

English 2C: “Using the Internet for Independent Language Study”

University of Tokyo; School of Liberal Arts

Instructor: Ralph ROSE <crose@mail.ecc.u-tokyo.ac.jp >

Time: Friday, 3rd or 4th Period Location: Room 158

Overview

The aim of this course is two-fold: to develop students' ability to access, comprehend, and make use of Internet resources as well as to develop their skill to evaluate the suitability of online materials for their own future language study. Towards these ends, classroom activities will make use of a wide variety of Internet-based audiovisual materials including lectures, podcasts, news and entertainment videos, blogs, and so on. The beginning of the course will be largely teacher-centered. However, students will gradually take more and more control of the lessons until by the end of the course, students are directing the lessons in a relatively autonomous manner.

Schedule (tentative)

April 10 th	Guidance
April 17 th	Introduction
April 24 th	TED talks
May 8 th	VOA podcasts
May 15 th	The Daily Show
May 22 nd	American Idol
June 5 th	Science News

June 12 th	MIT Lectures
June 19 th	Student-selected materials
June 26 th	
July 3 rd	
July 10 th	
July 15 th	Consolidation & Wrap-up

Textbook and Materials

- There is no textbook for the course.
- Students must have a reliable means to access the Internet (home or school).
- Handouts will be provided by the instructor.
- Class web page will be announced shortly.

Lessons and Weekly quizzes

Each lesson will take one internet-based material (e.g., text, audio recording) as the focal point for study. Students are expected to preview this and related material before each lesson. A variety of activities will be undertaken related to the text: some activities will focus on comprehension of the material itself, other activities will extend beyond the material and relate it to real life. Some activities will be done as a class, some in small groups or pairs, and some individually. Then, at the beginning of the following lesson, there will be a short quiz covering the material discussed in the preceding lesson or assigned as homework.

Student teaching: Group projects

Students will gradually take more responsibility for choosing materials to use in lessons, presenting these materials to the rest of the class, deciding activities to interact with the materials, and even preparing quizzes. Students are expected to work together in a group and make a balanced contribution to the project.

Grades

Students will be evaluated primarily on performance on weekly quizzes as well as completion of lesson-planning in the latter half of the course. In addition, attendance (including punctuality) and class participation can significantly influence grades.