

# CAELC Fact Sheet 2016-2017

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 2016-2017 academic year and summer 2017 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 2016: 40 Course Sections

ESL 800 American English Language and Culture and U.S. Higher Education  
ESL 801 (2 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 806 (2 Sections) Advanced Oral Communication  
ESL 901 (3 sections) Academic Writing I  
ESL 902 (2 sections) Academic Writing II  
ESL 905 (2 Sections) American English Pronunciation and Conversation: Navigating Campus and Community  
ESL 907 (4 sections) Oral Communication: Negotiating the American Classroom  
ESL 909 (5 sections) Advanced Oral Communication: Academic Interaction and Research Presentations  
ESL 910 Pronunciation Training  
ESL 911 (4 sections) Classroom Communication: Teaching and Preparing for the Job Market  
ESL 913 Academic Communications Seminar for Researchers – Oral Skills  
ESL 914 Academic Communications Seminar for Researchers – Writing Skills  
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 Teaching Language Practicum  
LING 5102 TESOL Teaching Culture Practicum  
LING 5103 TESOL Teaching Writing Practicum  
LING 7400 Structure of English (Graduate Section)

## Spring 2017: 28 Course Sections

ESL 800 American English Language and Culture and U.S. Higher Education  
ESL 802 Multi-skills English for Speakers of Other Languages  
ESL 806 (2 sections) Advanced Oral Communication  
ESL 901 (2 sections) Academic Writing I  
ESL 902 (2 sections) Academic Writing II  
ESL 907 (3 Sections) Oral Communication: Negotiating the American Classroom  
ESL 909 (2 sections) Advanced Oral Communication: Academic Interaction and Research Presentations  
ESL 910 Pronunciation Training  
ESL 911 (4 sections) Classroom Communication: Teaching and Preparing for the Job Market  
ESL 913 Academic Communication Seminar for Researchers – Oral Skills  
ESL 914 (2 Sections) Academic Communication Seminar for Researchers – Writing Skills  
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 Teaching Language Practicum  
LING 5102 TESOL Teaching Culture Practicum  
LING 5103 TESOL Teaching Writing Practicum

## Summer 2017: 17 Course Sections

ESL 800 American English Language and Culture and U.S. Higher Education  
ESL 915 (16 sections) English for Academic Purposes

## Student Enrollment

### Fall 2016

Total enrollment: 312  
Undergraduates: 23  
Graduate Students: 224  
Linguistics: 58  
Academic Division Researchers/Staff/Faculty: 2  
Professional Development: 2  
Non-Academic Division Employees & Contracted Employees: 3  
Dependents: 42

### Spring 2017

Total enrollment: 237  
Undergraduates: 21 + 18 Trueland  
Graduate Students: 141  
Linguistics: 15  
Academic Division Researchers/Staff/Faculty: 2  
Professional Development: 6  
Non-Academic Division Employees & Contracted Employees: 0  
Dependents: 34

## Summer 2017

Total enrollment: 49

Graduates: 28

Staff: 1

Kyung Hee University Program: 20

## 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 2016

Volunteers total: 244

- 114 Language Consultants (conversation partners) working with 221 international members of the U.Va. community
- 52 Classroom Consultants working with 55 prospective international TAs
- 44 ESL Assistants working within the ESL classes offered by CAELC
- 34 Workplace ESL Assistants working with 26 UVa and contracted employees on English and literacy

### Spring 2017

Volunteers total: 263

- 125 Language Consultants (conversation partners) working with 162 international members of the U.Va. community
- 63 Classroom Consultants working with 49 prospective international TAs
- 49 ESL Assistants working within the ESL classes offered by CAELC
- 26 Workplace ESL Assistants working with 26 UVa and contracted employees on English and literacy

## 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 15 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. 1 intern and 5 volunteers work individually with 5 employees.

## 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 239 LC volunteers (114 Fall, 125 Spring), and 383 international students (221 Fall, 162 Spring) participated in this program.

## VISAS 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 during academic year 2015-

Center for American English Language and Culture, 2016-2017

2016. VISAS Café was so successful that CAELC is now funding the weekly conversation group which welcomes an average of 16 VISAS volunteers and International participants each Wednesday from 5-6pm. VISAS Café is led by one Intern who establishes a topic and facilitates conversation throughout the hour.

## 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 2016-2017 school year, CAELC supplied the Writing Center with 3 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 48 students who graduated with or completed 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 2016-2017 academic year, CAELC administered the UVELPE to over 312 students and the SPEAK test to 147.

## 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.

## 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 2016-2017 year of this program, 5 undergraduates provided on-line English tutoring to English language learners in Guatemala, totaling 165 hours of service.

## Curricular Initiatives

- Created an Intake and Exit Speech Sample and Feedback system for CAELC ESL students and instructors
- Revamped the oral English curriculum for CAELC ESL classes.
- Began process of revamping written English curriculum for CAELC ESL classes.
- Developed on-site ESL courses for international Architecture graduate students.

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 or [caelc@virginia.edu](mailto:caelc@virginia.edu).