



ASBURY UNIVERSITY

**English Language Center, Intensive Program
HANDBOOK**



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An overview of Asbury University's English Language Center, Intensive Program

The mission of the English Language Center's (ELC) Intensive Program is to prepare international students for academic course work toward an undergraduate degree at Asbury University. The Intensive Program (IP), housed within the Global Engagement Office, is a semester-long residential program for freshmen with a strong academic record but who require additional support with English language skills. Students are conditionally admitted and must earn passing grades in four IP courses in order to advance to full admission to Asbury University.

The goals of the IP are:

- To assist international students with acquiring the English skills needed to successfully attend and complete any course work at Asbury University as an undergraduate student.
- To provide international students with ample opportunities to practice and cultivate their oral and written communication skills so they can successfully advance to college level courses.
- To lay a foundation of confidence and competence in English which students can build upon as they engage in activities, relationships, organizations, classroom learning and work while studying at Asbury University.
- To introduce students to various aspects of American culture in order to develop awareness and understanding, as well as build on their communication skills that will enable them to be successful in a variety of interactions on and off campus. To acclimate students to the Asbury University environment and culture; to familiarize them with what is expected of students on this campus.
- To familiarize students to the nature of higher education in the U.S. context and a general orientation to the functions and resources of the University as a whole. Students will gain an understanding of the expectation and culture of the American education system and develop skills that will facilitate them to achieve their educational goals throughout their time at Asbury University.

Admission Requirements

- Application
- TOEFL – 68-79, or IELTS – 6-6.49
- High School Transcript, GPA 2.5 or higher
- Statement of Financial Responsibility



Costs

Asbury University full-time tuition and fees apply. Financial aid may be available. Rates for room and board are the same as full-time students; there are no additional housing costs. Please check asbury.edu for the most updated tuition rate.

Curriculum

First Semester

IP students will complete a two-week intensive before New Student Orientation week. Following which, they will join the rest of the freshman student body for orientation programs. In the course of the 16-week semester, IP students will have 17 hours of weekly classroom instruction. Outside of the IP classroom, IP students will attend Chapel, meals, activities and campus programs, as well as live in the residential halls alongside all of the other undergraduate students. The English Language Center faculty and staff will intentionally make sure that IP students are integrated into campus life with the rest of the student body.

- **ELC 092 Written Communications (6)**
The Written Communications course focuses on improving student's reading and writing English language skills for the undergraduate classroom. The curriculum focuses on developing the necessary strategies for writing college-level English, such as responding appropriately to essay prompts, developing a thesis, organizing different types of essays, and writing effective introductions and conclusions. Students analyze and respond to course readings to develop reading comprehension and critical-thinking skills, while practicing how to appropriately paraphrase, summarize and quote to avoid plagiarism. Additionally, students hone their grammatical accuracy in writing through focused grammar exercises and essay revisions to address the specific needs of non-native English writers. The course concludes with a final in-class exam based on the course novel.
- **ELC 093 Oral Communications (6)**
The Oral Communications course focuses on improving student's oral and aural English language skills for an academic environment. The curriculum aims to develop students' ability to understand academic lectures through listening activities, note-taking strategies and expanding vocabulary. In addition, students give presentations and participate in class discussions to improve their English fluency, sharpen their critical thinking skills and become confident in a U.S. classroom. The course also includes in-class activities focused on developing overall speaking fluency, accuracy and pronunciation.
- **ELC 094 Integrated Skills: Learning the English Language through Mass Media (3)**
Integrated Skills is a course where students use English media to creatively engage in all of the core language skills: reading, writing, listening and speaking. The course is organized thematically by the type of media, including: newspapers, radio, film, the Web and social media. For each media genre, students complete a related project, such as writing a newspaper article, producing a pilot radio show, launching a new magazine, critically analyzing a TV show, and developing a blog. Students work both individually and collaboratively in small groups and focus on adjusting their language appropriately to different contexts and levels of formality.

- **ELC 091 Integrated Skills: Faith, Culture & the University (2)**

In this three-part series, students will have the opportunity to acclimate into their new cultural environment and prepare for academic success at Asbury University:

- **Part I: Discover America** (two-week intensive)

This is the first in a three-part series to help students transition into, and prepare them for, academic success at Asbury University. This course introduces students to various aspects of American history and culture in order to develop more awareness and understanding, as well as increase their cross-cultural communication skills. This course also specifically builds upon their listening and speaking skills as they study communication skills as it relates to long-term assignments, group work and presentation skills, which are all teaching methods frequently used in the American classroom.

- **Part II: The University & The Student**

This class prepares international students to engage in the college experience academically, spiritually, emotionally, socially and physically. This class addresses the purpose and value of a Christian liberal arts education, introduces campus resources that are available to them, strategies for achieving academic excellence, goal-setting, self-management, stress-management, effective communication, problem solving, living in community, meaningful relationships and cultural diversity. This course is designed to provide students with information and tools that will assist them in developing and achieving their educational goals throughout their time at Asbury University. By the end of the course, they will have a better understanding of what is expected of them as an Asbury student.

- **Part III: Faith, Leadership and Service**

One of the University's goals is to "empower students to influence our global society in their professions, families and the Church through their keen minds, servant lives and grounded faith" (Asbury University's Vision and Goals Statement). We want to enable students to acquire skills and attitudes that promote the holistic integration of faith, learning and living in a Christ-centered, transformative community based on Biblical principles. As the last of a three-part series, this course equips students in how to integrate their faith life with their academic and personal life, gain personal insights in their own abilities and preferences, build on their leadership skills, and help them make meaning of volunteer and community-service work.

- **ELC 095 English Language Center Supportive Workshop**

- **Language Lab**

IP students are required to attend the language lab hour – time will be set aside each week by the instructors. Utilizing the computer carrels and the individual viewing rooms on the second floor of the library, students can watch cultural videos, listen to English dialogue for comprehension, or record themselves to aid in pronunciation correction and development.

- **Writing Partner**

IP students are required to visit Asbury University's Writing Center (located in the Center for Academic Excellence) for a half-hour tutoring session at least twice a week to receive feedback on their writing assignments, receive help with grammar and punctuation, clarification on documentation styles, etc. These sessions are incorporated into their Written Communication coursework.

- **Conversational Partner**

IP students are assigned an English speaker as a conversational partner. Students are required to meet with their conversational partner once a week for at least one hour at a time. Students and their conversational partners are encouraged to meet over coffee/tea at the Student Center, for meals at the cafeteria or J.T.'s Bistro, etc. These sessions are incorporated into their Oral Communication coursework.

Second Semester

Upon successful completion of their IP Semester courses, students will continue on to a second semester where they take an advanced IP course (pending) along with ENG 100 (college level composition course) and two Foundational general courses, both of which count towards the student's degree. Students will be required to continue their weekly IP Supportive Workshops. Students will no longer be considered an IP student, but will still receive the extra support they need as they transition and settle into their college level courses.

- **ENG 100 Introduction to Composition (3)**
To increase proficiency in communication skills with emphasis on grammar and writing. The course may include reading assignments of essays as models for student writing. Students will be enrolled concurrently in, and must successfully complete, the Writing Center Tutoring Program. Students completing ENG 100 are required to proceed to ENG 110 during the next semester of enrollment.
- **LA 100 Engaging the Liberal Arts (1)**
An interactive seminar designed to promote critical and conceptual thinking about questions arising about human life, culture, experience, and Christian faith. Required of all new first-time full-time students and freshmen transfers.
- **ELC 095 English Language Center Supportive Workshops (3)**
 - **Language Lab**
 - **Writing Partner** (In conjunction with ENG 100 and as part of the Writing Center Tutoring Program)
 - **Conversational Partner**

Pre-Assessment Exam

Upon arriving on campus, all IP students must take a pre-assessment exam. This test helps to determine the international students' academic English language proficiency and places them in the appropriate levels. It also allows for post-assessment to see how students have progressed.

Completion of IP Semester

Students' class performance will be used to determine whether or not they are eligible to move on to their transitional semester and begin taking college level courses. In order to successfully complete an IP semester, students must receive a grade of C or above in all of their IP classes and a positive recommendation from the IP faculty member. Without passing grades, students will have to repeat the semester. Though the IP semester grades will not contribute to a student's overall GPA since these classes are only on a pass/fail basis, students will receive grades for their assignments and an overall class grade so that the instructor(s) can assess their progress and determine whether they have successfully completed their course. Credits earned during the IP Semester are in addition to normal degree requirements.

Attendance

An integral part of success in an intensive language learning program is regular class attendance. It is required that all students arrive to class on time and attend on a daily basis. As an Asbury student, all IP students must also adhere to University policy on attendance: "In order to assure maximum benefit from class instruction, it is important for students to attend class and complete readings and assignments. Instructors will explain to students at the beginning of each course their attendance expectations and grading policies with respect to absences from class sessions. Students are personally responsible for class attendance, including punctuality, participation, collegiality, etc. Instructors will report excessive absences to the Registrar's Office to allow the University time to determine if the school can render any assistance that can aid the student's academic success." (AU Bulletin, 2015-2016) Please refer to the Asbury University Bulletin for additional policy on attendance, asbury.edu/bulletin.

Student Life

Field Trips & Excursions

Each semester, particularly during the two-week intensive, IP students take field trips and off-campus excursions to fully experience local surroundings – Wilmore, Lexington, and the Commonwealth of Kentucky. These trips are designed to help students better understand their new home and educate them on American history and culture. Many of the local trips are scheduled in conjunction with students' Integrated Skills: Faith, Culture, & the University course. Once a semester, a large field trip is planned to neighboring cities, such as Louisville, Cincinnati, and Nashville. Students will also get to experience unique features in this part of the country – the great outdoors (hiking/canoing), outdoor recreation (sports) and adventure trips (camping) will also be planned.



Campus & Community

Involvement

Beyond academics, there is much to take part in all across campus. Whether students want to try out Adventure Leadership, be part of a Bible study group, join a student organization, or hang out with new friends at The Hiccup Café in the Student Center, Asbury offers a lot of opportunities to be involved with on campus. Asbury's Student Development staff is available to not only support students in their educational pursuits, but also in their growth as a person and preparation for life after college. Through the Office of Student Development, students will find a number of services and resources.

Office of Intercultural Programs

The Office of Intercultural Programs serves both the entire campus community and the international, third-culture, and U.S. ethnic students at the University. The office offers cultural programs that impact student learning and encourage cultural competence by increasing awareness, understanding, respect and appreciation of cultural diversity. The office also sponsors and advises ethnic student organizations. A variety of educational and social cultural activities, events, as well as service opportunities, are offered to the campus community. Every year, cultural festivals and programs are hosted on campus, such as foreign movie showings, diversity dialogues with guest speakers, worship with an ethnic congregation, or participating in a Martin Luther King Jr. Day community-service project.

Chapel

One of the historic distinctives of Asbury University is the gathering of the entire student body in Chapel three times a week, during which the great themes of the Bible, human intellect, and the world intersect and are addressed by a wide range of speakers. Amazing preaching and teaching invites students into spiritual formation – into the ongoing process of being shaped by the Holy Spirit into the image of Christ. We believe students leave Asbury with a greater understanding and experience of Scripture, holiness, stewardship and mission.



Tentative Schedule:

Two-Week Intensive & Cultural/Historical Field Trips

August 1 - August 12, 2016

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
31 Arrival to U.S.A.: Welcome to Asbury!	01 IP Student Orientation & IP Pre-Assessment	02 Integrated Skills: Discover America	03 Integrated Skills: Discover America, History & Tour of Wilmore	04 Integrated Skills: Discover America, History & Tour of Kentucky	05 International Student Orientation	06 Local Shopping Day
07 Faith & Family Day (Host families)	08 Integrated Skills: Discover America, Local Excursions	09 New Student Orientation, Debriefs	10 New Student Orientation, Debriefs	11 New Student Orientation, Debriefs	12 New Student Orientation, Debriefs	13 Rest



Tentative Schedule:

August 15-December 9, 2016

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
8:15 – 9:45 a.m.	Written Communication	Written Communication	Written Communication	Written Communication	Integrated Skills (8:45 – 9:45 a.m.)
10 – 11 a.m.	Chapel	Integrated Skills	Chapel	Integrated Skills	Chapel
11 – 11:30 a.m.	Integrated Skills: Faith, Culture & the University				
11:30 a.m. – 1 p.m.	Lunch Break	Lunch Break	Lunch Break	Lunch Break	Lunch Break
1 – 2:30 p.m.	Oral Communication	Oral Communication	Oral Communication	Oral Communication	Integrated Skills: Faith, Culture & the University

About Asbury University

With a commitment to **ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE AND SPIRITUAL VITALITY**, Asbury University encourages more than 1,300 undergraduate students to study, worship and serve together on a campus located 10 miles southwest of Lexington in Wilmore, Kentucky.

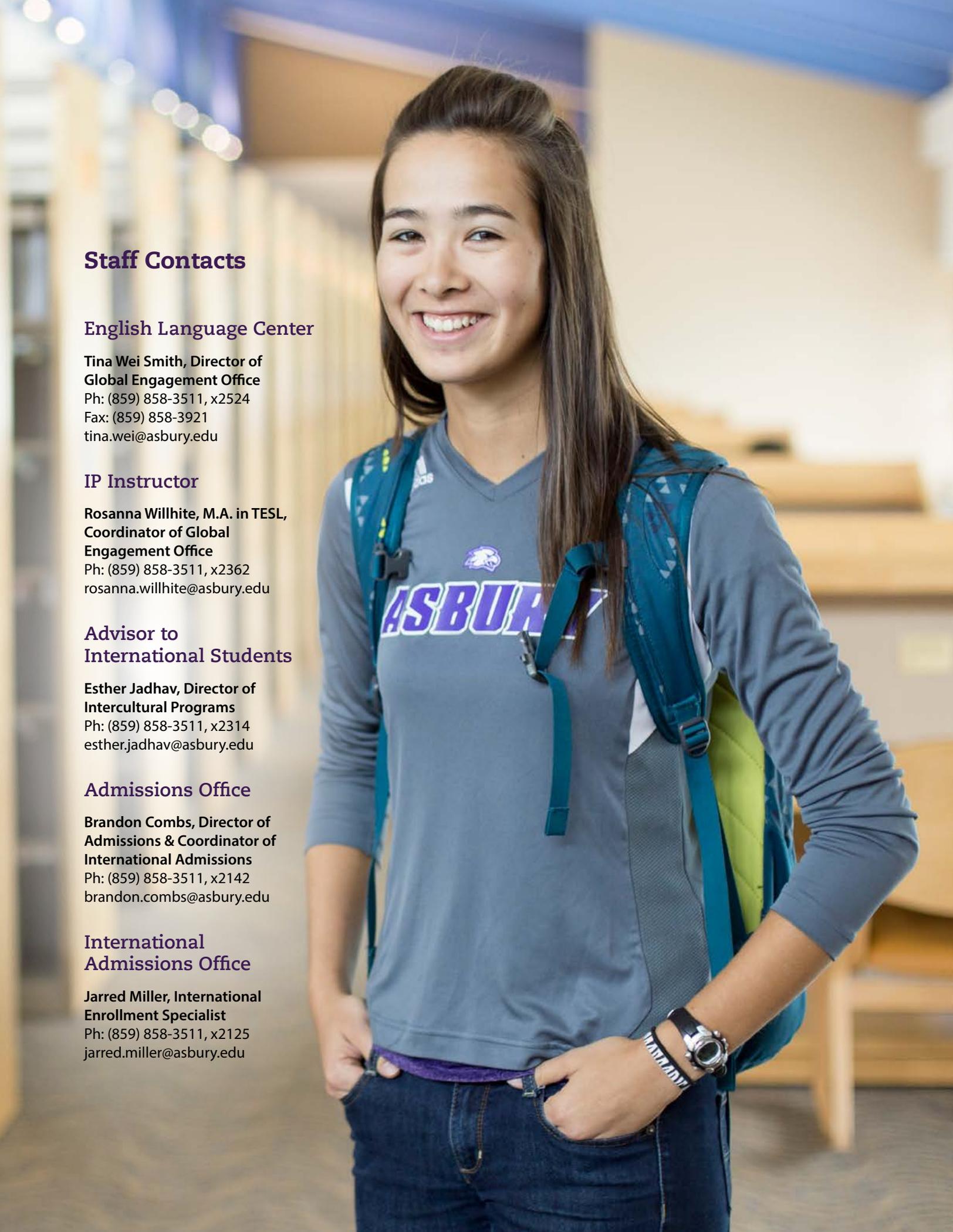
Primarily a four-year, multi-denominational institution, the University has been at the heart of spiritual movements throughout its 125 year history.

Students come from 44 states and 14 foreign nations, and more than 80 percent of students live on campus. Classes are taught by experienced scholars, 78 percent of whom hold terminal degrees in their field of study.

Asbury University's five schools and 15 academic departments offer more than 50 majors. The University also offers master's degrees in Social Work, Digital Storytelling, Business Administration and several master's degrees in Education. Additionally, Asbury offers an online degree-completion program.

The University provides many opportunities for student involvement both on and off campus. Internships, exchange programs, missions and community-service opportunities are also available and are part of the curriculum in nearly every major.

More than 22,000 living alumni of the University surround the globe, leading and serving in all 50 of the United States and at least 80 nations.



Staff Contacts

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#1 Ranked College in the South

— *U.S. News & World Report, 2014–15 Regional College Rankings*



**ASBURY
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Academic Excellence & Spiritual Vitality

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