Advanced English Conversation

National Chiao Tung University
College of Humanities and Social Science

Spring Semester 2014

Course Outline

Course Information
Instructor: Thomas Griffin
Class Hours: Wednesday, 6:30 pm – 8:30 pm for 18 weeks
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Course Description
This course focuses on advanced English conversation. The goal is to improve the students’ vocabulary, listening comprehension and speaking fluency. The course contains the following:

- Lectures and practice for common errors in speaking English
- Class discussion - Videos from TED.com and other sources
- Student show and tell
- Telling jokes
- Short student presentations on selected subjects
- Special topics as appropriate for class discussion
- Songs
- Homework to prepare for the next class (mostly watching videos)
- Final exam presentation in the last class

Course Objectives
1. Students learn advanced knowledge of English for communicating with native English speakers.
2. Students learn to communicate effectively with others in real situations.
3. Students are confident in their ability to conduct conversations.

Course Methodology
The course consists of 17 two hour instruction classes plus one final presentation class. The 17 classes will include lectures, class discussions and student presentations. The final grade will include attendance, classroom participation and the final exam.

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presentation scores.

I aim for results in my teaching and I adjust the above activities when necessary to get the best outcome from the students.

**Prerequisites**
Oral practice is an important part of this course; therefore students attending this course are required to participate in class discussions and presentations. Students with college level English will enjoy this course and advance to a higher level smoothly. Students with less than college level English will need to put in extra effort.

**Teaching Materials and Handouts**
A variety of teaching aids will be used, including materials developed by the teacher and internet videos.

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**Requirements and Rules**
1. Class attendance and participation is crucial for learning the materials. Students are expected to actively participate in class discussions and workshops.
2. Arrive at class on time.
3. Students are expected to do the assigned homework prior to each class.