

International Student and Scholar Services
Binghamton University
Fall 2017
International Spouse Program
English as a Second Language

These are **non**-credit bearing classes for spouses of BU international students, faculty and staff. BU Research Scholars are welcome to join as well. These classes are **NOT** intended for current BU students.

The fee is 5\$ total for the semester for each class level you wish to attend. For example, if you wish to attend the elementary level class, the total is 5\$. If you wish to attend the elementary level class and the discussion group, the total is 10\$, etc. This money is used to cover the cost of copies and is paid only once.

No need to register for these classes beforehand. Please go to the class(es) you wish to attend. The instructor will register you at that time.

Instructor: Myriam Stanton
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I am looking forward to another semester here at Binghamton University as the ISP ESL instructor. I am trilingual myself. While I learned my third language, I lived in the target language's host country just like all of you are doing right now. Therefore, I'm very familiar with the challenges and rewards that come from acquiring a foreign language and adapting to a new culture. Your experiences and insights regarding your acclimation to the United States are encouraged as topics to discuss in these classes. There is an endless amount to learn when living in a foreign country.

These classes have also become a means to meet others in your exact situation. I have witnessed many of my students become great friends as a result of their participation in this program. I know from experience how vital it is to feel a connection to others and establish a support system while living in a foreign country. I can happily testify to the family that is created in these classes.

The language learning process is very involved. Even if you attend *all* the ISP ESL classes this semester, there is still a need to practice all four skills (reading, writing, listening, and speaking) in various capacities ***outside of the classroom***. I hope to see you in my classes so I can be a part of the complex but rewarding process that is language learning.

The ISP ESL classes will begin Monday August 28th. On the other side of this flyer, I have included a short description of the classes along with the days, times, and locations of each. Course books are not a required purchase. I provide the material for you.

- *Beginner-Pre-Intermediate*

Time and Location: **Mondays & Wednesdays** – FA—Fine Arts 212
1:40-3:10

Time is spent on all four skills. There is work done using material out of various ESL text books that include a focus on grammar and sentence structure, while conversation is always incorporated into the lessons as well.

- *Intermediate-Advanced*

Time and Location: **Tuesdays & Thursdays**— FA—Fine Arts 212
1:40-3:10

There is an ongoing focus on grammar and sentence structure while tenses such as the passive, past perfect, future perfect may also be covered. Additional topics may include verb patterns, everyone's favorite verb "get", reported speech as well as other topics in between. Articles covering topics of interest will also be discussed.

- *Discussion Group*

Time and Location: **Fridays---12:30-2:00**
OHG 49 – Lower Level of Old Champlain

My intention in this class is to bring as much diversity into the discussions as possible. In the past, memorable discussions were had on the books: *The Precious Present* by Spencer Johnson and *The Four Agreements* by Don Miguel Ruiz. If you have read an interesting book, bring it in! You can read excerpts from it and give us food for thought and discussion. I'm especially open to your contributions. You are also welcome to bring in excerpts from articles that interest you. I also have a vast collection of material that I will always have available. Possible topics for discussion: adapting to a new culture, learning a new language, how to be happy, stress, careers, raising children in a foreign country, the existence of God, etc...?? Individuals at all levels of English are welcome and can benefit through listening and/or speaking.

I look very forward to learning with you!

Sincerely,

Myriam Stanton