The Center for Intensive English Studies

35 Years of Excellence in English Language Instruction
The Center for Intensive English Studies

Our Mission: *To achieve excellence in all areas of second language pedagogy while helping our students succeed at Florida State University and across the globe.*

CIES has four programs:

- **ITA**– The International Teaching Assistant Program (for FSU graduate students)

- **IEP**– Intensive English Program (for students who want to improve their English for academic or professional purposes)

- **ACES**– Accelerated Courses for Enrolled Students (for FSU international students who wish to improve their English to succeed in courses in their field).

- **TEFL**– Teaching English as a Foreign Language Program (for students who wish to teach English abroad).
Currently 130 students from 24 different countries in our Intensive English Program
  ◦ The majority are Kuwaiti and Saudi (60%)

Between 30–40 students enroll in ITA courses in Fall and Spring.
  ◦ The ITA classes are usually limited to 8–10 doctoral students
Support for Postdoctoral Scholars

- **Accent Reduction**
  a.) Access to Native Accent (pronunciation software) at a discounted price.

- **Cross-Cultural Communication**
  a.) Common Academic Idioms
  b.) Cultural Expectations on and off campus

- **Academic and Technical Writing course**
  a.) Polishing your writing (course offered every Spring)

- **Presentations for an American Audience**
  a.) Connecting with your audience
  b.) Becoming a fluent, confident speaker

- **Access to one–on–one tutoring**
Communicating In English: Overcoming Challenges
Thursday, September 10, 2015 – 3:30 to 4:30 p.m.
310 Hecht House
Presenter: Dr. Maria B. Mendoza, International TA Program

As an international student, you may have faced some challenges when speaking with faculty, staff and other students. In this workshop, we will discuss those challenges as well as strategies to improve your ability to communicate in English, including small talk, polite requests, and negotiation of meaning. This workshop is recommended for first-semester graduate students.

Register online at Communicating In English Workshop

The Secrets of English: Pronunciation Tips and Tricks
Friday, September 18, 2015 – 1 – 2:00 p.m.
311 Hecht House
Presenter: Dr. Jennifer Grill, International TA Program

As a non-native speaker of English, you may notice that your English sounds different from native speakers, but you’re not sure why. In this workshop, we’ll explore two aspects of pronunciation: reduced speech and linking. We’ll learn what these are and how they function, and we’ll practice these aspects through several short listening and speaking activities.

Register online at The Secrets of English
Support for Postdoctoral Scholars

Workshops for International Graduate Students
Fall 2015

Improving E–mail Communication
Thursday, October 8, 2015 – 5:30 to 6:45 p.m.
311 Hecht House
Presenter: Dr. Jennifer Grill, International TA Program

Does writing emails in English cause you anxiety? Do you feel unsure of how to communicate politely and professionally? If so, this workshop will benefit you! We will cover language aspects of emailing such as how to open and close an email, phrases used for making requests, and language needed for discussing difficult situations. We'll also cover cultural aspects of email writing such as levels of formality and politeness.

Register online at Improving E–mail Communication

SPEAK Test Information Session
Thursday, October 22, 2015 – 3:30 to 4:30 p.m.
310 Hecht House
Presenter: Dr. Maria B. Mendoza, International TA Program

This session will include a discussion of the test format and scoring procedures. The presenter will go over the practice test questions and discuss the different competencies taken into account when grading. The standards for teaching assistants will also be discussed. This session is open to faculty and staff.

Register online at SPEAK Test Information

The Hecht House is located at 634 West Call Street
Our Videos

ITA Program:  
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xGKg84Fr15E&feature=youtu.be

ACES Program:  
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kq2ePuqsN5w&feature=youtu.be

IEP Program:  https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RzxxntAqy5s

TEFL Program:  https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hxJQuLg–p0o
Contact us!

- Dr. Patrick Kennell, Director– pkennell@fsu.edu
- Dr. Maria Mendoza, ITA Program Coordinator– mmendoza@fsu.edu
- Olivia James, ACES Program Coordinator– ojames@fsu.edu
- Phone: 644–4797
- Location: Hecht House (634 W. Call St)
- Website:  http://cies.fsu.edu