# Table of Contents

Overview............................................................................................................................................. 3  
IELP by the Numbers ......................................................................................................................... 4  
Graduating IELP Students to UAlbany for Academic Studies............................................................. 6  
Sponsored Students ........................................................................................................................... 7  
Group and Custom Program Enrollment ......................................................................................... 7  
Group and Custom Programs............................................................................................................. 9  
Teacher Training .............................................................................................................................. 17  
Academic and Language Skills Boot Camp....................................................................................... 17  
Online ESL Pathway......................................................................................................................... 18  
Marketing and Communications ...................................................................................................... 20  
International Agents .......................................................................................................................... 22  
Conditional Bridge Admission.......................................................................................................... 22  
Partners Around the World ............................................................................................................ 23  
Connecting IELP Students with American Culture........................................................................... 25  
World-Class Field Trips .................................................................................................................... 26  
Weekly Social and Cultural Activities............................................................................................... 29  
Language Activities and Clubs ......................................................................................................... 34  
IELP Community of International Educators.................................................................................... 35  
Poster Presentations: IELP Academic Capstone Project ................................................................. 36  
End-of-Session Celebration............................................................................................................... 37  
IELP Priorities in 2019–2020 and Beyond ......................................................................................... 38
Overview of the
Intensive English Language Program
2019–2020

Since 1978, the Intensive English Language Program (IELP) at the University at Albany has offered specially designed English instruction. The program has served over 12,000 students from more than 112 countries.

Regular Program ESL classes are offered in 4- and 8-week sessions. Students enroll in as many or as few sessions as they choose, depending on the level of English they need to achieve. Core classes of Reading/Writing and Listening/Speaking are offered at 7 levels. Full-time (F-1 visa status) students take two core classes and one elective class for a minimum of 20 hours per week. Students must successfully pass their core classes and elective class to move to the next level.

The IELP offers many elective English classes that provide specific skills and American cultural experiences. Elective class offerings include English for Business, English for Leadership and Innovation, English for Science & Technology, English for Engineering, English for Airline Hospitality, English for Tourism, Academic Vocabulary, Strategies for Conversation, American Film, Grammar, and more.

The IELP also offers many group and custom programs (see pages 7–16) and is always adding new partners and new programs from around the world (see pages 23–24).

English language learning is combined with American cultural experiences. Students can use language, explore culture, form friendships, and build community (see pages 25–34) and are immersed in an American language and culture Eco-System through a variety of on- and off-campus activities, including conversation clubs, conversation partners, reading theater, sports days, field trips (NYC, Boston, Philadelphia, Niagara Falls), American homestays, and more.

Students whose goal is to study at UAlbany can choose from several Pathway Programs:

- **Fast-Track Pathway with Conditional Admissions** – Students who complete the IELP successfully at the Advanced 2 level can enter the university directly. Students may also receive pre-placement in an Advanced IELP Level with sufficient TOEFL/IELTS scores or at other levels (see page 22).
- **Guided Pathway** – Students take an academic class as advanced IELP students for one semester for credit with assistance, support, and guidance from IELP faculty.
- **Concurrent Enrollment** – Current enrollment allows non-degree students to take IELP classes and UAlbany courses at the same time to experience the American educational system.
- **Academic and Language Skills Boot Camp** – This four-day intensive course is designed for International Students who will begin their academic studies at UAlbany in the fall. Students learn key skills that promote success in university study for a broad range of majors.
- **Online ESL Pathway saves money and time** – IELP students can take ESL classes now from anywhere in the world and meet academic and language goals in less time and with lower costs (see pages 18–19).

Currently, there are 226 former IELP students in UAlbany degree programs ranging from undergraduate to Ph.D. Our faculty and staff are committed to helping students meet their English language goals, experience American culture and campus life, and prepare for academic study.
The IELP has served over 12,000 students from more than 112 countries.
# IELP by the Numbers

## International Students in IELP

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Country</th>
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## Students by Visa Type

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<td><strong>88</strong></td>
<td><strong>140</strong></td>
<td><strong>137</strong></td>
<td><strong>119</strong></td>
<td><strong>67</strong></td>
<td><strong>294</strong></td>
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</table>

## Students by Total Enrollments in Regular Program

- **551**
Excellence, Impact, Access: Graduating IELP students to UAlbany for Academic Studies

226 Former IELP students studying at UAlbany in Fall 2019

Graduating IELP Students Entering UAlbany 2019-2020

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## Sponsored Students

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## Custom Program Enrollment

![Custom Program Enrollment](image_url)
## Group and Custom Programs

### ENGLISH FOR SPECIFIC PURPOSES (ESP) – CUSTOM PROGRAMS

<table>
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<td>Shandong Normal University</td>
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<td>Chongqing University of Posts and Telecommunication</td>
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<td>Health Science and Medical English</td>
<td>Sichuan University</td>
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### GROUPS INTEGRATED INTO REGULAR ESL CLASSES

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**Total Group and Custom Program Participants**: 265

### GROUPS POSTPONED OR CANCELLED DUE TO COVID-19

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<td>J.F. Oberlin University</td>
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**Total Group and Custom Program Participants**: 48
Group and Custom Programs

Business Executive Programs
113 international students from South and Central America participated in 3-week courses in Strategic Thinking, Management, Finance, Marketing, and Business English.

Local Company Visits

Innovation Project
Group and Custom Programs

Business Executive Programs

- Dynamic Business Professors
- Business English Classes
- Group Poster Presentations
- Certificate of Completion in Business Program & English Course
American Language and Culture

8 students from Shandong Normal University learned about American Language and Culture and visited the New York State Executive Mansion, NY State Museum, Iroquois Indian Museum, Albany Institute of History & Art, Harvard University, Boston’s Freedom Trail, and NY State Capitol.
Group and Custom Programs

American Language and Culture

25 students from Chongqing University of Posts and Telecommunications (CQUPT) improved their English skills and their understanding of American culture through classes, activities, and field trips. In order to track their progress, students took a placement test at the beginning and end of the program, as well as the TOEFL ITP.
Group and Custom Programs

English for Airline Hospitality and Tourism

15 students from J.F. Oberlin University in Japan studied English for Airline Hospitality and Tourism while performing 40 hours of service per person & field-based learning experiences.

- Albany International Airport (AIA) Ambassador Program
- JetBlue Operations Tour at AIA and JFK Airport
- Japan Airlines Operations Tour at JFK Airport
- Tourism Training with the Discover Albany Visitor's Center
- Hotel Service at Staybridge Suites
Group and Custom Programs

English for Airline Hospitality and Tourism
Health Science and Medical English

9 students from West China College of Public Health at Sichuan University explored public health issues such as environmental, infectious disease, and emergency response. They toured Albany Family Medicine and bacteriology, parasitology, bloodborne virus, and virology labs at Wadsworth Center. They also visited the School of Public Health’s Cancer Research Center and a drone lab at the College of Emergency Preparedness, Homeland Security, and Cybersecurity.

Innovation, Business and Leadership

More than 20 students from Shandong Normal University in Beijing joined us for courses in Innovation, Business and Leadership with workshops and visits to New York Biz Lab, Blackstone Launchpad, Center for Leadership and Service, Tech Valley Center of Gravity, and the New York State Capitol.
Teacher Training and Professional Development

Scholars in several areas, including History, Tourism, Business, Finance, Physics, and Art, observed IELP and University classes and took a course on American Higher Education & Methodology. The goal was to observe American teaching styles and participate in IELP activities, including Reading Theater and Conversation Club. They also participated in events including the School of Education Day, the 6th Financial Market Symposium, the Center for Undergraduate Research and Creative Engagement Fall Fair, and NYS Writer's Institute Events.

Academic and Language Skills Boot Camp

In a four-day course designed for International Students about to begin their academic studies at UAlbany, students learn the key skills that promote success in university study for a broad range of academic majors, including how to do a Poster Presentation.
Why Study Online at UAlbany?

- Conditional admission with completion of the Intensive English Language Program (IELP)
- Preplacement in Intermediate and Advanced IELP Levels with test scores
- High-quality ESL instruction since 1978
- Daily LIVE instruction online
- Small classes taught by teachers with a master’s degree or doctorate
- Completion of IELP satisfies UAlbany language proficiency requirement
- Earn an English certificate from UAlbany
Online ESL Pathway

Online English Eco-System

Language Activities: Whether you are an Online English Eco-System for students interested in language learning, language learners, or community members, and become part of the community. Join others with LIVE language chats and VIRTUAL learning together, whether you are and whether you want.

WHEREVER YOU ARE
Conversational Group Live Session
Practice your conversational skills in an ESL environment.

Movie Club
Watch and discuss popular American movies.

Wonders Workshop
Explore American culture and practice language use.

WHENEVER YOU WANT
A platform designed to help you learn English with more opportunities, including live chats and lessons that also include interactive sessions, activities, and opportunities to engage with other language learners.

TED Talk or The Week
Watch TED Talks or explore weekly themes.

WHY ARE WE HERE?
To learn English to enhance communication, personal growth, and professional opportunities.

Conversation Partners

It may have looked a little different...
...but we came together...
...to learn English.
IELP creates marketing and communications materials for all of our regular and group programs in cooperation with partners around the world.
Marketing and Communications

The IELP creates materials to help students with housing, travel, internships, and more.

The IELP creates advertising for both on- and off-campus audiences.

The IELP also maintains a presence on social media and other channels.
In 2019–2020, International Admissions and the IELP audited its agent network to begin contract renewals with our most productive and high-potential agents.

Students with a 61 iBT TOEFL or 5.5 IELTS can complete the English language requirement in one semester (two 8-week sessions), then begin studying at University at Albany. They are automatically placed into the Advanced 1 Level of the IELP.

Students study English from August to December (Fall A and Fall B), then begin university studies in the Spring semester. Or students study English from March to July (Spring B and Summer), then begin university studies in the Fall semester.

Infographic: Conditional Bridge Admission with Preplacement at Advanced Levels

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<td>Start University Study</td>
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Partners Around the World

New Ivy International
Asia U / Tokyo U of Foreign Studies / Kanazawa Seiryo U

J.F. Oberlin University
Tohoku University

Beijing Language & Culture U
Sichuan University
Connecting IELP Students with American Culture

1,820 Total Attendance at Cultural and Social Activities

WORLD-CLASS FIELD TRIPS
World-Class Field Trips

NEW YORK
World-Class Field Trips

BOSTON

PHILADELPHIA
World-Class Field Trips

NIAGARA FALLS

Skiing and Snow Boarding
### Building Community
- Exploring Culture
- Using Language
- Making Friendships

### Social and Cultural Activities

#### IELP Activities Calendar

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<th>Location</th>
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The calendar includes various social and cultural activities throughout the fall session, providing opportunities for students to engage in community-building and cultural exploration.
Social and Cultural Activities

ALBANY

Tour of Albany – Hudson River and Empire State Plaza

Musical Theater in Washington Park

New York State Capitol

Movie & Smoothie – Crossgates Mall

New York State Museum
Social and Cultural Activities

CAMPUS EVENTS

Halloween Pumpkin Carving
Valentine’s Day Sweets

UAlbany Art Museum
UAlbany Performing Arts Center

“Lunch Chat” – A Time of Conversation and Food
Thanksgiving Dinner
Social and Cultural Activities

Sports

Sports Day

Lawn Games

American Football Game

UAlbany Soccer

Regional Baseball Game

UAlbany Basketball
REGIONAL FIELD TRIPS

- Apple Picking at Indian Ladder Farms
- Maple Syrup Tasting at Ioka Valley Farm
- Adirondack Mountain Hiking
- Normal Rockwell Museum
- Iroquois Native American Museum
- Howe Caverns Tour
Language Activities and Clubs

Creating an English Language Ecosystem for IELP Students

Reading Theater (237)

Conversation Groups (499)

Conversation Partners (70)
Faculty and Staff

Liz Allen  Marcus Jones
Amy Bonser  Cathleen McCarthy
Peter Campisi  Heather Murphy
Claudia Carlos  Claire Nolan
Colleen Finn  Joan Otero
Rebecca Fisher  Krassi Rangelova
Susan Gorga  Mark Rentz
Amanda Greenwood  Eura Stone-Kang
Loma Hanson  Holly Wehmeyer
Ami Hwang  Rebecca Wolff

Graduate Assistants, Language Helpers, Interns, Student Workers, and Peace Corps

Fatmah Alqahtani  Andrew Hur  Christine Katchmar  Xin Zhang
Maggie Avci  Taylor Karmilaw  Mengna (Mona) Wang  Marissa Zuccardo
Nick Gilbert

Community Service (RSSW) Volunteers Receiving Academic Credit

Zaineb Ahmad  Nya Gibson  Younglae Kim  Nina Tran
Diane Beadle  Deyaneria Cortes Gonzalez  Sangho Lee  Danielle Viscosi
Engels Bueno  Nina Hodge  Bianca R Stephens  Yolanda Wang
Alice Chen  Vicky M Hogan  Calvin Su  Alyssa Wierschem
Youngmin Choi  Eugene Kim  Jason Sui  Sunnah Yasin
Yang Yang Gao  Michelle Kim  Suki Tan  Jenny Yeom
Jun Hon Kok

20  IELP Faculty and Staff
8  Graduate Assistants, Language Helpers, Interns, Student Workers, Peace Corps
25  Community Service (RSSW) Volunteers
15  Other Volunteers
68  People Serving International Students in 2019–2020
Academic Capstone Projects
IELP Public Poster Presentations and
Academic Research Papers

62 Capstone Projects in 2019–2020:
Graduating from the IELP with the Skills Needed for Academic Study at UAlbany
End-of-Session
Graduation Celebrations

"The world awaits your contributions. The world has never needed you as much as it needs you now."

-Gilbert A. Valverde, Interim Dean, International Education & Global Strategy
FLOW, SHOW and GROW
and Online ESL, too!

IELP Priorities in 2019–2020 and Beyond

The Intensive English Language Program (IELP), founded in 1978, offers academic and professional English language instruction to help students achieve their language goals and experience American culture at the University of Albany.

The IELP prepares international students for undergraduate and graduate study and also showcases university departments, schools, and colleges in a FLOW, SHOW, and GROW model of international engagement and expansion for greater international visibility and impact.

The IELP is aligned with the global purposes of UAlbany.

We undertake this annual report to share what the IELP is doing, to monitor recent trends, and to measure ourselves year over year according to key metrics. We also re-evaluate our priorities each year to align them to the priorities of the University at Albany and to our university partners. The Strategic Plan for the University at Albany in the document AUTHORIZING OUR SUCCESS guides our efforts and we align our purposes and priorities each year to line up with the Five Priorities of the university. Our Sample IELP Metrics in the IELP Annual Report mirror the priorities in the UAlbany Strategic Plan for 2018–2023:

The IELP is meeting challenges in the global world of ESL and international education. We are increasing our university impact by showcasing and partnering with more UAlbany departments and services. We have created Fast-Track Pathways to flow international students into the university through cost-effective programs (one-semester fast track and one-year fast track). New Online ESL classes were added in 2020 with great success. Each year we add new agents and overseas partners. We have aligned programs, classes, marketing, communication, activities, partnerships, and purposes to promote and support the international priorities of the university. As UAlbany’s intensive English language program, the IELP is committed and engaged to serve this great institution by providing top quality programs, services, and activities for international students from around the world.
**IELP – Our Priorities:**

1. Prepare international students to be globally engaged citizens at UAlbany and expand UAlbany’s international visibility and impact.
2. Ensure our ESL curriculum prepares international students to be engaged in learning opportunities in all disciplines.
3. Facilitate internationalization in our teaching and capstone research projects.
4. Increase access to education for international students through a supportive intensive ESL program environment of classes and an English eco-system of language and culture activities, clubs, field-based learning, and housing arrangements.

**Our Sample Internationalization Metrics include:**

1) International student enrollments  
2) Conditionally admitted students  
3) Undergraduate graduation rates of IELP students  
4) Graduate study graduation rates of IEP students  
5) UAlbany fields and majors entered by IELP students  
6) Number of online, hybrid, and in-person students  
7) GPAs of IELP students who finished IELP Advanced 2 at UAlbany  
8) International university partners and programs  
9) International agents diversity and effectiveness  
10) Number of group and custom programs  
11) Number of credit-bearing programs (Intensive ESL is Study Abroad, too)  
12) Number of IELP students participating in cultural activities  
13) Number of UAlbany student volunteers in IELP  
14) Number of capstone projects (combining research and poster presentations)  
15) Number of internal and external partners