

Missouri State University
English Language Institute
Global Communication and Sustainability Bootcamp
August 18-31, 2024

Introduction

The Global Communication and Sustainability Bootcamp is a two-week intensive program designed to enhance the English language and professional communication skills of international students at the college level. The 90-hour program aims to provide a comprehensive understanding of professional English communication and the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), fostering global awareness, cross-cultural competence, and sustainability leadership.

Program Components

1. Educational Workshops (see Appendix 1 for additional details)
 - Held Monday-Thursday from 9:00-11:30am and 1:00-3:30pm

Intensive Workshop 1 (Week 1): Speak Like a Pro: Mastering Professional English for Success

- Designed for college ESL learners at the intermediate level.
- Focuses on oral communication, pronunciation, and listening comprehension.
- Empowers participants to navigate the global workplace with confidence.
- Includes interactive sessions, role-playing scenarios, and real-world applications.

Intensive Workshop 2 (Week 2): Navigating Sustainable Futures: Understanding the UN's SDGs

- Tailored for college ESL students at the intermediate level.
- Explores the United Nations' SDGs with a focus on poverty, education, partnerships, and environmental sustainability.
- Includes activities to fortify all language skills: reading, writing, speaking, listening, pronunciation, grammar, and vocabulary development

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- Emphasizes cultural awareness, cross-cultural communication, and sustainable practices.
- Integrates practical assignments, group projects, and real-world applications.

2. Guided Activities and Field Trips:

a. *Networking:*

- i. **Recreation Center Party** – pool, sports, and rock-climbing wall, with MSU international and American students
- ii. Four **Conversation Circles** sessions with international and American students and community members

b. *Sustainability / Service Learning Field Trips:*

- i. **Springfield Conservation Nature Center**
- ii. **Noble Hill Sanitary Landfill**
- iii. **Northwest Wastewater Treatment Plant**
- iv. **Boys and Girls Clubs**
- v. **The Drew Lewis Foundation at the Fairbanks Community Hub**

c. *Day Trips:*

i. **Branson, Missouri**

1. Tour Dewey Short Visitor Center / Sightseeing around Table Rock Lake
2. Lunch, Scavenger Hunt, and Shopping at Branson Landing and Tanger Outlet Mall

- ii. **Fantastic Caverns Tour** and **Ritter Springs** Hike / Picnic with other international students / American students

Program Cost*: \$1875 per student, minimum 12 students. Accompanying chaperone (1 per 15 students) cost: \$900, including single-occupancy housing with group and all program activities (see Appendix 2 for day-by-day schedule)

*includes airport transfer between Springfield / Branson National Airport (airport code SGF), double-occupancy housing on the Missouri State University campus, all meals except for Branson day trip, tuition, course materials, access to campus facilities. Does NOT include airfare, visa fees, health insurance, or souvenirs.

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Appendix 1: Workshop Details

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Workshop 1

Speak Like a Pro: Mastering Professional English for Success

Unit 1: Introduction to Professional Communication

Lesson A: Foundational Concepts

- Overview of oral communication skills in the workplace
- Formal vs. informal spoken language
- Common workplace vocabulary and expressions
- Role-play scenarios to practice basic workplace conversations
- Dialogue practice: Introducing oneself, greeting colleagues, and making small talk in a professional setting

Lesson B: Building Effective Verbal Communication

Practicing effective verbal communication in various contexts

- Using appropriate tone and language in different professional situations
- Role-play scenarios for expressing opinions, giving instructions, and seeking clarification
- Dialogue practice: Participating in simulated workplace conversations, discussing work-related topics, and handling common oral communication challenges

Unit 2: Effective Business Meetings

Lesson A: Vocabulary and Basics of Business Meetings

- Vocabulary related to meetings and discussions
- Giving and receiving feedback orally
- Understanding meeting agendas and contributing verbally
- Role-playing scenarios for practicing effective verbal communication in meetings
- Dialogue practice: Simulating a team meeting, discussing agenda items, and providing constructive feedback

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Lesson B: Active Participation in Meetings

- Techniques for active participation: expressing opinions, agreeing, disagreeing verbally
- Handling common meeting challenges orally
- Role-playing exercises for effective communication during discussions
- Dialogue practice: Participating in a formal meeting, expressing agreement or disagreement, and summarizing key points

Unit 3: Oral Presentation Skills

Lesson A: Developing Spoken Presentation Skills

- Structuring and delivering effective spoken presentations
- Engaging the audience verbally
- Using visual aids to support oral communication
- Practice session: Delivering short presentations on familiar topics
- Dialogue practice: Rehearsing and delivering a brief presentation, incorporating feedback

Lesson B: Handling Questions and Feedback

- Strategies for handling questions and feedback during presentations
- Practice sessions for interactive Q&A scenarios
- Refining oral communication skills in responding to inquiries
- Dialogue practice: Simulating a Q&A session, addressing audience questions, and receiving constructive feedback

Unit 4: Business Communication Skills

Lesson A: Giving and Understanding Oral Instructions

- Effectively conveying instructions verbally
- Seeking clarification and confirming understanding orally
- Role-playing exercises for practicing oral instruction in workplace scenarios
- Dialogue practice: Providing and receiving instructions, clarifying doubts, and confirming comprehension

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Lesson B: Telephone Etiquette and Negotiation Techniques

- Telephone etiquette and effective phone conversations
- Developing negotiation and persuasion techniques in spoken communication
- Role-playing exercises for practical application of oral communication skills
- Dialogue practice: Simulating phone conversations, negotiating deals, and handling business inquiries orally

Unit 5: Cross-cultural Communication in the Workplace

Lesson A: Understanding Cultural Differences in Oral Communication

- Recognizing cultural nuances in spoken interactions
- Strategies for effective cross-cultural oral communication
- Role-playing scenarios to navigate diversity in verbal communication
- Dialogue practice: Discussing cultural differences, sharing experiences, and adapting communication style

Lesson B: Building Cultural Awareness in Spoken Communication

- Interacting with colleagues from different cultural backgrounds verbally
- Developing cultural sensitivity in spoken communication
- Real-life case studies and discussions on cross-cultural challenges in oral communication
- Dialogue practice: Resolving cross-cultural communication issues through effective spoken interactions, sharing insights, and reflecting on cultural awareness

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**Workshop 2: Navigating Sustainable Futures:
Understanding the UN's Sustainable Development Goals**

Unit 1: Introduction to the United Nations and SDGs

Lesson A: Exploring the United Nations

- Overview of the United Nations: its origins, structure, and global mission
- Basic vocabulary related to international sustainable development
- Group discussions and pair activities: Expressing opinions on global challenges
- Interactive role-play: Simulating discussions within the UN on global issues

Lesson B: Understanding the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

- Introduction to the development and adoption of the SDGs
- Overview of the 17 SDGs and their interconnections
- Visual aids and infographics: Understanding the global goals
- Small group discussions: Sharing thoughts on the relevance of specific SDGs in participants' regions

Unit 2: Goal 1 - No Poverty

Lesson A: Poverty Basics and Global Context

- Defining poverty
- Analyzing global poverty trends with statistics
- Case studies: Exploring successful poverty reduction initiatives
- Pair activities: Discussing local approaches to address poverty

Lesson B: Strategies for Tackling Goal 1

- Overview of Goal 1: Ending poverty in all its forms everywhere
- Examining local initiatives: Eden Village
- Role-playing scenarios: Developing and presenting basic strategies to reduce poverty
- Action planning: Identifying simple community-level actions to contribute to Goal 1

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Unit 3: Goal 4 - Quality Education

Lesson A: The Power of Education for All

- Understanding the importance of education for all
- Overview of Goal 4: Ensuring inclusive and equitable quality education
- Case Studies: Highlighting successful education programs worldwide
- Pair and group discussions: Identifying challenges to education in participants' contexts

Lesson B: Simple Solutions and Collaborations in Education

- Exploring approaches to enhance education quality
- Case Study: Boys and Girls Clubs of America
- Sharing insights in an informal setting: Presenting and discussing project ideas

Unit 4: Sustainable Water Management and Conservation

Lesson A: The Importance of Water Quality and Watersheds

- Explanation of water quality and its significance
- Understanding the basics of watersheds and their role in ecosystems
- Case Study: Springfield waste management
- Group discussion: Identifying local water-related challenges and potential solutions

Lesson B: Conservation Efforts for Fish and Wildlife in Water Ecosystems

- Overview of Goal 15: Life on Land, and Goal 14: Life Below Water
- Exploration of fish and wildlife conservation in Missouri
- Group activities: Designing projects for water conservation
- Informal presentation and discussion: Sharing and refining basic strategies for water quality, watershed protection, and fish/wildlife conservation

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Unit 5: Goal 17 - Partnerships for the Goals

Lesson A: The Role of Partnerships Made Easy

- Understanding the importance of Goal 17: Strengthening the means of implementation
- Guest speaker session: Dr. David Perkins, Sustainability Professor
- Interactive group activity: Creating a hypothetical partnership for a specific SDG

Lesson B: Stories of Successful Partnerships

- Analyzing successful partnerships in simple terms
- Identifying basic challenges and solutions in collaborative efforts
- Role-playing scenarios: Simplified negotiation and building of partnerships
- Case Study: The O'Reilly Center for Hope
- Informal group discussion: Reflecting on the potential impact of effective partnerships

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Appendix 2: Program Itinerary

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Sunday, 8/18/2024

- Arrivals / Airport Transfer to MSU Campus
- Residence Hall Check-In
- Welcome and Residence Hall Orientation
- Dinner (depending on arrival time)

Monday, 8/19/2024

- 7:30-8:30am: Breakfast
- 8:30am: Shuttle transfer to Program Orientation
- 9:00am: Program Orientation Part 1
- 11:30: Shuttle to Lunch
- 12:30: Lunch
- 1:30: Shuttle to Program Orientation Part 2
- 3:45: Shuttle to Residence Hall
- 5:00: Dinner
- 6:30: Welcome Party at Foster Recreation Center

Tuesday, 8/20/2024

- 7:30-8:30am: Breakfast
- 8:30am: Shuttle transfer to Workshop 1
- 9:00am: Workshop 1: Speak Like a Pro
- 11:30: Shuttle to Lunch
- 12:30: Lunch
- 1:30: Shuttle to Workshop 2: Navigating Sustainable Futures
- 3:30: Conversation Circles
- 4:45: Shuttle to Dining Center
- 5:00: Dinner
- Evening: On your own

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Wednesday, 8/21/2024

- 7:30-8:30am: Breakfast
- 8:30am: Shuttle transfer to Workshop 1
- 9:00am: Workshop 1: Speak Like a Pro
- 11:30: Shuttle to Lunch
- 12:30: Lunch
- 1:30: Shuttle to Workshop 2: Navigating Sustainable Futures
- 3:45: Shuttle to Dining Center
- 5:00: Dinner
- Evening: On your own

Thursday, 8/22/2024

- 7:30-8:30am: Breakfast
- 8:30am: Shuttle transfer to Workshop 1
- 9:00am: Workshop 1: Speak Like a Pro
- 11:30: Shuttle to Lunch
- 12:30: Lunch
- 1:30: Shuttle to Workshop 2: Navigating Sustainable Futures
- 3:30: Conversation Circles
- 4:45: Shuttle to Dining Center
- 5:00: Dinner
- Evening: Conversation Circles

Friday, 8/23/2024

- 7:30-8:30am: Breakfast
- 8:30am: Shuttle to Eden Village for Volunteering
- 9:00am: Eden Village Tour and Volunteering
- 11:30: Shuttle to lunch on campus
- 12:00: Lunch
- 1:30: Shuttle to Boys and Girls Club
- 2:00-4:00: Tour and Volunteer at Boys and Girls Club
- 4:00: Shuttle to campus
- 5:00: Dinner
- Evening: On your own

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Saturday, 8/24/2024

- 7:30-8:30am: Breakfast
- 8:30am: Shuttle to Branson, Missouri
- 9:30am: Tour Dewey Short Visitor Center
- 10:30: Shuttle to Historic Downtown Branson for Scavenger Hunt and Shopping
- 12:00: Lunch / Shopping at Branson Landing – on your own (lunch prices ~\$15-20)
- 2:00: Shuttle to Tanger Outlet Mall for shopping
- 4:30pm: Load buses to return to campus
- 5:30pm: Dinner
- Evening: On your own

Sunday, 8/25/2024

- 7:30-8:30am: Breakfast
- 9:00: Shuttle to Fantastic Caverns
- 9:30: Tour Fantastic Caverns
- 11:00: Shuttle to Ritter Springs
- 11:15: Guided Nature Hike at Ritter Springs
- 12:30: Picnic, Local Story-telling, and Yard Games at Ritter Springs
- 2:30: Shuttle back to campus
- 5:00: Dinner
- Evening: On your own

Monday, 8/26/2024

- 7:30-8:30am: Breakfast
- 8:30am: Shuttle transfer to Workshop 1
- 9:00am: Workshop 1: Speak Like a Pro
- 11:30: Shuttle to Lunch
- 12:30: Lunch
- 1:30: Shuttle to Workshop 2: Navigating Sustainable Futures
- 3:30: Shuttle to Residence Hall
- 5:00: Dinner
- Evening: On your own

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Tuesday, 8/27/2024

- 7:30-8:30am: Breakfast
- 8:30am: Shuttle transfer to Workshop 1
- 9:00am: Workshop 1: Speak Like a Pro
- 11:30: Shuttle to Lunch
- 12:30: Lunch
- 1:30: Shuttle to Workshop 2: Navigating Sustainable Futures
- 3:30: Conversation Circles
- 4:45: Shuttle to Dining Center
- 5:00: Dinner
- Evening: On your own

Wednesday, 8/28/2024

- 7:30-8:30am: Breakfast
- 8:30am: Shuttle transfer to Workshop 1
- 9:00am: Workshop 1: Speak Like a Pro
- 11:30: Shuttle to Lunch
- 12:30: Lunch
- 1:30: Shuttle to Workshop 2: Navigating Sustainable Futures
- 3:45: Shuttle to Dining Center
- 5:00: Dinner
- Evening: On your own

Thursday, 8/29/2024

- 7:30-8:30am: Breakfast
- 8:30am: Shuttle transfer to Workshop 1
- 9:00am: Workshop 1: Speak Like a Pro
- 11:30: Shuttle to Lunch
- 12:30: Lunch
- 1:30: Shuttle to Workshop 2: Navigating Sustainable Futures
- 3:30: Conversation Circles
- 4:45: Shuttle to Dining Center
- 5:00: Dinner
- Evening: Conversation Circles

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Friday, 8/30/2024

- 7:30-8:30am: Breakfast
- 8:30am: Shuttle to Springfield Conservation Nature Center
- 9:00am: Springfield Conservation Center Presentation, Tour and Hike
- 12:00pm: Shuttle to lunch on campus
- 12:30pm: Lunch
- 1:30pm: Shuttle to the Fairbanks
- 2:00-4:00pm: Tour and Volunteer at the Fairbanks
- 4:15pm: Shuttle to campus
- 6:00: Program Completion and Certificate Ceremony and Dinner
- 9:00pm: room checks

Saturday, 8/31/2024

- Room check-out
- Airport Transfer
- Depart Springfield