

Highlights

- 4-week course (10 study hours / week)
- 5 levels (upper beginner – advanced)
- Interactive group activities
- Engaging theme-based curriculum

Dates

- August 4 – 28, 2020
- August 31 – Sept 25, 2020

English for Global Communication is for anyone who wants to improve their English language proficiency. Whether you are an upper beginner (level 1) or advanced (level 5) student, you'll improve your English in just four weeks.

In this course, UVic ELC instructors guide students through “synchronous” (in real time) and “a-synchronous” (according to one’s own schedule) learning activities. Students will achieve the class learning objectives by actively engaging in real-times lessons and interactive discussion forums, attending short lectures and completing a variety of language assignments. Class time is ten hours per week of combined synchronous, a-synchronous and homework learning activities.

Placement Test and Class Levels

Students are required to take an online “English Proficiency Test” (EPT) before the course begins at no extra cost. ELC staff will email you a link to the test and when you are ready, you can take the 80-minute test.

Based on your EPT results, you will be placed in one of 5 class levels, from “high beginner” (= ~A2) to advanced (= ~B2+). Class levels in this course are benchmarked to the [Common European Framework for Reference for Languages \(CEFR\)](#) a global standard which identifies levels from basic (A1) to proficient (C2).

Orientation

Students will come online before the class starts to test their equipment and to learn the classroom platforms Blackboard Collaborate, Moodle and Zoom. ELC staff will show you the functions of the site and help you with any technical problems you may have so you can begin your classes without any difficulties.

Class Time: “Synchronous” Learning

Students will meet online with their classmates and UVic ELC instructor three days per week for one-hour “synchronous” sessions. Students will participate in activities specifically designed to support and reinforce the independent lessons they have learned. During class time, they will have the opportunity to interact in real time with other students in the course doing activities such as “pair share” exercises, homework review tasks, small group discussions, mini presentations, surveys, interviews and debates. These sessions will be recorded in case students miss a session or need to review material covered in a particular class.

Example class times:

- Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday: 5-6 pm Victoria / 7-8 pm Mexico / 9-10 pm Brazil
- Wednesday, Thursday, Friday: 8-9 am China / 9-10 am Japan and Korea

Independent Work: “A-synchronous” Learning

Under the careful guidance of their instructors, students are expected to do class work independently for about 7 hours per week. ELC instructors will assign tasks and provide “flipped classroom” learning for the students to complete at a time their schedules allow. Learning activities will include watching lectures and dialogues recorded by the teacher, viewing Powerpoint presentations as the teacher explains the content, contributing to online discussions, working on listening assignments, and grammar / vocabulary practice activities.

The synchronous and a-synchronous parts of the course are clearly presented so that students understand how they work together to facilitate course learning objectives and support students’ language development.

Homework

There will be about 2 hours of homework per week. Assignments may include: practicing vocabulary and pronunciation, posting to the discussion forum, making audio/video recordings for presentation, researching information, completing writing tasks and preparing for real-time sessions.

Socio-Cultural Activities

In addition to class time, students will be invited to join ELC Connect Cultural activities including:

- **Experience Victoria videos:** Learn about Canadian students and Canadian living. Short video presentations about life in Canada (Pets in Canada, Family Life, cooking like a Canadian etc).
- **Café Social:** Sign up for Café Social to meet in small groups of 4-5 students along with an ELC staff member. Meet and practice your English with other students and native English speakers.
- **Oh Canada:** Interesting events and stories about Canada are shared for students to enjoy and to discuss in Café Social
- **Mix and Mingle:** Your course will begin with an online “Mixer” activity. This will be your first chance to meet other students from your course.
- **End of Course Celebration:** The last day of your course will be one more chance to connect with your friends. Enjoy a video greeting from the Director of the English Language Centre to celebrate your accomplishments! Then grab a snack and a beverage and enjoy a final good-bye with your classmates.

Certificate and Record of Grade

Upon completion of your online course, you will receive an official Record of Grade and a Certificate of Participation from one of Canada’s top comprehensive universities.

Additional course details: uvic.ca/elc/programs/english-for-global-communication