

**ENGLISH LANGUAGE INSTITUTE
PACE UNIVERSITY - NEW YORK CITY CAMPUS**

ELI 091R: **Pre-Graduate Academic Reading**
Class Hours: Tuesday & Thursday, 10:05am - 12:05pm

Instructor: Amanda Meier **Email:** meier.amanda@gmail.com
Skype: meieramanda **Office Hours:** By appointment in person or via Skype

Required Texts:

1. Gardner, Paul. *New Directions*, Second Edition. Cambridge University Press, ISBN: 978-0-521-54172-5
2. Gladwell, Malcolm. *The Tipping Point*. Bay Back Books, ISBN: 978-0-316-34662-7
3. "Building an Academic Vocabulary" Packet

Supplemental Text: *The New York Times*
 You will be required to read *The New York Times* on a regular basis throughout this course. You can access the online version by going to www.nytimes.com/passes. You need to register using your Pace email account.

Course Description:

ELI 091R is a course for ESL students preparing for study in or already studying at an English-speaking college or university needing to improve reading, writing and critical thinking skills. The focus of this course is on reading and high order critical thinking skills (analysis, synthesis, interpretation, evaluation and application) with a minor emphasis on writing as a measure of assessment.

Course Objectives:

1. Extensive Reading

- a. Exposure to readings of varying length and difficulty at a college level (interdisciplinary selections including college texts, nonfiction, newspaper & magazine articles, personal essays, short stories, fables, poems, etc.)
- b. Taking notes while reading (annotating skills)

2. Maintaining a Reading Journal

- a. Regular journal entries about topics relating to the readings, focusing on personal opinions and/or experiences

3. Intensive Reading Comprehension

- a. Interpret writer's meaning inferentially as well as literally
- b. Discriminate between opinion and fact
- c. Detect fallacies in reasoning
- d. Reach conclusions and judgments based on supportable criteria
- e. Propose new ideas
- f. Critically distinguish between main ideas and details
- g. Understand audience and purpose
- h. Summarize and paraphrase readings
- i. Understand uses of figures of speech
- j. Understand tone

4. Developing Academic Vocabulary and Retention

- a. Understanding word parts
- b. Connotations vs. denotations
- c. Phrasal verbs & idioms

- d. Proper word choice

5. Reflection and Synthesis

- a. Online posts
- b. Short writings
- c. Essay responses
- d. Debate & discussion
- e. Group Presentations

Course Grades:

Grades will be based on a standard university letter grade system. To pass the class, students must attend class regularly, participate in class activities, complete all assignments, and pass the final exam and demonstrate sufficient proficiency to move to the next level with a passing grade of **B- (80%) or better**.

- Assessments 30%
- Homework 30%
- Participation 20%
- Quizzes 20%

Textbooks:

Students **must purchase all required texts** in a timely manner as outlined by the instructor. Not having the required text for use in class may be marked as absences which may result in failure of the course. Used books may be purchased from the ELI Office and the Pace Bookstore according to the supplies available. **Used books with answers already written in them will not be permitted in the class.**

Materials:

- Textbooks: *New Directions*, *The Tipping Point*, *Building an Academic Vocabulary Packet*
- Notebook with perforated sheets (8 x 11.5 inches)
- Reading Journal. This will be completed online via Dropbox. Setup an account at www.dropbox.com
- Folder with pockets
- **English to English** dictionary (Merriam-Webster <http://www.merriam-webster.com/> learner's dictionary: <http://www.learnersdictionary.com/> or Oxford University Press <http://oxforddictionaries.com/us/> recommended)

Attendance:

Full attendance is crucial to your success and an important part of your academic experience. However, we understand that different extenuating circumstances may arise. Please notify your instructor if you will be absent for a class.

For ELI Students in 7-week courses: After 2 absences your professor will drop your grade 3 percent per excess absence (ex. with 3 absences, from 95% to 92%, with 4 absences from 95% to 89%).

For Global Pathways (GP) students in 14-week courses: After 4 absences your professor will drop your grade 3 percent per excess absence (ex. with 5 absences, from 95% to 92%, with 6 absences from 95% to 89%).

If you are going to be absent due to extended illness or have other emergencies, please notify your academic advisor immediately.

Lateness Policy:

An arrival after attendance is taken by the instructor (usually within the first 5 minutes of class), but within the first 30 minutes of class, is a "late". Three "lates" equals one absence. Missing more than 30 minutes of a lesson is an absence, not a late.

Homework Policy:

Within the first two weeks of each term, late homework may be accepted by your instructor if the assignment is submitted by the start of the next class. Starting in Week 3 of the term, late homework may only be accepted in extenuating circumstances with the prior approval of your instructor. Late homework submissions may receive a reduced grade.

Exams:

Students will take in-class cumulative midterm and final exams, based on the work covered in class.

Assessment Make-up Policy:

Make ups for quizzes, exams, and presentations may be permissible only with the prior approval of your instructor. Make ups may receive a reduced grade.

Extra-credit Policy:

Extra credit grading will not be included in any ELI course. If you would like additional practice, please speak to your instructor. Practice work is not included in final grade calculations.

Electronic Devices in ELI Classrooms:

ELI instructors determine if and how personal electronic devices are allowed to be used in the classroom. An ELI instructor may restrict or prohibit the use of personal electronic devices in his or her classroom, lab, or any other instructional setting. If the student does not adhere to the instructor's policy, he/she may be asked to leave the classroom. Using personal electronic devices in the classroom can interrupt instruction and learning.

English Only Policy:

ELI has an English only policy in classrooms to ensure that all students have ample opportunity to practice their English both during lessons and in informal conversations with their classmates and instructors.

* I strictly enforce the English only policy because I know you are here to improve your English; you can only do that by using English! The English only policy is fair to all students. If every student speaks English, then students who are not part of the dominant language group will never feel isolated or alienated from their classmates.

** Regularly violating the English only policy will result in a lower course grade.