

Application Guidelines for Online Study Abroad Program (Temple University), Spring 2026

Online Study Abroad Program (Temple University) is English learning courses offered by the Center for American Language & Culture at Temple University. The courses are offered for university students to improve their skills and confidence when using English and will build a foundation for students to actively engage in the global workplace. The courses will be provided by highly qualified instructors at Temple University with advanced degrees in TESOL (Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages).

1. Application Overview

(1) *Course Names* :

1. Basic English Communication Skills
2. English Pronunciation & Presentation Skills
3. Professional & Academic Conversations in English
4. AI Essentials for Success in Academic Settings

(2) *Course Provider* : The Center for American Language & Culture, Temple University

(3) *Eligible Students* : Undergraduate and Graduate students at Tohoku University

* Only regular students are eligible for the courses.

(4) *Session Dates and Hours* :

120-minute class on Tuesdays and Thursdays OR Mondays and Wednesdays.

Course 1 and 3: **February 10 (Tue), 2026 ~ March 26 (Thu), 2026**

- February 10 (Tue), 2026 ~ March 5 (Thu), 2026, 9 p.m. to 11 p.m. (JST)

- March 10 (Tue), 2026 ~ March 26 (Thu), 2026, 8 p.m. to 10 p.m. (JST)

Course 2 and 4: **February 9 (Mon), 2026 ~ March 25 (Wed), 2026**

- February 9 (Mon), 2026 ~ March 4 (Wed), 2026, 9 p.m. to 11 p.m. (JST)

- March 9 (Mon), 2026 ~ March 25 (Wed), 2026, 8 p.m. to 10 p.m. (JST)

* Class Hours will be different after March 9 due to the start of Daylight Saving Time in the U.S..

* It is also held on a day that falls on a public holiday in Japan.

* Courses 1 and 3 run every Tuesday/Thursday, Courses 2 and 4 run every Monday/Wednesday.

* Applications for multiple courses are permitted if they don't conflict.

(5) *Recommended English Test Score :*

1. Basic English Communication Skills:

TOEFL iBT® 42, TOEFL ITP® 440, TOEIC® 415, IELTS 4.0

2. English Pronunciation & Presentation Skills:

TOEFL iBT® 55, TOEFL ITP® 480, TOEIC® 525, IELTS 5.0

3. Professional & Academic Conversations in English:

TOEFL iBT® 70, TOEFL ITP® 525, TOEIC® 635, IELTS 5.5

4. AI Essentials for Success in Academic Settings:

TOEFL iBT® 70, TOEFL ITP® 525, TOEIC® 635, IELTS 5.5

(6) *Course Format :* Online

* Courses will be conducted using Zoom and the coursework will be done on the Canvas learning system. Information required to connect will be provided prior to the course. Students have to ensure that they have adequate computers with Internet access.

(7) *Number of Students :* 20-30 per course (first come first served)

* Minimum enrollment of 10 students per course. If course enrollment is below the minimum requirement, the course may be canceled.

(8) *Course Fee :* JPY 20,000 per course

* Tohoku University covers the majority of the course fee (approximately ¥60,000).

* No refunds will be given in principle.

* A course fee (JPY 20,000) is required for each course registration.

(9) *Course Overview :* Please refer to the following pages.

2. Application Deadline and Method

(1) *Application Deadline :* **January 13 (Tue), 2026 (9:00 a.m.) (JST)**

Please apply using the application form below.

Application Form: <https://forms.gle/BpniNC6fyoyydcC17>

* In case the seats are filled before the application deadline, we may stop taking applications before the deadline.

* Payment should be done by January 16 (Fri), 2026 (JST) to complete an application. Payment instructions will be sent to applicants in a return/confirmation email of Google Form after application is made via Google Form.

(2) *Student responsibilities* :

Students are expected to participate in all lessons of the course they are enrolled.

3. Handling of Personal Information

Personal information entered in the application form when applying for the course will be used only for the purpose of processing the application and for communications related to the course.

4. Contact

Student Exchange Division, Tohoku University

Email: sab_query@grp.tohoku.ac.jp

Office Hours: 8:30 a.m.~5:00 p.m. on weekdays

Basic English Communication Skills Course

Develop beginning level communication skills to discuss everyday events incorporating new vocabulary through authentic discussions and collaborative tasks.

<Target student>

For beginner proficiency students who plan to study or work in an English-speaking setting and want to improve their English fluency and confidence when participating in academic and professional activities.

<Description>

This speaking course will develop spoken English through conversation and collaborative tasks. Each lesson focuses on a particular topic and progresses through four main phases which elicit language in spoken interactions. Because the topics can change each session, students may repeat this class until they meet their desired target outcomes. By the end of this course, students will gain confidence in speaking by

- Discussing everyday topics
- Participating in collaborative tasks utilizing the target language

<Course outcomes>

By the end of this course, students will be able to

- Develop the language used at the high beginner level to express and discuss everyday ideas and experiences
- Incorporate new everyday English vocabulary through discussion and collaborative tasks
- Develop communication skills such as awareness of register, sequencing ideas, predicting information, and inferencing

<Major assignments (Collaborative assignments)>

- Plan a dinner party on a budget
- Create and present a must-see guide for your hometown (or other city of choice)

- Design a robot/AI to serve your community
- Plan a road trip in your country on a budget
- Create an Instagram Reel/TikTok on a topic of your choice

English Pronunciation & Presentation Skills Course

Refine pronunciation for improved comprehensibility and develop the skills and confidence to deliver successful presentations in English.

<Target student>

For university students who plan to work in an English-speaking setting or in a global company requiring some English and want to improve their pronunciation for comprehensibility and confidence when presenting in English.

<Description>

This course develops students' confidence in planning and delivering presentations with a focus on targeted pronunciation practice along with verbal and nonverbal elements of effective presentation delivery. Students will do this by

- Planning and delivering original presentations
- Providing feedback to peers
- Identifying pronunciation difficulties and doing targeted pronunciation practice

<Course outcomes>

By the end of this course, students will be able to

- Plan and deliver a presentation in English utilizing verbal and nonverbal elements of effective presentation delivery
- Deliver a short presentation that is clear, organized and free of plagiarism
- Improve pronunciation for comprehensibility

<Major assignments>

- Mini-presentation #1: Describing an image or meaningful object
- Mini-presentation #2: Giving an "elevator speech"
- Mini-presentation #3: Narrating a personal story
- Final presentation: Informational speech with PPT on a topic of student's choosing

Professional & Academic Conversations in English

Improve your fluency at an intermediate to advanced level and increase high level vocabulary through authentic conversation and debates.

<Target student>

For intermediate to advanced English proficiency students who plan to study or work in an English-speaking setting and want to improve their English fluency and confidence when participating in academic and professional activities.

<Description>

This course is a series of topic-focused workshops facilitated by an instructor but driven by student participation. Because the topics can change each session, students may repeat this class until they meet their desired targeted outcomes. Students will improve their fluency and confidence in English by

- Engaging in lively discussion and debate around high interest academic and professional topics,
- Reading articles on various topics and incorporating key high level vocabulary into discussion and debate, and
- Learning the linguistic cultural rules for navigating and leading discussions in English with fluency and confidence.

<Course outcomes>

By the end of this course, students will be able to

- Increase active intermediate to advanced level high frequency and specialized vocabulary,
- Engage in robust discussion and debate around an academic or professional topic,
- Speak confidently and with greater fluency in English utilizing linguistic and cultural rules for navigating discussions and debates, and
- Incorporate high frequency words and idioms into conversation.

<Major assignments>

- As a series of stand-alone workshops around academic and professional topics of interest, there are no major assignments. Students will, however, be required to
- Read critically all articles prior to the class and reference articles during discussions and debates,
- Participate fully in class discussions utilizing accurate linguistic features and vocabulary, and
- Interact effectively in English following cultural norms of engagement.

AI Essentials for Success in Academic Settings

Explore and define what is permissible for A.I. use, how A.I. can support academic tasks, when it may conflict with academic integrity.

<Target student>

Intermediate to advanced English learners seeking to build essential AI literacy skills for academic success. This course also supports multilingual learners and educators interested in human-centered technology use and cross-cultural communication.

<Description>

This course provides project- and task-based instruction in the ethical and practical use of generative AI tools for academic work and meaningful language development. Students will explore when AI can support academic tasks (such as brainstorming, outlining) and when its use may conflict with academic integrity.

Through interactive, hands-on activities, students will learn how generative AI technologies function and how they can support multiple communication modalities such as writing, reading, speaking, and listening.

The course emphasizes human-centered learning practices, highlighting the importance of student voice and responsible AI use across academic and professional contexts. Students will also develop skills in transparency and documentation, including proper AI citation and prompt tracking. By the end of the course, students will be prepared to navigate university AI policies, recognize bias in AI outputs, and apply AI strategically while preserving authenticity and academic integrity.

<Course outcomes>

By the end of this course, students will be able to:

- Define and distinguish appropriate vs. inappropriate uses of AI in academic contexts, aligned with academic integrity expectations.

- Explain how generative AI tools work and how they can support language learning, teaching, and academic communication.
- Use AI tools to support communication tasks across reading, writing, speaking, and listening.
- Craft clear, purposeful prompts that produce accurate and contextually appropriate outputs.
- Analyze AI-generated content for bias, accuracy, ethics, and limitations.
- Reflect critically on opportunities and constraints of AI in multilingual and intercultural contexts.
- Use proper AI citation and documentation practices to ensure transparency.
- Maintain and strengthen student voice while using AI to support academic skill-building.
- Design and present a final project that integrates AI as a communication or academic support tool, tailored to individual language goals, academic needs, or teaching contexts.

<Major assignments>

Students complete several applied tasks designed to build ethical AI literacy and communication skills. Requirements include:

- In-class discussions, activities, and participation focused on academic integrity, bias, transparency, and responsible use of AI tools.
- Formal debates or structured discussions analyzing case studies of appropriate vs. inappropriate AI use in academic settings.
- Prompt generation assignments that demonstrate effective prompting, documentation, and AI citation practices.
- A final project showcase where students design and present a personalized AI-supported communication or academic success plan—such as a study plan or custom bot accompanied by a reflective analysis of how students leveraged AI in an ethical way to achieve their learning goals

-End of application guidelines-