**American English**

**Time:** Monday, 14:00–15:30

**Location:** Room 361

**Lecturer:** Cheyma Seghiri

**E-mail:** cheymaseghiri@gmail.com

**Aim of the course**

The course offers a basic introduction to the study of American English, a distinct variety of the English language, in a systematic manner, by comparing it with British English. Differences between British and American English will be discussed on diverse levels of the language: pronunciation, spelling and punctuation, vocabulary and idiomatic expressions, grammar, speaking style and miscellaneous differences.

**Requirements and evaluation**

* *Regular attendance.* Students can miss a maximum of three classes, but they are encouraged to attend each and every class.
* *Preparation for the classes.* Students should be prepared for the classes, which means they need to read the required unit, as designated by the syllabus, in advance, do the homework, be ready to raise relevant questions and provide comments on the discussed topics.
* *Presentations.* At the orientation, students will be asked to sign up to do creative exercises during 2 specific classes of the course as presentations. The description of their plan, and the exercises with solutions should be **sent to the teacher in writing two days in advance to the class.** If this is not done, that takes 2 grades off of the grade for their presentation. After getting feedback on the presentation and finalizing the ppt &/or the worksheets, students’ duty is to upload the material of their presentation to the relevant file on Teams.
* *Tests.* There will be two tests throughout the semester, covering the required units of the reading material and the exercises. These tests must be written before the exam period. A missed test is equivalent to a grade 1. (Midterm test: units 1-3; End-of-term test: units 4-6.)
* *Grading.* Note that students must not get one in any of these components in order to pass the course: tests (30-30%), presentations (15-15%), in-class participation (10%).

**Grading scale:**

1-54% = 1

55-67% = 2

68-77% = 3

78-87% = 4

88-100% = 5

**Reading material**

Zoltán Kövecses: Bridge One – British and American English Differences for Learners of English with Exercises, 2000, Librotrade Kft. – MPL Könyv Kft.

**The book is uploaded to the Teams platorm of the class.**

**Syllabus**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Week** | **Date** | **Topic** |
| 1 | Sep. 8 | Introduction |
| 2 | Sep. 15 | Pronunciation differences 1 |
| 3 | Sep. 22 | Pronunciation differences 2 |
| 4 | Sep. 29 | Spelling and punctuation differences |
| 5 | Oct. 6 | Vocabulary differences 1 |
| 6 | Oct. 13 | Vocabulary differences 2 |
| **7** | **Oct. 20** | **Mid-term-test** |
| 8 | Oct. 27 | Fall break |
| 9 | Nov. 3 | Grammar differences 1 |
| 10 | Nov.10 | Grammar difference 2 |
| 11 | Nov. 17 | Speaking style difference 1 |
| 12 | Nov.24  | Speaking style difference 2 |
| 13 | Dec.1 | Miscellaneous differences |
| **14** | **Dec.8** | **End-of-term test** |