

CAELC Fact Sheet 2015-2016

The Center for American English Language and Culture (CAELC) provides an array of services to help members of the University of Virginia community attain the level of linguistic and cultural proficiency required for success at a research university in the United States. These services include language assessment, English as a Second Language (ESL) classes of which CAELC completes its own testing, placement, scheduling, registration, and numerous tutoring and volunteer services. The following is a summary of the services provided by CAELC over the 2015-2016 academic year and summer 2016 term.

Faculty and Staff

CAELC employs one full-time lecturer, two part-time lecturers, one full-time program coordinator, one VISAS and assessment coordinator, several adjunct and graduate student instructors, and several student assistants. The Center also provides opportunities for undergraduate students to earn credit through a volunteer internship experience in program administration and English language teaching as well as earn credit for completion of the TESOL Certificate.

Course Offerings

Fall 2015: 33 Course Sections

ESL 800 American English Language and Culture and U.S. Higher Education
ESL 801 (3 sections) Workplace Communication for English Language Learners
ESL 802 (2 sections) Multi-skills English for Speakers of Other Languages
ESL 804 TOEFL Test Preparation
ESL 805 Pronunciation Workshop
ESL 806 Advanced Oral Communication
ESL 901 (2 sections) Academic Writing I
ESL 902 (2 sections) Academic Writing II
ESL 905 American English Pronunciation and Conversation
ESL 907 (2 sections) Oral Academic Communication I
ESL 909 (4 sections) Oral Academic Communication III
ESL 910 Accent Modification
ESL 911 (2 sections) Classroom Communication I
ESL 912 Classroom Communication for Graduate Teaching Assistants II
ENWR 1507 (2 sections) Writing and Critical Inquiry Stretch I for Multilingual Writers
LAW 8802 Graduate Legal Research and Writing
LING 3400 Structure of English
LING 5101 TESOL Practicum
LING 5102 TESOL Practicum
LING 5103 (2 sections) TESOL Practicum
LING 7400 Structure of English Graduate Section

Spring 2016: 36 Course Sections

ESL 500 Introduction to Global Studies and Leadership
ESL 800 (2 sections) American English Language and Culture and U.S. Higher Education
ESL 801 (2 sections) Workplace Communication for English Language Learners
ESL 802 Multi-skills English for Speakers of Other Languages
ESL 806 (2 sections) Advanced Oral Communication
ESL 901 (3 sections) Academic Writing I

ESL 902 (5 sections) Academic Writing II
ESL 907 Oral Academic Communication I
ESL 909 (2 sections) Oral Academic Communication III
ESL 911 (3 sections) Classroom Communication I
ESL 912 Classroom Communication for Graduate Teaching Assistants II
ESL 913 (2 sections) Academic Communication Seminar for Researchers – Oral Skills
ESL 914 Academic Communication Seminar for Researchers – Writing Skills
ESL 915 (2 sections) English for Academic Purposes
ESL 916 Academic Communication Seminar for Researchers – Oral Skills Component
ENWR 1508 (2 sections) Writing & Critical Inquiry Stretch II for Multilingual Writers
LING 5090 Teaching English as a Second Language
LING 5101 TESOL Practicum
LING 5102 TESOL Practicum
LING 5103 (2 sections) TESOL Practicum

Summer 2016: 20 Course Sections

ESL 800 American English Language and Culture and U.S. Higher Education
ESL 913 Academic Communication Seminar for Researchers – Oral Skills
ESL 915 (18 sections) English for Academic Purposes

Student Enrollment

Fall 2015

Total enrollment: 350
Undergraduates: 18
Graduate Students: 208
Linguistics: 81
Academic Division Researchers/Staff/Faculty: 2
Professional Development: 5
Non-Academic Division Employees & Contracted Employees: 5
Dependents: 31

Spring 2016

Total enrollment: 244
Undergraduates: 62
Graduate Students: 112
Linguistics: 32
Academic Division Researchers/Staff/Faculty: 12
Professional Development: 3
Non-Academic Division Employees & Contracted Employees: 1
Dependents: 22

Summer 2016

Total enrollment: 56
Undergraduates: 12
Visiting Scholars: 1
Graduates: 43

VISAS Volunteer Program

The Volunteers with International Students, Scholars and Staff (VISAS) Program offers

U.Va. students varied opportunities to work with international members of the U.Va. community on English and cross-cultural communication skills.

Fall 2015

Volunteers total: 220

- 111 Language Consultants (conversation partners) working with 242 international members of the U.Va. community
- 41 Classroom Consultants working with 41 prospective international TAs
- 1 Teaching Consultants working with 1 current international TAs
- 33 ESL Assistants working within the ESL classes offered by CAELC
- 34 Workplace ESL Assistants working with 28 U.Va. and contracted employees on English and literacy

Spring 2016

Volunteers total: 244

- 127 Language Consultants (conversation partners) working with 160 international members of the U.Va. community
- 52 Classroom Consultants working with 56 prospective international TAs
- 3 Teaching Consultants working with 2 current international TAs
- 29 ESL Assistants working within the ESL classes offered by CAELC
- 33 Workplace ESL Assistants working with 28 U.Va. and contracted employees on English and literacy

Additional ESL Services

International Center ESL Courses

Each semester, the Lorna Sundberg International Center provides ESL courses and related services to dependents of those who are associated with the University. Courses include Multiskills English For Speakers of Other Language, Oral Expression in English for Speakers of Other Languages, Advanced Oral Communication, and Pronunciation Workshop. Other services include Book Discussion Groups, English Conversation Groups, and Language Consultant partnering. English language programs at the International Center are supported through part-time instructors, as well as through volunteer efforts of UVA students and community members.

Workplace ESL Courses

The VISAS Volunteer program offers ESL/English Literacy ESL weekly workshops in the Observatory Hill Dining Hall and at Newcomb Hall Dining Hall to Dining Services/Aramark employees. At Observatory Hill, 2 interns and 18 volunteers work individually with 14 employees twice a week. At Newcomb Hall, 7 student volunteers supervised by 2 student interns work with 7 employees, differentiating English instruction and literacy development. CAELC also offers conversation partners and English language development for UVA Hospital and Hospital Cafeteria/Morrisons employees. 2 interns and 9 volunteers work individually with 9 employees.

Writing Center ESL Tutoring

CAELC staffs the UVA Writing Center with part-time tutors who are trained to address the specific writing needs of non-native English language writers. Students who need help with their English as a Second Language writing can schedule an appointment to review their work with a CAELC tutor. During the 2015-2016 school year, CAELC supplied the Writing Center with 6 ESL-trained tutors, totaling almost 250 hours.

Student Language Consultants

International students and scholars have the opportunity meet weekly in pairs or triads with a native speaker of English for conversation practice. These meetings provide opportunities for participants to learn about life at U.Va. and in the U.S. during the fall and spring semesters. A total of 238 volunteers (111 Fall, 127 Spring), and 402 international students (242 Fall, 160 Spring) participated in this program.

TESOL Certificate Program

In the Spring of 2012, the Linguistics Program and CAELC began offering a Certificate in Teaching English as a Second or Other Language (TESOL). The certificate is available to both undergraduate and graduate students on grounds who are interested in earning a certificate in addition to their degree and will prepare future teachers of English. Participants are required to complete fifteen credit hours of a series of courses in applied linguistic theory and language teaching pedagogy along with practicum credit which entails ninety-nine total hours of practice. During their training, students are able to assist with the delivery of support services for English language learners at the University. There were over 60 TESOL certificate applicants since its advent and 41 students who graduated or completed with the certificate.

Assessment

CAELC administers the University of Virginia English Language Proficiency Exam (UVELPE) to all international graduate students whose first language is other than English and who have not been in an English-speaking academic environment for six or more years. The UVELPE is used to determine the general adequacy of English language skills for various academic purposes. In 2013-2014, CAELC developed an online exam to help programs assess needs of international students prior to their arrival to the university as well as upon arrival. CAELC also administers the SPEAK test for prospective international teaching assistants may take the exam in August, December, or May of each year. For the 2015-2016 academic year, CAELC administered the UVELPE to over 360 students and the SPEAK test to 131 students.

English Drop-in Café

Acquired funding through IWL Grant for the VISAS ESL Café and established successful English conversation group open to all international students and family as well as all VISAS volunteers.

Pronunciation Clinic

In the spring of 2016, CAELC established the Pronunciation Clinic for TESOL Certificate Practicum students to work individually with CAELC ESL students, providing 20 hours per week of one-on-one pronunciation assistance for students in the advanced oral English classes.

Chinese Bilingual Faculty Program

CAELC partnered with SCPS to co-direct an 11 week program for visiting faculty studying higher education and English in the U.S. Fifty-two professors from Jiangsu Province, China studied oral academic English and classroom communication in fall of 2015 CAELC trained and employed a total of 24 UVA students to assist with English services and to provide face-to-face cultural exchange. In addition, CAELC hosted lunches, tours, activities, coordinated

classroom visits, administered assessments, and employed adjunct faculty to teach 6 hours per week of oral English classes.

Global Partnerships

CAELC partnered with the UVA in Guatemala Initiative to provide on-line English courses for our affiliates in Quetzaltenango, Guatemala. These courses offered TESOL practicum students an opportunity for supervised curriculum and materials development and experiences with computer assisted language learning while providing Guatemalan partners an opportunity to develop oral English skills. During the 2015-2016 year of this program, 6 undergraduates provided on-line English tutoring to English language learners in Guatemala, totaling 198 hours of service.

Curricular Initiatives

- Created an Intake and Exit Speech Sample and Feedback system for CAELC ESL students and instructors
- Realigned the oral English curriculum for CAELC ESL classes.
- Continued to work with all programs to provide English-language support through workshops, clinics, research concerning ITA duties and best practices in terms of assessment scores in partnership with research concerning probabilistic statistics and TOEFL scores to SPEAK scores.

For more information about the Center for American English Language and Culture, visit <http://www.virginia.edu/provost/caelc/>. CAELC is located in Nau Hall room 153 and can be reached at 434-294-3372.