

Course Code and Title
EAL 4760 Exploring Spoken English
Run
Semesters 1 & 2
Rating
Level 4
Prerequisites
None
Lectures
None
Seminars / classes
4 hours for 10 weeks
Tutorials
None
Assessment
Learning Journal 40%; Group Presentation on Video 40%; Leading a final seminar 20%.
Module convener
Dr. Saima N. Sherazi
Module aims
This module aims to broaden students' awareness of the features of spoken English in a wide range of situations, both formal and informal, in order for them to become more effective communicators. This will be done by introducing students to different genres of spoken English for analysis and discussion. Students will also have frequent opportunities to use English in the classroom and the language laboratory in order to become adept at choosing an appropriate register and to enable them to produce the sounds of the language essential for effective communication. In addition, this module will expose students to a wide variety of authentic listening materials in order to raise awareness of how Culture and World Englishes may influence language.
Module outline
This module is designed for students who want to improve their listening and speaking skills in English in both formal and informal settings. Students will develop strategies for active listening and learn to deal with unfamiliar language. Seminars will consider the importance of audience, purpose, and non-verbal signals in a variety of situations. Students will have opportunities to participate in workshops in which they will be involved in activities such as discussions, role-plays and class presentations. The class tutor will monitor these activities and give feedback on features of spoken English including levels of formality, prosodic features and lexical appropriateness.
Learning outcomes
At the end of this module students should be able to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • demonstrate awareness of the prosodic features of their English that need to be addressed; • analyse a speaker's use of language in terms of formality; • understand authentic spoken English with confidence and ease, including colloquialisms and slang; • deal effectively with varied rates of delivery, types of voice and a variety of accents; • recognise and comment on the importance of intonation and stress in the interpretation of meaning; • apply strategies developed in class to aid comprehension of spoken English outside

the classroom.

- work creatively and flexibly as part of a team;
- respond to feedback in order to communicate with increased competence in a variety of situations;
- handle the language system with improved intelligibility;
- interact in English, expressing ideas coherently and articulately;
- speak in English showing awareness of a wide variety of registers and contexts;
- analyse and present materials using a range of media approaches;
- gather and process information from different linguistics sources;
- express attitude based on an awareness of Culture and World Englishes.

Preliminary reading

Authentic listening materials from media sources including:

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/iplayer/>

<http://www.bbcmotiongallery.com/>

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/audio>

Aijmer, K. (1996). *Conversational Routines in English: Convention and Creativity*. Harlow: Longman Publishing Group.

Carter, R., Cornbleet, M. S., & Cornbleet, S. (2001). *The Language of Speech and Writing*. London: Routledge.

Carter, R., & McCarthy, M. (1997). *Exploring Spoken English*. Cambridge: CUP.

O'Dell, F., & McCarthy, M. (2008). *Collocations in Use*. Cambridge: CUP.

What is SEEC level 4?

Level 4

Setting	
Operational context	Operates in a range of varied but predictable contexts that require the use of a specified range of techniques and information sources.
Autonomy and responsibility for actions	Acts with limited autonomy, under direction or supervision, within defined guidelines. Takes responsibility for the nature and quality of outputs.
Knowledge and Understanding	
Knowledge & Understanding	Has a broad understanding of the knowledge base and its terminology or discourse. Demonstrates awareness that areas of the knowledgebase are open to ongoing debate and reformulation.
Cognitive skills	
Conceptualisation and Critical Thinking	Identifies principles and concepts underlying theoretical frameworks and begins to identify their strengths and weaknesses.
Problem Solving, Research & Enquiry	Identifies a well-defined focus for enquiry, plans and undertakes investigative strategies using a limited and defined range of methods, collects data from a variety of sources, and communicates results effectively in an appropriate format.
Synthesis and Creativity	Collects information from a variety of authoritative sources to inform a choice of solutions to standard problems in familiar contexts.
Analysis and evaluation	Judges the reliability of data and information using pre-defined techniques and/or criteria.
Performance and practice	
Adaptation to Context	Relates own role to specified and externally defined parameters.
Performance	Undertakes performance tasks that may be complex and non-routine engaging in self-reflection.
Team and organisational working	Works effectively with others and recognises the factors that affect team performance.
Ethical awareness & application	Demonstrates awareness of ethical issues and is able to discuss these in relation to personal beliefs and values.
Personal and enabling skills	
Personal evaluation and development	Is aware of own capabilities in key areas and engages in development activity through guided self-direction.
Interpersonal and communication skills	Uses interpersonal and communication skills to clarify tasks and identify and rectify issues in a range of contexts.