situations)

Interpretation:

Students in this course will demonstrate ability to use low-intermediate level grammatical forms with accuracy, effectiveness of communicative meaning, and appropriateness in use during reading, writing, listening, and speaking tasks.

**ELI 044: Grammar in Communications 4** is a high-intermediate level ESL grammar course focusing on the following course objectives:

- Use Simple Past and Past Progressives
- Use Present Perfect, Past Perfect, and Perfect Progressives
- Use Gerunds and Infinitives with increasing accuracy
- Use Passive Voice to modify focus
- Use Present and Past participial adjectives
- Use Restrictive and Nonrestrictive Adjective (Relative) Clauses
- Use Noun Clauses with reporting verbs
- Use Hypothetical and Factual Conditionals
- Use modals of inferences

Interpretation:

Students in this course will demonstrate ability to use high-intermediate level grammatical forms with accuracy, effectiveness of communicative meaning, and appropriateness in use during reading, writing, listening, and speaking tasks.

**ELI 054: Grammar in Communications 5** is a low-advanced level ESL grammar course focusing on the following course objectives:

- Use Reduced Noun, Adjective, and Adverb Clauses (Participle phrases)
- Use Passive Voice to modify focus
- Use appropriate tense and aspect both in oral and written discourse
- Use articles with increasing accuracy
- Use anticipatory *it* with infinitives and *that* clause.
- Use past and future perfect / perfect progressives.
- Use modals of expectation, disbelief, inappropriateness, inaccuracy, frustration, and annoyance.

Interpretation:

Students in this course will demonstrate ability to use low-advanced level grammatical forms with accuracy, effectiveness of communicative meaning, and appropriateness in use during reading, writing, listening, and speaking tasks.

**ELI 064: Advanced Grammar in Communications** is an advanced level ESL grammar course focusing on the following course objectives:

- Use appropriate tense and aspect both in oral and written discourse
- Use present and past subjunctive forms (*be/were*)
- Use inverted word order in hypothetical/counterfactual statement, negative adverbials
- Use articles with increasing accuracy and self-editing
- Use hypothetical/counterfactual conditionals
- Use participle phrases in initial, middle, terminal positions

Interpretation:

Students in this course will demonstrate ability to use advanced level grammatical forms with accuracy, effectiveness of communicative meaning, and appropriateness in use during reading, writing, listening, and speaking tasks.