Advising English as a Second Language (ESL) Students

QUICK GUIDE
Who is an ESL student?

ANY STUDENT WHOSE FIRST LANGUAGE ISN'T ENGLISH

Some international students are not ESL students, and some ESL students are not international. ESL students will look and sound different--some may not even have an accent.
English Comprehension and Confidence

Though all ESL students are required to have a minimum level of English proficiency to enroll in courses at Fredonia, English can still be a challenge:

- Like any skill, if you don't practice it gets rusty. A student's English skills may vary over the course of their degree. Long vacations at home, or even lack of daily conversations in English can get students out of practice.
- English is really comprised of multiple skills: reading, writing, listening, speaking. So a student may be a very strong writer, but not such a good listener.
- For many students, confidence is the biggest hurdle. Fear of making a mistake or 'sounding dumb,' is a big reason some ESL students may appear to have lower English ability.
What resources are available for ESL students at Fredonia?

- Cohorted FredFoundation Courses
- Supportive English Courses
- Starfish ESL Early Alert
COHORTED FREDFOUNDATION COURSES

The ESL & International Pathway Program offers up to 4 courses each semester specially selected for ESL and International students.

- These sections of FredFoundation courses are hidden from open student enrollment. Initial enrollment is limited to current Pathway students, but limited seats are available for degree seeking students.
Instructors work closely with the Pathway Program to design courses that better accommodate ESL and International students.

- Ex: International students may not have taken American History in high school, our HIST 171 course takes that into consideration when introducing the material.

Cohorted sections also allow for a sense of solidarity and safety in the classroom for ESL learners. This can assist students' confidence and encourage active participation.

Course offerings and seat availability will vary.
Supportive English Classes

The ESL and International Pathway Program offers supportive English courses in Writing, Reading, Speaking, Listening, and Grammar.

- Courses are noncredit and an additional cost
- Minimum of 4 week enrollment, full semester encouraged
An option for ESL support is now available in the Starfish Early Alert system. This flag is directed to Robyn Halicki and Richard Friemann in The ESL & International Pathway Program who will reach out to the student and instructor to review options for support.
Thank you for your support of ESL students at Fredonia!

For information on cohorted or ESL courses please contact: pathway@fredonia.edu