About the English Language Studies (ELS) Program at MIT

The ELS program is a regular academic program open only to MIT students.

The curriculum is designed for non-native English speakers to foster effective communication in a variety of academic and professional contexts. Any bilingual/ESL undergraduate or graduate student earning a degree at MIT can register for an ELS subject.

The grade- and credit-bearing classes meet according to the MIT academic calendar and involve homework and exams.
CONCENTRATION OPTIONS

Any three subjects in the ELS program satisfies the concentration requirement.

Concentration Proposal approval must be obtained by the first week of classes second term junior year.

Concentration Advisor:
A.C. Kemp, Lecturer
ackemp@mit.edu; 14N-228, 3-4747

Assessing your level:
Contact any member of the ELS group to assess your level and advise on course placement.

English Evaluation Test (EET)
- Required for international graduate students whose primary language of instruction is not English
- Administered by the ELS program before the start of the Fall and Spring semesters
- Determines placement in specific ELS subjects

FALL 2017 ELS Schedule

216.219/220, Workshop in Written Expression
Writing module for high intermediate ELS students who wish to review and practice accurate grammar, effective sentence and paragraph structure, punctuation, and word choice. Short weekly writing assignments with extensive editing required. HASS-H
MW, 9:30-11, E. Grunwald
MW, 12:30-2, E. Grunwald

216.222, Expository Writing for Bilingual Students
Formulating, organizing, and presenting ideas clearly in writing. Reviews basic principles of rhetoric. Focuses on development of a topic, thesis, choice of appropriate vocabulary, and sentence structure to achieve purpose. Develops idiomatic prose style. Gives attention to grammar and vocabulary usage. Special focus on strengthening skills of bilingual students. Intended to be taken during the student's first year at MIT undergraduates only. HASS-H, CI-HW
MW, 1-2:30, A. Kemp
MW, 7-8:30, O. Szabó
TR, 2-3:30, A. Kemp
TR, 3:30-5, E. Grunwald

216.223/224, Listening, Speaking and Pronunciation
Designed for high intermediate ELS students who need to develop better listening comprehension and oral skills. Involves short speaking and listening assignments with extensive exercises in accurate comprehension, pronunciation, stress and intonation, and expression of ideas. Includes frequent video- and audio-recording for analysis and feedback. HASS-H
MW, 10:30-12, A. Kemp
MW, 7-8:30, O. Szabó

216.225/226, Advanced Workshop in Writing for Science and Engineering
Analysis and practice of various forms of scientific and technical writing, from memos to journal articles. Strategies for conveying technical information to specialist and non-specialist audiences. Comparable to 21W.780, but methods designed to deal with special problems of advanced ELS or bilingual students. The goal of the workshop is to develop effective writing skills for academic and professional contexts. Models, materials, topics and assignments vary from term to term. HASS-H
TR, 12-1:30, J. Dunphy

216.222/233, Advanced Speaking and Critical Listening Skills
For advanced students who wish to build confidence and skills in spoken English. Focuses on the appropriate oral presentation of material in a variety of professional contexts: group discussions, classroom explanations and interactions, and theses/research proposals. Valuable for those who intend to teach or lecture in English. Includes frequent video- and audio-recording for analysis and feedback. Develops effective speaking and listening skills for academic and professional contexts. Models, materials, topics and assignments vary from term to term. May be repeated for credit with permission of the instructor. HASS-H
TR, 4-5, J. Dunphy

Most GSL classes are held in Bldg 14N or the 6th floor of Bldg 16. Check the online catalog for up-to-date room assignments/schedule information.

Looking ahead

IAP 2018
21G.217/218, Workshop in Strategies for Effective Teaching

Spring 2018
21G.019, Communicating Across Cultures, HASS-H
21G.219/220, Workshop in Written Expression, HASS-H
21G.222, Expository Writing for Bilingual Students, HASS-H, CI-HW
21G.223/224, Listening, Speaking, and Pronunciation, HASS-H
21G.225/226, Advanced Workshop for Writing in Science and Engineering, HASS-H
21G.227/228, Advanced Workshop in Writing for Social Sciences and Architecture, HASS-H
21G.232/233, Advanced Speaking and Critical Listening Skills, HASS-H