

## Academic Listening & Speaking 1001

### 1. Course Description:

Academic Listening and Speaking 1001 (**ALS 1001**) is a 75-hour learner-centered course designed to introduce students to the major components of oral and aural academic discourse at a basic level. To enroll in **ALS 1001**, students need to score a minimum of **420- 477** in TOEFL (undergraduate students) and **450- 477** (graduate students).

- **Listening** spans over almost half of the course; it focuses on helping students to understand a lecture and analyze its components. In parallel, it deals with the organizational elements of an academic lecture with an emphasis on 'pre-', 'while-', and 'post-'listening comprehension tasks.
- **Note-taking** covers one tenth of the course; it enables students to use effective and various note-taking methods.
- **Speaking** spans over almost a third of the course; it allows students to participate in discussions and in-class dialogues and prepare them to give quality informative presentations.
- **English Conversation Group:** Students are required to participate in an English Conversation Group (**ECG**) which is a cross-level activity held in **Building 8, Room 114** for an hour one evening a week throughout the semester. ECG sessions are additional to ALS classes and enable students to practice their English in a less formal setting.
- **Assignments:** Students are required to complete additional out-of-class level-specific activities such as weekly listening logs, online interactivities, and movie reviews.

### 2. Course Goal:

The Academic Listening and Speaking course aims to help students improve their academic listening and speaking skills, take efficient notes in an academic context, and follow a process for creating and delivering an effective presentation. To achieve the goal for this course, students must fulfill all its requirements and expectations.

### 3. Course Objectives:

The main objective of ALS 1001 is for students to:

- acquire the listening and note-taking skills necessary for coping with more advanced material of the next level;
- give an informative presentation in confident, fluent, organized, and intelligible manner.

In accordance with the LC mission, ALS ensures that students apply what they learn in other language courses in their speech delivery. Simultaneously, it equips students with transferable skills that they can use in other contexts.

#### 4. Intended Learning Outcomes:

Upon successfully completing this course, students will be able to:

- a. listen effectively to an academic lecture for main ideas;
- b. listen for details;
- c. develop a system of note-taking, which includes markers for main ideas and major details, connectors, abbreviations;
- d. understand and produce numbers in English;
- e. pronounce English words more clearly;
- f. maintain a conversation in English for 10 minutes;
- g. produce a well-organized presentation on an academic topic.

#### 5. Textbook and materials:

Beglar, D., & Murray, N., Contemporary Topics 3. (3rd ed). New York: Longman, 2009.

Supplementary materials will be handed to students by their teachers.

#### 6. Course Evaluation:

The grading scheme for this level is broken down as follows:

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| <b>Coursework up to the midterm – Weeks 1 – 7: 25%</b> |     |
| 2 lecture-listening quizzes (5% each)                  | 10% |
| Homework and in-class/out-of-class activities          | 15% |
| <b>Midterm Exam: 20%</b>                               |     |
| Lecture-listening                                      | 10% |
| Speaking (Oral exam)                                   | 10% |
| <b>Coursework up to the final – Weeks 8 – 15: 25%</b>  |     |
| 2 lecture-listening quizzes (5% each)                  | 10% |
| 1 informative/expository presentation                  | 8%  |
| Homework and in-class/out-of class activities          | 7%  |
| <b>Final Exam: 30 %</b>                                |     |
| Lecture-listening                                      | 15% |
| Speaking (Oral exam)                                   | 15% |