

## **Speaking Course—Graduate Students Fall Semester, 2021**

### **Course Description**

This course is designed for postgraduate learners of English who already have knowledge of the English language (e.g. grammar, vocabulary and pronunciation), and skills in listening and speaking. Students enrolled in this course will be given extensive opportunities to practice speaking and expressing personal opinions based on different given topics. This course is student centered (output driven) and not teacher focused (input driven) and is designed to help students expand their vocabulary while also creating a starting point for learning strategy exploration and development of critical thinking and intercultural awareness through a variety of topics.

### **Course Objectives**

- Improve communication: asking questions, giving opinions and explanations;
- Participate in routine, real-world tasks and conversations that are on familiar topics while exhibiting intercultural awareness;
- Give a short oral presentation, singularly or as part of a group;
- Develop strategies for public speaking and test taking;

### **Class Structure: ESL Teaching Approach**

Teaching critical thinking involves using the “**Engage, Study, Activate, Feedback**” (ESAF) method when instructing all activities:

**Engage** by getting my students interested in the lesson short speaking warm-up (small talk)

**Study (input)** by focusing my students on the language and information and how it is constructed (but limiting teacher talk time)

**Activate (output)** by encouraging my students to put into practice what they are learning by encouraging “student talk” such as group work, role plays, games, discussions or creative writing

**Feedback** provide immediate constructive feedback

### **Standardize Lesson Plan Structure**

- Warm up
- Pronunciation drills
- Vocabulary building (5-10 words based on the topic of the day)
- Sentence structure
- Pair, group, team activities
- Feedback

### **Activities**

Pair work/Group Work/Presentations...

### **Self-studying Weeks**

Week 10 & 11: watch 4 videos about how to give a speech in English

Week 12: submit your assignments and give a mini presentation on how to give a speech in English

### **Assignments:**

1. Note-taking: take notes when you are watching the 4 videos during week 10 & 11
2. Mind-mapping: draw a mind-map on how to give a speech in English after watching the videos

### **Assessment: 30 points**

1. Attendance and participation: 10 points (1 points per week: 0.5 for attendance & 0.5 for participation; 10 weeks: week 4, 6, 7, 8, 9, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16)
2. Assignments: 10 points (5 for notes & 5 for mind-map)
3. Final presentation with PPT (week 17: 3-5 minutes per person): 10 points