



If you need more help, make an appointment with us at...

Student Academic Learning Services

Phone: 905.721.2000 ext. 2491

Email: kathy.bryers@durhamcollege.ca

or

visit our front desk in room 204,
Student Services Building (SSB)

Sudent **A**cademic **L**earning **S**ervices

Academic Success for ESL Students
English as a Second Language

Expectations

What Professors expect you to do

- **Read your textbook to prepare for lectures** – if you do the readings, the lectures will be much easier to understand
- **Arrive to class on time and be ready to take notes** – it is also important to organize and review your notes as soon as possible after lectures
- **Be active in class, participate in group work, and ask questions when you do not understand**
- **Make direct eye contact when speaking with your professor and classmates** – this shows them you are listening and interested in what they are saying
- **Ask for help if you are having trouble with your course** – as a student, it is your responsibility to ask for help if you are having problems
- **Understand referencing (APA / MLA) and plagiarism relating to written assignments** – this is very important because if you do not clearly state the source of your ideas and writing in the correct way, you will lose marks or even possibly fail the course

Participation

How can you participate more in class?

Build a relationship with your professors and classmates

- Be respectful
- Ask questions
- Be positive
- Show interest
- Listen actively

Ask question when you don't understand

- Ask the professor or ask your classmates
- It is your responsibility to ask if you do not understand something

Be active when listening

- Ask questions to clarify what is being said
- Repeat back your understanding of an idea
- Use body language to show interest, understanding, or confusion

Remember why you are here

- Do not allow your language ability to stop you
- Keep studying and improving your English

Keep a positive attitude

Speak loudly and confidently

Mistakes are OK – Learn from them!

English Language Skills

How can you improve your English?

- Come to the Student Academic Learning Services (SALS) Centre to take **workshops** and get more **tip sheets** like this one
- Join the **Conversation Partners** program at the SALS Centre to meet with a native English speaking student for conversation
- Come to the **Conversation Circle** at the SALS Centre to practice your conversation skills
- Read the free campus **newspaper**, *the Chronicle*, at Durham College, **watch TV**, and **join a club** on campus to make more English speaking friends
- **Visit the English / ESL resources on the SALS website:** www.durhamcollege.ca/sals
- **Study academic vocabulary** and try using the words in your speaking and writing
- Make an appointment with the **ESL Specialist** at the SALS Centre for more ideas about improving your English