

# Tuesday Conversation Class (Online)

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Whatcom Literacy Council

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Office hours: by appt.

## Course Description

In this course, students will continue developing their knowledge of the English language. On the first day, I will ask students to share what they are already familiar with, what they hope to learn, and so on. The rest of the course will be designed to help students learn what they want to learn, at whatever speed is best for them. We will cover vocabulary, phrases, and grammatical constructions.

## Course Websites

There are two websites for this course, listed below.

[esllibrary.com](http://esllibrary.com)

[isaacwilhelm.com/Courses/2021/Englishconversation/englishconversationSp2021.htm](http://isaacwilhelm.com/Courses/2021/Englishconversation/englishconversationSp2021.htm)

We will primarily use the first website. Course materials, and practice problems, may occasionally be posted to the second website.

## Course Requirements

Here is a list of basic requirements for this course. I strongly recommend that you complete them: by doing these requirements, you will learn a lot of math.

1. Attendance: you must show up to each course.
2. Participation: you must actively participate in each class meeting. This includes holding conversations, answering questions, and asking questions.

I will not assign letter grades in this course. Instead, at the end of the course, students who complete all of the above requirements—attend each class, and participate—will have the option of receiving two different kinds of feedback about (i) what they learned, and (ii) what they should try to learn in the future.

The first kind of feedback will take the form of a written evaluation: I will write a couple paragraphs about what the student did well, where the student needs to improve, and so on. The second kind of feedback will take the form of a meeting: if the student would

like, I will have a Zoom meeting with them to discuss what they did well, where they could improve, and so on.

If a student wants to receive either or both kinds of feedback, they must email me to ask for it. I strongly encourage all students to do this. The feedback will be nice, kind, constructive, helpful, and encouraging. It will give students a sense for what they have learned, where they seem to be struggling, what the next steps might be, and more.

Just to reiterate: this feedback is optional. If a student does not want either kind of feedback, that is perfectly fine.

## **Goals for the Course**

By this course's conclusion, you should be able to

- understand many different sorts of English phrases,
- reproduce the phrases in certain conversational settings, and
- hold a conversation with people at your work, at the grocery store, and at other such places.

## **Accessibility**

This class should be a great, fun, and educational experience for everyone. And of course, everyone deserves equal access to the class. Disabled students are encouraged to speak with me, if that would be helpful, about any accommodations which they might need.