

Fall & Spring ITA SUPPORT COURSES

The following ITA support courses are offered each Fall and Spring semester and are designed for students who have a score of 40 or 45 on the MSU Speaking Test and who seek additional language practice and support in preparation for assuming TA duties.*

*Students who receive full or conditional teaching waivers by appeal are also eligible to take these courses concurrent with their teaching assignment.

AAE 451

Oral Communication for ITAs

TThF 3:00-4:20

This course focuses on improving oral language skills, with special emphasis on conveying ideas and information with smooth, fluent, comprehensible speech. The course addresses the pronunciation of English vowels, consonants, and global features of pronunciation such as stress, rhythm, intonation, pausing, and phrasing, all of which contribute to effective communication.

AAE 452

Language of the American Classroom

TThF 12:40-2:00

This course focuses on understanding the cultural components of the American university classroom as well as the grammar, vocabulary, and pronunciation features of English necessary to effectively perform teaching tasks such as defining terms, explaining graphics, giving instructions, making announcements, clarifying, correcting, etc. Students practice a variety of presentation skills and classroom interaction strategies that will enable effective and culturally-appropriate classroom communication.

To register for an ITA support course, make a course request through the MSU Speaking Test System at <https://login.msu.edu/?App=ELC%2DSPEAK>.

Already met the university language requirement for TAs?

Students who have achieved a score of 50 or higher on the MSU Speaking Test or met the university oral proficiency requirement for TAs in another way† may be interested in AAE 453, a seminar-style course designed to support international graduate teaching assistants in their first few semesters of teaching.

†Students who receive full or conditional teaching waivers by appeal may also be eligible to take this course depending on their teaching assignment.

AAE 453

Support for In-Service Teaching TBD

Students in this seminar-style course discuss topics such as the language of classroom management, fielding questions, handling student difficulties, etc. Students bring their own experiences of teaching in English at MSU to group discussions where we explore together how language may be facilitating or hindering the learning environment they seek to establish for their students.

Note: AAE 453 meets once per week at a time to be determined based on student and instructor availability.

QUESTIONS?

Contact Alissa Cohen, ITA Program Coordinator
cohenal@msu.edu

For more information about AAE 451, 452, and 453, visit <https://elc.msu.edu/programs/ita/ita-course-offerings/>.



English Language Center
MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY