

# University of Chicago

## 2008 Summer English Language Institute (SELI)

Harris School of Public Policy  
**August 18 – August 29**

Sponsored by: The Office of Graduate Affairs and the Office of Programs and External Relations at International House

The Harris School will be offering a two-week English class for international Public Policy students. The goal of the class will be to help students 1) hone their language skills 2) write public policy memos 3) become familiar with the American system of government 4) learn strategies necessary to succeed in the Harris School 5) practice public speaking 6) learn about American culture.

The class will begin on **August 18** for a week of intensive English training and will continue through the next week. Math camp, the optional math review program for Harris School students, begins on Tuesday, September 2<sup>nd</sup>, directly following the conclusion of the SELI course. During the first week of SELI, students spend all day in classes and cultural activities. All international students are required to attend this language and acculturation program, unless they receive a waiver from the Harris School Dean of Students.

### **COURSE DESCRIPTION**

Instructors will work with students to identify persistent pronunciation errors and to develop strategies to overcome them. Global pronunciation issues such as intonation, rhythm, and accent reduction will be addressed. The class will also focus on listening skills and oral presentation skills.

Different lecturing styles, efficient note-taking, and the use of context clues to understand fast speech and unfamiliar vocabulary will be discussed.

The class will build awareness of the kinds of writing which students will be expected to produce and then improve skills in the actual writing and revising process. Students will study model memos, learn to consider the typical organizational structure of memos, and develop the ability to write concisely, coherently, and grammatically.

Students will work specifically on recognizing different kinds of organizational structures. There will also be discussion of domestic and international public policy issues; American political institutions and government will also be reviewed.

### **The Program**

Over the course of the first week, the program progresses throughout the day from formal instruction to less formal activities, such as excursions to neighborhood restaurants, tours

of the campus and neighborhood, social outings, and movie nights. In the second week, the English Language Institute meets from 1:00-5:00pm

### **Instructors**

The Instructor is a trained and experienced ESL professional. He has experience living and working overseas, thus giving him an understanding of international student issues and problems. The Teaching Assistant is a doctoral student in Public Policy.

### **Cost**

The Harris School of Public Policy will pay for the instructional cost of the program. **Students will be asked to pay only a program fee of \$250.**

### **Spouse/Partner Program**

Spouses or partners of Public Policy students may register for a separate Spouse/Partner Program, which includes scheduled activities with other spouses, program meals (lunch and some dinners), informal language instruction, and evening social activities. The cost is \$300 for the Spouse/Partner Program. Due to the informal nature of this program, children are welcome to attend with their parent. Note: the Spouse/Partner Program is open to spouses even if the student spouse/partner does not participate in the Language Institute. **The dates for this program are August 18-29.**

### **Housing / Fellowship Opportunity**

International House welcomes applicants for housing from all Summer English Language Institute participants. Students who have signed a housing contract in advance with International House for the academic year of **2008-09** will be offered a housing grant that will cover room rental expenses during the period of **August 17 – September 20**. In addition, Summer Institute students are eligible to apply for Graduate Student Fellowships to assist residents with housing and living expenses. Those students who wish to stay at International House only during the Summer Institute will be charged the discounted rate of \$210 a week for single-occupancy rooms and \$315 a week for double-occupancy rooms. Other housing options include Neighborhood Student Apartments or rental of non-University housing.

### **Registration**

There is no need to register for the instructional component of the program, as attendance is mandatory.

Spouse/Partner Program: Please notify Brooke Noonan ([brookec@uchicago.edu](mailto:brookec@uchicago.edu)) in the Office of Graduate Affairs if your spouse/partner wishes to participate in the **August 18 - 29** program. Payment of **\$300** can be made on the first day of the program.