International Scholars English Center
(ISEC)
Auburn University
ESL Program

Mission Statement
The ISEC is devoted to improving the Academic English language skills of nonnative English users at Auburn University, including students enrolled in the Intensive English Program, graduate, and undergraduate programs as well as for Visiting Scholars and faculty members.

For writing concerns, the consultants in ISEC can help students learn all aspects of the writing process from understanding the writing assignment to developing ideas into topics to managing the assignment time to becoming aware of a variety of editing skills for final papers.

For oral English skills, the consultants provide opportunities to interact in English with a native/fluent speaker as well as pronunciation diagnostic and support.

The dual teaching philosophy that informs the practice of the ISEC emphasizes the student’s authority in questions of content and meaning and the consultant’s expertise in language and expression. The consultant’s goal is to help the student improve his or her overall Academic English ability, using works-in-progress for courses as the instruments of instruction. Because Academic English use is complex, students may require many consultations throughout the process of developing fluency.

The ISEC supports both students and faculty by allowing students to inform their professors that they have attended ISEC sessions. Professors may also refer students to the ISEC and require them to attend one or a series of sessions.

Additionally, the ISEC can serve as a professional development/research site for faculty and students of Auburn University. Consultants have the opportunity to participate in development activities and professional organizations along with the faculty of the ESL Program. The ISEC also envisions itself as a future center for AU student and faculty research into the writing process.

Policies

Coordinator

- The ISEC coordinator schedules consultants and students for conference sessions, small groups, and workshops.
- The ISEC coordinator interviews and recommends potential consultants to the ESL Program director for employment.
- The ISEC coordinator is responsible for maintaining records on every conference session, small group meeting, and workshop.
- The ISEC coordinator enforces the policies of the ISEC.

ISEC
Mary Stephens Diamond
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The ISEC coordinator maintains a membership and participates in professional organizations associated with English language teaching (AMTESOL and TESOL).

The ISEC coordinator provides professional development opportunities for the ISEC consultants.

The ISEC coordinator communicates with professors regarding their students’ attendance in the ISEC.

The ISEC coordinator publicizes the ISEC’s services.

The ISEC coordinator facilitates research opportunities in the ISEC for faculty and students of Auburn University.

**Consultants**

ISEC consultants help international students with writing, reading, listening, and speaking assignments and tasks associated with their Auburn University courses as well as with more general language strategies associated with Academic English use.

ISEC consultants provide assistance with reading strategies for teachers’ assignments and comments, but they do not discuss grades or grading.

ISEC consultants only work with currently enrolled Intensive English Program students, Auburn University students, Auburn faculty and visiting scholars.

ISEC consultants work with students one-to-one or in small groups.

ISEC consultants cannot guarantee the success of a paper; students are responsible for their work.

ISEC consultants will complete a conference report form for each student conference. This form will be forwarded to the students’ instructors if the student requests this service on the form.

ISEC consultants will only assist students with writing in face-to-face sessions; there is no drop off service.

**Professors**

Professors may refer students to the ISEC. Students referred to the ISEC and required by the referring professor (as noted on the student referral form) to attend a session or sessions will have their forms forwarded to the referring professor. A student referral form does not necessarily require that student attend the center.

Professors should address questions about ISEC consulting sessions to the Coordinator of the ISEC; professors should not contact consultants directly.

Professors may request small group sessions for students with similar writing concerns. Professors may also request workshops for their students on writing issues specific to their fields of study.

**Students**

Students must be present in the ISEC to receive writing help; there is no drop off service.

Students who attend the ISEC sessions must be nonnative English users.

Students must be enrolled in Auburn University to attend the ISEC.

Students may request small group meetings with fellow students in the ISEC.