

# Course Overview and Outline

## ESL – Living in America & Accent Reduction

Teachers: Tom Jones & Herschel Hatcher

### Overview

**Target Student:** Non-native English speakers living in the United States who want to learn more about American culture, help in raising children in the U.S., improve their pronunciation and learn new vocabulary and English phrases.

### Outline

**U.S. Culture, Current Events & Family Life:** We will discuss current events, including seasonal events, and how these events might affect our work lives and personal lives. The purpose of this area is for the ESL student to better understand his/her U.S. co-workers', neighbors' and friends' actions and decisions in order to improve communications and relationships. The study of U.S. culture will include the study of U.S. idioms and slang.

**You will learn about:**

- U.S. History and How it Affects Americans Today
- Parenting: American Parenting and Issues for All Parents of Children in the U.S., Such as Social Media, Education and Teen Activities
- Current Events – Politics, Entertainment and General News
- Sports – American Attitudes Toward Sports and Its Effect on American Culture

**Pronunciation and Accent Reduction:** Through class discussion and pronunciation drills, we will work on specific pronunciation challenges for non-native English speakers.

**Business Skills:** We will incorporate discussions of business best practices to improve work performance and drive career development. Additional texts may be assigned for reading outside of class.

**You will learn about:**

- Presentation Skills
- General Business Success Tips
- More

### Text and Resources

- *“Speak Business English Like an American”*, Amy Gillett (ISBN 978-0972530064)
- Timely, business and current events books as identified during the class year.
- Class website [www.parlanceus.com](http://www.parlanceus.com)