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Welcome to Ball State University’s Intensive English Institute (IEI)

We hope you are excited about being here. We look forward to helping you achieve your academic goals and making your time here as productive and enjoyable as possible.

This student handbook is a valuable source of information to help you with many of the questions, problems, or concerns you might have while you study at the IEI.

Of course, at any time, if you cannot find the information you need in this handbook, you can always get help from your IEI advisor, any of our experienced administrators or faculty members. All of our instructors and staff members are committed to helping you to learn English and to prepare you for academic challenges in the future.

Most of our faculty members have experience living abroad so we understand many of the challenges you may face—especially in an intensive and rigorous language program. We will do our best to help you achieve your goals.

Although you will be busy with classes and homework, you will be part of a vibrant community. There is always something fun and interesting to do on the BSU campus! We encourage you to exercise at the gym, visit the museum and planetarium, or enjoy a weekend movie or performance. Check your BSU email and keep your eyes open for announcements about upcoming special events.

Whether you are beginning in our foundation classes, are here just for one session in our Bridge or Pathway program, or are somewhere in between, we wish only the best for you.

Sincerely,

IEI Admin, Faculty, and Staff
Introduction to the Intensive English Institute

The IEI Mission

The mission of the Intensive English Institute (IEI) is twofold, with both elements having equal importance. One goal is to facilitate international students’ progress in English proficiency and the knowledge of US culture necessary for success in academic coursework in the United States. The IEI aids students in the acquisition of English in order for students to begin their coursework as soon as possible.

Our second purpose is to encourage the development and research of best practices in the area of language teaching and learning. Therefore, participation in classroom-based research, inquiry, and reflection is encouraged for all IEI faculty. Additionally, the IEI provides university students in appropriately-related graduate programs opportunities for hands-on teaching experience and practical training in a supportive environment.

Admission to the IEI and Ball State

Students may apply for study in the IEI, or they may apply for admission to Ball State University. If a student has applied only to study English, that student is admitted for “IEI only” (admitted only to the IEI, and not for any Ball State academic program). If a student has been admitted to Ball State University but has not reached a high enough level of English proficiency, that student is often given “conditional admission”. Often, students who are admitted “conditionally” may begin their academic classes while they complete the highest level in the IEI.

F1 and J1 Visa Holders

US Immigration requires that students studying in the US on an F1 or J1 Visa maintain full-time status every semester they are studying. For the IEI, that means students must be enrolled in all six courses for each of their levels in the IEI, in each session. Students are required to stay enrolled as full-time students for the entire semester.

If students do not enroll in the needed classes, their immigration documents will be cancelled, and they will need to leave the USA immediately. Students need to visit the Rinker Center for International Programs (RCIP) for assistance with their visa needs before leaving the United States and when they return to BSU.

Location of the IEI

The IEI offices are in the Robert Bell (we call this building RB) building on the third floor. The main office is room 353. Also, all the IEI instructors have their offices on the third floor. The IEI Tutoring Center is also on the third floor in RB 359.
Instruction in the IEI
The IEI has qualified faculty that teach the IEI courses. They work hard to provide excellent classes that will challenge students to improve their English quickly and efficiently. Their goal is the same as the students’ goal – to help them begin their academic coursework, in their major fields of study, as soon as possible. The IEI instructors come from all over the world and have experience helping students to learn English.

IEI Advisors
Each IEI student has an IEI Advisor who is also an IEI faculty member. Students will learn the names of their IEI advisors on their first day in the IEI. Students should meet with their advisors if they have a problem with living in the United States or studying in the IEI. The role of the IEI advisor is to discuss IEI academic progress, give advice about complaints and change of level, assist in registering for IEI classes, and help solve any challenges faced in the United States. Advisors will not speak for students but will help students speak for themselves. For example, if a student has a cultural issue with living in the USA or being a BSU student, the advisor will refer the student to the proper on-campus service for support. The advisor does not make an appointment for students but advises them in how to meet challenges appropriately in US culture.

Other Advisors
It is important to note that students may have more than one advisor while studying in the IEI and at Ball State University. International student advisors are in RCIP. RCIP is located in the Student Center, Room 102. International student advisors will help with any issues that are not related to IEI academic issues, for example, immigration and sponsor-related issues and documents.

Once admitted to the university, students will be assigned an academic advisor. The academic advisor will give specific academic program advice.

IEI Tutors
IEI Tutors provide free one-on-one tutoring services to IEI students who would like assistance outside of class, or to students who may have been referred for tutoring by the AD or IEI instructors. Face-to-face tutoring sessions are available in the Tutoring Center in RB 359. Students can make an appointment in person up to a week before the desired tutoring session. If a Tutor is available when a student walks in, it may be possible to receive help immediately. The Tutoring Center hours are posted on the IEI Tutoring Center door (RB 359) and the student’s bulletin board.
IEI Academic Coaches

IEI Coaches schedule and develop an individualized plan of academic support to help students with their academic course work and overall coping skills. Through class visits, an academic coach has a window to the student's academic world and an understanding of the material as taught. Academic coaches can observe the student's study habits during class and identify language weaknesses. An academic coach provides study sessions with tailored support for the student and helps the student to develop techniques that they can apply in all of their classes (e.g. note taking, test taking skills, learning and study strategies, and so forth). The academic coach is not only a tutor but also a mentor.

Structure of the Program

Curriculum Overview

Every new student takes the IEI English Placement Exam (see the Placement section). The IEI uses the placement test results to put students in one of the IEI’s seven levels. The beginning level is level F (or Fundamentals), and the final level is level 6 (advanced, academic English).

Every level in the IEI must be passed to complete the IEI. From the beginning levels of F and 1 and to the end of level 6, each level builds on the others and provides academic work that prepares the student for academic coursework. These courses are for students ready to learn advanced English to study at a university.

In each level, students take six courses. Each IEI course is categorized as either Core or Complementary. The Core courses are Writing, Reading, Extensive Reading and Keyboarding/Extensive Listening/Listening, and Vocabulary and Literacy. The Complementary classes are Grammar and Speaking. While all courses in the IEI are integrated but with a focus on a particular skill, the IEI has identified two courses that complement the rest of the program: Grammar and Speaking/Oral Communication. Grammar is assessed in all classes as accuracy is necessary for our students to use the language they are learning. And all courses rely heavily on student’s interacting in English. Thus, the Complementary classes are perceived as opportunities to learn either new grammar that they may not necessarily use in other classes yet and gain new pragmatic and pronunciation skills that they can begin to use as they interact in other classes. Core and Complementary courses are equally important in the IEI and share the same expectation for maintaining a standard of excellence. The only difference is that the final score for Complementary courses is derived solely from work done in the class, and the final score for Core courses is derived from a combination of the in-class grade and the departmental final exam grade.
**Fundamental Level**

The focus of this level is on the most basic English skills.

101: Fundamental Writing
This course focuses on the development of basic writing skills. Students will identify parts of the sentence, apply basic rules for writing, write sentences in simple present and simple past, and practice the writing process, especially proofreading.

102: Fundamental Grammar
This course provides the foundations of language structure for the students. Key concepts that need to be communicated are parts of speech and basic word order. This course is a good place to teach the grammatical necessities of the English language. Students may have varying degrees of grammar knowledge and accurate usage.

103: Fundamental Reading
This course is for developing reading comprehension and provides the students with opportunities to respond appropriately questions in order to demonstrate comprehension of reading material. It also assists students in gaining and practicing recognition skills such as skimming and scanning for pre-Level 1 reading development.

104: Fundamental Oral Communication
In this course, students will learn how to respond appropriately to basic verbal classroom directions, make polite requests to an instructor, request information from others, introduce themselves and others verbally, and retell information from verbal introductions of others. They will also gain practice in reporting on important and frequently discussed topics.

105: Extensive Reading and Keyboarding 1
This course focuses on increasing reading fluency and students’ typing speed. Depending on the abilities of the students, the course can work on reading for enjoyment as well as comprehension and overall understanding, with the aid of two abridged readers.

106: Fundamental Vocabulary and Literacy
The focus of this class is on vocabulary acquisition, including the pronunciation and spelling of the words on the Level F word list. In this class students are also introduced to the vowel sounds of English. Students learn to recognize the different vowel sounds orally and in writing.

**Level 1**

This is a beginner level that focuses on continuing to teach students skills necessary to function in an English-speaking environment, but it also provides an introduction to basic academic foundations. Students will improve their fluency and continue to build their
communicative skills, becoming more expressive and able to function in the target language.

111: Level 1 Writing
This course focuses on advancing students’ ability to express their thoughts and inquiries in written form by using added tenses and learning about sentence variety. Students will also develop the ability to appropriately use basic electronic written communication in the target language. Finally, students will begin pre-development of research skills by being encouraged through writing exercises to ask questions of interest and to label sources of information.

112: Level 1 Grammar
This course continues to introduce basic grammatical rules. Students continue to master simple verb tenses, basic parts of speech, simple sentences and adverb/adjective use. Students also continue to learn how to ask and respond to questions appropriately. Students are introduced to producing compound and complex sentences and the future tense.

113: Level 1 Reading
This course is designed to help students develop reading and vocabulary skills. The topics in this course are real-world academic topics. Students will improve their reading comprehension, acquire dictionary skills to build vocabulary, and develop visual literacy.

114: Level 1 Oral Communication
This class is designed to enhance students’ speaking skills along with the other language skills. Among other things, students will be able to introduce themselves and others, respond appropriately to common classroom directives, and report (orally or in writing) events using more than 10 sentences.

115: Extensive Reading and Keyboarding II
This course focuses on increasing reading fluency and students’ typing speed. Depending on the abilities of the students, the course can work on reading for enjoyment as well as comprehension and overall understanding, with the aid of two abridged readers.

116: Level 1 Vocabulary and Literacy
The focus of this class is on vocabulary acquisition, including the pronunciation and spelling of the words on the Level 1 word list. Students are introduced to the IPA at this level.

**Level 2**

While previous levels introduced students to information necessary to function in an English-speaking environment, this level explores the topic of U.S. culture in general and provides a more in-depth exploration of university culture.
121: Level 2 Writing
This course teaches students to identify and write the following types of paragraphs: definition, process, description, and opinion. Each of the writings should include all of the elements of a paragraph (i.e. topic sentence, supporting sentences and concluding sentence). They should also demonstrate correct spelling, accurate grammar (correctly using grammar from Levels F-2), and a variety of sentence structures.

122: Level 2 Grammar
This course introduces more complex concepts of English grammar, such as additional verb tenses, modals, phrasal verbs, and prepositions. At this level, there is a particular emphasis on collaboration with the Oral Communication instructor in terms of using modals.

123: Level 2 Reading
This course focuses on increasing students’ overall reading proficiency through reading practice of authentic and leveled texts. Students will also develop basic reading strategies such as using context and inflections in order to increase overall comprehension of a text and build on prior knowledge of a topic when reading.

124: Level 2 Oral Communication
Students learn about general cultural behaviors, beliefs, and expectations in the U.S. The purpose of this course is to guide students in becoming more familiar with and comfortable in a new culture and to aid them in becoming integral participants.

125: Extensive Listening I
The purpose of this course is to introduce students to academic listening skills. This is the students’ first introduction to academic lectures and notetaking. Students are expected to not only listen accurately but convey their understanding in grammatically accurate English (spoken and written).

126: Level 2 Vocabulary and Literacy
Using a graded reader, students will further develop their reading proficiency. They should also be able to generate and answer questions about a text and summarize accurately. Mastering the Level 2 word list is another equally important component of the course.

Level 3
Level 3 continues to introduce students to the skills necessary for success in the U.S. classroom. Students begin to learn about the importance of research and its place in supporting both written and spoken academic discourse. Instructors should be aware that many students will struggle with appropriately incorporating the ideas of others into their own work, and instructors should assist with this struggle in all skills.
131: Level 3 Writing
Level 3 Writing is the introduction to the academic essay. Students learn the basic features of an essay and write two essay types: compare/contrast and (critical) reaction. Students are expected to acquire more than a basic understanding of intellectual property as they learn to use sources.

132: Level 3 Grammar
In this course students will review grammar features covered in the previous levels as well as learn more advanced structures, such as the future conditional, relative clauses, and additional preposition use. Students develop mastery in the production of the tense-aspect system of English, paying particular attention to present perfect and present perfect progressive.

133: Level 3 Reading
This course focuses on improving reading fluency through reading an abridged reader. Students will use prior knowledge and comprehension strategies to understand meaning and join in the conversation of the topic.

134: Level 3 Oral Communication
This course is a communicative speaking/listening course that focuses on higher-level usage of conversational skills such as interviewing and formal group discussions. Pragmatic issues such as politeness, especially in agreement and disagreement, are key outcomes of the course. This course reinforces many skills from other classes.

135: Extensive Listening II
The purpose of this course is to continue to develop students' academic listening and notetaking skills. Students are expected to not only listen accurately but convey their understanding in grammatically accurate English (spoken and written).

136: Level 3 Vocabulary and Literacy
This course has a dual focus: academic reading and academic vocabulary. Students read academic texts that encourage critical reading. At the same time, they focus on mastering Level 3 word list.

**Level 4**

A particular focus of this level is critical thinking skills. While students have learned about critical thinking in previous levels, this level increases the reading and writing difficulty, focusing on textual analysis, and reinforces this with other skills areas. This level can be challenging as many students struggle with critical thinking and questioning in the classroom.

141: Level 4 Writing
This course provides students with the strategies and skills needed to write and edit a cause and effect essay and a longer persuasive paper. The focus of this class is on critical thinking and joining an existing conversation in the literature. In addition, students are
asked to write frequent shorter writing assignments ("micro-process" writings) using a variety of media.

142: Level 4 Grammar
This course focuses on grammatical features including the past perfect, relative clauses, passive voice, and real conditionals. Students continue to build on previous knowledge from earlier levels and work toward a richer understanding of the English language in order to use the previous grammar rules in a meaningful way.

143: Reading
This course focuses on improving reading fluency through reading one or more authentic texts about an aspect of American culture. The instructor should introduce reading skills to analyze, evaluate, and demonstrate a holistic understanding of the text. Students may struggle with critical thinking skills, so instructors should model strategies.

144: Level 4 Speaking
In this course, students continue to learn and master the skills of participating in and leading academic classroom discussions in a culturally and pragmatically appropriate way. This is the last course to explicitly focus on these skills, so students should be confident in their discussion skills before completion of the course. Additionally, there is a focus on improving pronunciation.

145: Level 4 Listening
This listening class continues to focus on academic lectures and the necessary skills to comprehend their content. Students learn to use their notes to successfully answer both detail-level and "big-picture" comprehension questions about a lecture.

146: Level 4 Vocabulary and Literacy
This course has a dual focus: academic reading and academic vocabulary. Students read academic texts that encourage critical thinking. In particular, students concentrate on recognizing and evaluating evidence used to make claims. At the same time, they focus on mastering the Level 4 word list (part of the Academic Word List).

Level 5
In this level, students continue to focus on critical thinking in all skills. Students are also stretching their skills to accommodate common lengths in an academic classroom. The focus is on lengthening reading texts and listening to longer passages.

In levels 5 and 6, graduate students and undergraduate students may be placed in separate cohorts and use syllabi with slightly different outcomes and, in some skills, different textbooks.
151: Level 5 Writing
The primary goal is for students to write essays that contribute to an existing conversation in a meaningful way. The three short essays that comprise the major assignments of this course ask students to think critically about an issue and ultimately support a claim about that issue. In addition, students are asked to write frequent, shorter writing assignments using a variety of media.

152: Level 5 Grammar
Students will build on their knowledge of previously learned structures and add more complex grammatical features such as direct and indirect speech, unreal conditionals, and modals of prediction and inference.

153: Reading
This course focuses on improving fluency and comprehension by reading an authentic novel and comparing it to related texts. Students should analyze, evaluate and offer new ideas to those presented in the book. The instructor should emphasize the importance of comprehension, discussion skills, and how to make informed text comparisons.

154: Level 5 Speaking
This course focuses on creating and delivering academic presentations. Students learn about delivery and presentation skills as well as focus on creating strong content. Students often struggle with using sources appropriately while giving a presentation, even more so than when writing an academic essay. Another area of difficulty can be using a persuasive tone while giving a presentation. In addition to the presentation focus, there is a pronunciation element in the class.

155: Level 5 Listening
The purpose of this course is to continue preparing students to comprehend academic discourse. The course reinforces overall listening skills developed in Level 4, and it also introduces students to the abstract thinking skills that they need to comprehend and analyze arguments presented in lectures, TED Talks, and documentaries. Students will also be expected to understand a lecture after hearing it only once.

156: Level 5 Vocabulary and Literacy
This course has a dual focus: academic reading and academic vocabulary. Students read academic texts that encourage critical thinking. In particular, students concentrate on evaluating claims and comparing arguments. At the same time, they focus on mastering the Level 5-word list (part of the Academic Word List).

Level 6
The purpose of this level is to provide final preparation for students for academic classes. By the end of the level, they should be able to take notes and participate in an academic classroom, as well as read any assigned text or complete any type of assigned writing.
This level can be challenging, as instructors must make sure that students are up to the standard of an academic class before allowing them to pass the level.

161: Level 6 Writing
In this course students learn and practice the various steps necessary to do effective research. The focus of this course is to write a well-supported and well-organized research-driven argumentative academic essay of approximately 1,200-1,500 words. Students will use library databases to search for sources, identify a research topic of their own, and create an annotated bibliography. All of this work culminates in the writing of an argumentative academic essay.

162: Level 6 Grammar
At this point students should be familiar with most grammatical structures. The goal of this class is for students to use the language in real life practice. Level 6 Grammar is an opportunity for students to self-edit and learn from their own grammatical mistakes. Students accomplish this through authentic writing and speaking activities and assignments as well as through discussions that focus on the nuance of language choice.

163: Reading
This course focuses on improving reading fluency and comprehension through reading a BSU selected freshman reader or similar text. The instructor will expect students to demonstrate a deep level of comprehension, to discuss the text at an academic level, and to make informed text comparisons.

164: Level 6 Speaking
The focus of this course is on both debate and pronunciation. The purpose of debate in this course is to help students develop critical argumentative and thinking skills. Instructors should be aware that students often struggle with appropriately incorporating sources into their arguments and in maintaining strong arguments based on those of the other side. Students are also encouraged to become aware of their own pronunciation difficulties and set their own goals for pronunciation improvement.

165: Level 6 Listening
The purpose of this course is to provide instruction in advanced listening comprehension. The ability to take efficient and accurate notes of an academic lecture and use those notes to answer comprehension questions is a fundamental course outcome.

166: Level 6 Vocabulary and Literacy
This course has a dual focus: academic reading and academic vocabulary. Students read academic texts that encourage critical thinking. In particular students concentrate on evaluating claims and comparing arguments. At the same time, they focus on mastering the Level 6-word list (part of the Academic Word List).

Each course meets for 4 hours every week. Full-time IEI students have 24 hours of class every week. A student receives 1.5 nontransferable BSU credit hours for each course. Successfully completing an IEI level will result in an IEI grade of “Credit” (CR)
for each course.” When a student fails an IEI level, the student receives an IEI grade of “No Credit” (NC) for each course. Credits earned for IEI courses do not count toward a student’s degree program and are not included in grade point average calculations at Ball State University. IEI credits allow students to become regular Ball State students after mastering the language skills necessary for academic study.

**IEI Full-time / Part-time Study**

There are three types of students in the IEI: full-time IEI students, part-time IEI students, and IEI-only students. A **full-time** IEI student is a student who is required to take 6 courses in the IEI. Most students in the IEI are full-time students. A **part-time** IEI student is a level 6 student who is taking both IEI courses and academic courses. An **IEI-only** student is a student who is admitted to “IEI only” and can only study in the IEI. Other students are conditionally admitted to Ball State University. Conditionally admitted students who have placed out of some level 6 courses or are eligible to participate in the IEI Bridge Program, may choose to study in the IEI either full-time or part-time. For further details, IEI students can discuss their part-time enrollment with the International Academic Student Advisor in RCIP. An IEI-only student is also classified as a full-time student.

**IMPORTANT:** Full-time or part-time study in the IEI is determined by a number of factors including but not limited to admission status, sponsor requirements, and what semester of the year it is. Students may not change their status with the IEI without permission from the International Academic Student Advisor in RCIP and the IEI Director of Operations.

**Full-time Study in the IEI**

Students in levels F-5 are required to take all six courses; in other words, they must be enrolled in full-time IEI study for Sessions 1-4. Session 5 is optional for most students (visa requirements may necessitate enrollment). The prefix for full-time courses in Sessions 1, 3, and 5 is “IEI”; the prefix for full-time courses in Sessions 2 and 4 is “ENIE.”

By choosing to be enrolled full-time in the IEI, the student will continue to receive the reduced IEI tuition rate. However, the student must continue to be enrolled in six IEI courses for each session in the semester. This may require the student to take additional courses for part or all of a session, or the student may be required to take courses that he/she has already passed or placed out of. If this is the case, then the student must pass the course again in order to be released from the IEI at the end of the semester.

If the IEI offers a Summer session, full-time Level 6 students are not allowed to take academic courses in Ball State’s Summer Session 2.
**Part-time Study in the IEI (The IEI-Academic Bridge Program)**

Students are only eligible for part-time academic studies if they meet the following three requirements: they have been authorized by the IEI, they have been approved by RCIP, and the IEI-Academic Bridge program is available. By electing to be enrolled part-time in the IEI, the student will be allowed to take regular BSU courses up to the amount that the student would be considered full-time for Ball State purposes. However, by electing to be part-time in the IEI, the student will no longer receive the reduced IEI tuition rate and will be required to pay the full non-resident tuition for all courses (including IEI courses). Part-time IEI enrollment is significantly more expensive than full-time enrollment.

Part-time undergraduate students must take a combined total of 12-18 IEI and academic credit hours. An undergraduate student who is in the IEI Academic Bridge Program should take no more than 6 academic credit hours (2 academic courses). This will allow you to repeat an IEI course within the same semester without going into overload.

Part-time graduate students must take 9-12 credit hours. Those who have completed one or more IEI courses may enroll in only one graduate course as a part-time student. It means that a graduate student who is in the IEI Academic Bridge Program should take no more than 3 academic credit hours.

Students in Level 6 may also be part-time because they are repeating one or more courses and will therefore not be enrolled in all 6 courses. In very rare occasions a student may place out of one or more skills through the placement exam to be a part-time IEI student if the Director determines that the student placement exam demonstrates mastery in one or skill areas.

Due to IEI scheduling, part-time students may only take academic courses after 12:50 p.m.

**NOTE:** During summer, part-time students may only take academic courses if they are also enrolled in the IEI.

**The IEI-Academic Pathway Program**

The Intensive English Institute (IEI) in partnership with the Rinker Center for International Programs (RCIP) has offered the **IEI Academic Pathway Program** to qualified international students since 2010. This program allows international students who have been conditionally admitted to a degree program to begin taking academic classes while studying part time in the IEI in level 6.
Standards for Admission
Potential IEL Academic Pathway Program students must submit a written application to the University and be offered conditional admission into a Ball State University undergraduate or graduate degree program. Pathway students must meet the following English proficiency requirements for the IEL Academic Pathway Program:

TOEFL ibt – 75       TOEFL pbt = 537       IELTS – 6.0       Pearson – 51

If we do not receive TOEFL, PTE, or IELTS scores from an international student, we will automatically consider international students for conditional admission. Students who have taken the TOEFL, IELTS, or PTE but do not have scores that meet the minimum requirements will also be automatically considered for conditional admission. Conditional admission letters are issued by the director of international student recruitment and admissions at Ball State. The letter will include the student’s prospective major at Ball State as well as the conditions which must be met before receiving full admission.

Enrollment Criteria
IEL Academic Pathway Program students must enroll in a full course of study each semester of the program unless authorized for a reduced course load in advance by an International Student from the Rinker Center for International Programs. The minimum number of total credits required per term in the IEL Academic Pathway Program will remain at 12 credit hours for undergraduate Pathway students and 9 credit hours for graduate Pathway students. Graduate students taking Level 6 IEL courses would take no more than 3 academic credits.

Program Requirements
International students complete their IEL Academic Pathway Program within a 12-month period. Extensions may be granted for one additional semester due to extraordinary circumstances. Currently there are a few international students who enroll each semester in IEL classes, but only attend their academic courses. These students would not be allowed, under this new program, to follow such a course. If they attempted to do so and failed to complete their English requirements for admission, they would need to transfer out of Ball State University or return home as they would not be maintaining their legal status in the U.S.
NOTE: Like part-time students, Bridge and Pathway students will not receive reduced tuition for IEI courses. They will need to fill out an Alternate Study Form. Please note that the IEI-Academic Bridge and Pathway programs are offered only in August and January, not in the summer.

IEI-Only at Level 6: Students who are IEI only students in Level 6 find themselves in a unique situation. Because they do not have conditional admission into a program, they cannot be part-time students (bridge or otherwise). The IEI does not offer a full time Level 6 section in Session 1 or 3; therefore, IEI-Only Level 6 students must repeat Level 5 for Sessions 1 and 3 and pass the level in order to take Level 6 classes during the next session. IEI-only students need to note that full-time level 6 courses are NOT offered during sessions one (August) and three (January) of each academic year. This means that those who completed their level 5 at the end of the previous semester will then be enrolled in the IEI-Academic Bridge Program.

Taking IEI Exams- If your academic classes conflict with the IEI exam schedule, the IEI exam times and dates will take precedence over your academic classes. The part-time student is responsible for making arrangements for their academic courses if there is a time conflict.

For IEI students, completing the IEI is their first priority. Part-time study is a privilege that Ball State and the IEI have granted students as they transition out of ESL classes. Thus, part-time students’ first obligation is to finish their IEI coursework.

Course Numbers

At Ball State University, course numbers include a lot of information. A few example course numbers are below:

ENG 103, Section 27, Course Reference Number (CRN) 34526
ENIE 131, Sec. 2, CRN 27892
MATHS 113, S.13, CRN 67345

Each course number begins with a prefix. The prefix explains what department the course is taught in. In the examples above, the prefixes are: ENG (for the English Department), ENIE, ENEFL and IEI (for classes in the IEI), and MATHS (for classes from the Mathematical Sciences Department.) After the prefix is a number from 100-600. Numbers from 100-400 are undergraduate courses. Lower courses are typically easier classes. Numbers from 500-600 are graduate classes. The IEI also uses the prefix ENEFL for its part-time students.

Each course number also has a section number and a CRN. In looking at the examples above, you can see that there are many abbreviations for “section” and "course
reference number” used at BSU. The section number tells how many different classes – or sections – of a particular course are available. Different sections of a course will meet at different times and might have different professors. The CRN is a specific number that students will need in order to register for their classes.

**IEI Course Numbers**

The course numbers in the IEI has a simple system. There are 3 digits (or numbers) in each course number. The first number for all classes is ‘1’. The second number is the level. This will be the same for all courses a student is taking in one session. A student in level 1 will have all courses that are 11X. A student in level 5 will have all courses that are 15X.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>2nd digit-Level</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0</td>
<td>Fundamental</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Level 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Level 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Level 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Level 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Level 5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Level 6</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The third digit is for the class type or the skill that on the class focuses on. This is the same across all levels:

- XX1 - Writing classes
- XX2 - Grammar classes
- XX3 - Reading classes
- XX4 - Speaking or Oral Communication classes
- XX5 – Extensive Reading and Keyboarding or Listening classes
- XX6 - Vocabulary and Literacy classes

Examples:

- ENIEI 152 = Level 5 Grammar
- ENIEI 141 = Level 4 Writing
- ENIEI 133 = Level 3 Reading
- ENIEI 116 = Level 1 Vocabulary and Literacy

**Academic Calendar**

**Ball State University Academic Calendar**
Ball State University offers two fifteen-week semesters in the fall and spring and a summer semester. The terms are as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Semester</th>
<th>Begins</th>
<th>Ends</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fall</td>
<td>Late August</td>
<td>Mid-December</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spring</td>
<td>Early January</td>
<td>Early May</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Summer</td>
<td>Mid-May</td>
<td>Late July</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

IEI Academic Calendar (Due to the current situation with COVID-19, IEI classes may be a blend of face-to-face and online learning)

The schedule for the IEI differs from the schedule for academic classes at Ball State. Ball State academic semesters are 15 weeks long. The IEI has two 7-week sessions in each Ball State semester, except for the summer semester. The IEI may offer only one 7-week session during the summer semester. In the IEI, each 7-week session begins with a day for meeting with your advisor and registering for classes. That day is called Advising Day. The last week of the session ends with final exams. The calendar is below. For this year’s more detailed calendar, IEI students can refer to the IEI website or to the IEI bulletin board outside the office.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Semester</th>
<th>Session</th>
<th>Begins</th>
<th>Ends</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fall 2020</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>August 24</td>
<td>October 15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fall 2020</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>October 19</td>
<td>December 11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spring 2021</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>January 11</td>
<td>March 5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spring 2021</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>March 15</td>
<td>May 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Summer 2021</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>May 17</td>
<td>July 2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Summer sessions are offered based on enrolment numbers. There is a possibility that a student’s level may not be offered during a summer session.

Please Note: Once students begin their academic programs, they should be aware that Ball State University classes are offered from 8:00 am until 10:00 pm Monday through Friday, and some classes are even offered on the weekends (Saturday and Sunday). Once students begin their academic programs, it will be their responsibility to arrange their academic classes appropriately considering their individual needs (employment, assistantship responsibilities, religious requirements, and so on).

Advising
Advising Day is at 10 am on the first day of a new session. This is the day when new students meet with their advisors to register for classes. This is also the day when returning students schedule their exam reviews, request course grade reviews, request and sign up for change-of-level testing, and sort out registration problems. Part-time level 6 students are expected to fill out and sign their IEL Alternate Study Form. On Advising Day, advisors may also discuss academic progress with returning students.

At the end of each session, students are able to view their detailed grade information (final course grades + final exam grades) via their Canvas “Grades” tool. If students have questions or trouble viewing their grades, they can come to their advisor for help on Advising Day. At the end of each session, students can also view CR/NC information for the level in Canvas via http://my.bsu.edu/.

US Holidays Observed at BSU

During the school year, there are several United States holidays. On these holidays, there are no classes at Ball State University and no classes in the IEL. There are also two university breaks. There is one break during fall semester and one break during spring semester.

**Fall:**
- Labor Day (the first Monday in September)
- Fall Break (set each year by the university in mid-October)
- Thanksgiving Recess (third week in November)

**Spring:**
- Martin Luther King, Jr. Day (third Monday in January)
- Spring Break (one week break near the beginning of March)

**Summer:**
- Memorial Day (final Monday in May)
- Fourth of July

For more detailed information and exact dates for each semester, see the official calendar of Ball State University. These days could change slightly, so students should always check the official BSU calendar on the Ball State website: http://www.bsu.edu/calendar.

Daylight Savings Time

In the United States, there is a change of time every year. It is called Daylight Savings Time. It is done because in the US there is a lot of sunlight in the summer, but not much sunlight in the winter.

This means that in the spring, people must set their clock one hour forward. For example, people change their clocks from 10:00 to 11:00 on Daylight savings day in the spring. Every year, this day is the second Sunday in the month of March.
In the fall, people must set their clocks backward. For example, people change their clocks from 11:00 to 10:00 at the end of Daylight savings time in the fall. Every year, this day is the first Sunday in the month of November.

Students should pay attention to the news and their instructors. These people will remind students when it is time to change their clocks.

IEI Activity Calendar (These activities will to be reviewed based on the guidelines for physical distancing and face coverings.)

Fall 2020 Session 1
October 4th: Student Appreciation Day

Fall 2020- Session 2
November: Amazing Taste
December 3rd: Student Appreciation Day

Spring 2021- Session 3
February 26th: Student Appreciation Day

Spring 2021- Session 4
March- Cardinal Awards
April 27th: Student Appreciation Day

Assessment

Placement Testing

The IEI uses its English Placement exam to decide in which level students will begin to study. The IEI currently uses an institutional test to place students in one of the seven levels. Students are placed based on their overall writing and grammar proficiency and their ability to integrate information from a video lecture and a reading passage into an essay.

The placement test has three different parts: listening, reading, and writing. Students take all three parts in one day. Students have one hour to complete this test. The IEI instructors grade the test.

Students take the same test for the two different reasons, but there are different rules for each reason. These rules are described in the next two sections.

Initial Placement

During the week before classes start every session, all new students must take the IEI placement test. The test is mandatory for all new students who have not submitted an appropriate Duolingo, TOEFL or IELTS score to RCIP.
The IIE uses the test results to place the students in one level. The student enters the level as determined by the raters’ placement.

Placement after Taking a Break from the IIE

If a student leaves the IIE for two (2) consecutive sessions, the student must re-take the IIE’s English Placement Exam upon their return. If the student places into a lower level, the student will have to re-start in the IIE at that lower level. This applies to full-time and part-time students. If a partially released student, who has not yet started taking academic courses, leaves for two (2) consecutive sessions, that student could become a full-time student again based on test results after the student returns.

Change-of-Level Requests

**New Students:**

New students learn their level placement when they meet with their advisor on Monday of the first week of classes. If they want to request a change of level, they must fill out the Change-of-Level Form with their advisor by 12:00 P.M. on Advising Day. The change-of-level exam is the next day, on Tuesday morning at 9:00 A.M. Students will receive an email from the IIE office by Wednesday, the first day of classes, to tell them their test results. Students who do not fill out the Change-of-Level Form on Monday and who do not come to the exam on Tuesday morning are not eligible to move up a level.

**Returning Students:**

A returning student will be considered for a change-of-level request if and only if they have passed the previous level with an average of 90% for the level. If they want to request a change of level, they must fill out the Change-of-Level Form with their advisor by 12:00 P.M. on Advising Day. The change-of-level exam is the next day, on Tuesday morning at 9:00 A.M. Students will receive an email from the IIE office by Wednesday, the first day of classes, to tell them their level. Students who do not fill out the Change-of-Level Form on Monday and who do not come to the exam on Tuesday morning are not eligible to move up a level.

Note: Level 6 students and unregistered students are not eligible to request a change of level. Level 5 students are only eligible for change of level in Session 2 and 4, when full time Level 6 is offered. They are not permitted to skip into a Bridge section because there is not enough time for advising and registering for academic classes.

New and returning students must follow these steps if they wish to move out of their current proficiency level:
Step 1: Students must talk to their advisor by 12:00 p.m. on Advising Day. Their advisor will discuss changing levels with them.

Step 2: If a student still wishes to change level, the student’s advisor will have the student fill out the Change-of-Level Form and sign it. If the student requested to move down a level, the advisor will have the student fill out the Request to Move Down a Level Consent Form.

The Assistant Director for Curriculum will consider only these things when making the decision:

- Do the results of the change-of-level exam indicate that the student is in the wrong level?
- Is there enough space for the student in the new level? (In other words, is there room in the courses at that level for the student?)
- (For returning students who want to move up to the next level) Does the student have a history of success in the IEI? Does the student have an overall average of 90% and above for the level? Are there documented incidents of plagiarism?

Moving Down a Level

On rare occasions, there are students who want to move down a level. A student in this situation should discuss this with their advisor and instructors within the first two days of class. If the student still wants to move down a level, they should speak with their advisor. During this meeting the advisor will ask the student to explain why they want to move down. The advisor should be careful to inform the advisee of the implications of moving down a level. If the student still desires to move down a level, they must fill out the Request to Move Down a Level Consent Form. The form must be turned in to the IEI office by the third day of class (the Friday of the first week of class) in order to be considered. The final decision regarding change of level is determined by the IEI administration. Like moving up a level, moving down a level is dependent on space availability.

Often, a student is nervous in a new class, but talking with instructors and their advisor and attending a couple days of class may make them feel more comfortable, so they may not choose to move levels. However, there are times when a student still feels strongly about moving down a level and will want to complete the change of level process. The opportunity to move down a level is for students who would genuinely benefit from being in a lower level and should not be used as a tactic to remove a student from Academic Probation.
Grades

There are two types of grades that students will earn while they study in the IEI. The first type of grade is a total grade for each course. Students earn a total grade in each of the core courses. This is a percentage that is calculated from a student’s course grade and the student’s final exam grade. The final exam grade carries a weight of 25% of the overall grade. The formula for calculating a student’s total grade is the following:

\[
\frac{3}{4} \times \text{course grade} + \frac{1}{4} \times \text{final exam grade} = \text{total grade}
\]

Students must earn a total grade of 73% or higher (“C” or better) in a course. If a student earns a 73% or higher, he or she will pass the course. If a student does not earn at least a 73%, then he or she will not pass the course. To clarify, any score below 73.0% is not considered passing, including scores such as 72.45%, 72.5%, and 72.94%.

There is a second type of grade used in the IEI. The second type is the Ball State University official grades. “Official” means that these grades are the grades that someone will see if they look at a student’s university transcript. Students can also request a copy of their transcript from the Registrar. Students should remember that for each level they will receive one grade: “Credit” or “No Credit.” If students pass the level, then they will receive “Credit” for all courses in that level. If they do not pass the level, then they will receive “No Credit” for all courses in that level. Level 6 is an exception. In level 6, students will receive a grade for each of their courses. If students want to learn more about how to pass a level, they should read the “Requirements for Passing a Level” section below.

Final Exam

IEI students do not have finals during the Ball State finals week. IEI finals take place during the last two days of each session. IEI final exams are given for each of the core classes: Writing, Reading, Extensive Reading and Keyboarding/Extensive Listening/Listening, and Vocabulary and Literacy. The final exam is worth 25% of the final grade for core courses. The IEI final exam schedule is posted on the bulletin board during the last full week of each session. If a partial student has a problem with an IEI exam and a BSU academic exam occurring at the same time, that student must talk to both teachers and inform the IEI Administration at least 48 hours before the exams. Your IEI exam takes precedence.

Requirements for Passing a Level

Different teachers use different assessment and grading methods. They use different ways of grading because they teach different skills and have different teaching styles. Students should read their syllabi, course outlines, and any project or assignment
guidelines carefully. These documents tell students how the instructor will grade them. If students have questions about how grades in the course will work, then they should ask their instructor.

**Requirements for Passing Levels F-5:**

There are two requirements for passing a level and moving up to the next level. Students must meet BOTH of these requirements:

1. They must pass at least 5 of their 6 courses. That means they must earn a 73% or higher in 5 or more of their courses.
   AND
2. The average of their grades in the 6 courses must be 73% or higher. That means students must add up all six grades. Then, divide them by 6 (for 6 courses). The number must be 73% or higher.

If students meet both of these requirements, they will move up to the next level.

If a student does not meet one or both of these requirements, he will repeat the level the next session.

Examples:

**Student #1 received the following grades:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Grade</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ENIEI 131 (Level 3 Writing)</td>
<td>81</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENIEI 132 (Level 3 Grammar)</td>
<td>82</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENIEI 133 (Level 3 Reading)</td>
<td>95</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENIEI 134 (Level 3 Oral Comm.)</td>
<td>75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENIEI 135 (Level 3 Ext. Listen.)</td>
<td>90</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENIEI 136 (Vocabulary and Liter.)</td>
<td>78</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Average</strong></td>
<td><strong>83.5</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Student #1 received a grade of 73% or higher in all of his courses, so he passed all of his courses. His average grade was an 83.5. Therefore, he met both requirements. In the next session, he will move up to level 4 and take level 4 courses.

**Student #2 received the following grades:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Grade</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ENIEI 131 (Level 3 Writing)</td>
<td>64</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENIEI 132 (Level 3 Grammar)</td>
<td>73</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENIEI 133 (Level 3 Reading)</td>
<td>51</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENIEI 134 (Level 3 Oral Comm.)</td>
<td>23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENIEI 135 (Level 3 Ext. Listen.)</td>
<td>75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENIEI 136 (Vocabulary and Liter.)</td>
<td>80</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Average 61.0

Student #2 received 3 grades that were below 73% (131, 133, and 134). Her average grade was a 61%. Therefore, she did not meet either of the two requirements. In the next session, she will repeat level 3. She will take level 3 courses again.

Student #3 received the following grades:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Grade</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ENIEI 131 (Level 3 Writing)</td>
<td>73</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENIEI 132 (Level 3 Grammar)</td>
<td>48</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENIEI 133 (Level 3 Reading)</td>
<td>80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENIEI 134 (Level 3 Oral Communication)</td>
<td>73</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENIEI 135 (Level 3 Extensive Listening II)</td>
<td>81</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENIEI 136 (Vocabulary and Literacy)</td>
<td>75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Average</strong></td>
<td><strong>71.7</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Student #3 received 5 grades that were 73% or higher (131, 133, 134, 135, and 136). However, his average grade was 72%. Therefore, he did not meet the second requirement. In the next session, he will repeat level 3. He will take level 3 courses again.

Student #4 received the following grades:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Grade</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ENIEI 131 (Level 3 Writing)</td>
<td>70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENIEI 132 (Level 3 Grammar)</td>
<td>98</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENIEI 133 (Level 3 Reading)</td>
<td>93</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENIEI 134 (Level 3 Oral Communication)</td>
<td>67</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENIEI 135 (Level 3 Extensive Listening II)</td>
<td>95</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENIEI 136 (Vocabulary and Literacy)</td>
<td>69</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Average</strong></td>
<td><strong>82.0</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Student #4 received 3 grades that were lower than 73% (131, 134, and 136). Therefore, she did not meet the first requirement. Her average was 82%. She did meet the second requirement. However, she must meet both requirements. In the next session, she will repeat level 3.

Student #5 received the following grades:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Grade</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ENIEI 131 (Level 3 Writing)</td>
<td>76.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENIEI 132 (Level 3 Grammar)</td>
<td>61.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENIEI 133 (Level 3 Reading)</td>
<td>74.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENIEI 134 (Level 3 Oral Communication)</td>
<td>78.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENIEI 135 (Level 3 Extensive Listening II)</td>
<td>73.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENIEI 136 (Vocabulary and Literacy)</td>
<td>74</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Student #5 received 1 grade that was lower than 73% (132). His overall average is 72.85%, which is lower than 73.0%. He only failed one class, which is allowed; however, he did not meet the requirement of having an average of 73.0% or above. In the next session, he will also have to repeat level 3.

Student #6 received the following grades:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Grade</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ENIEI 121 (Level 3 Writing)</td>
<td>75.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENIEI 122 (Level 3 Grammar)</td>
<td>65.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENIEI 123 (Level 3 Reading)</td>
<td>75.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENIEI 124 (Level 3 Oral Communication)</td>
<td>78.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENIEI 125 (Level 3 Extensive Listening II)</td>
<td>73.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENIEI 126 (Vocabulary and Literacy)</td>
<td>72.8</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Average**: 73.5

Student #6 had an average of 73.5%, so she met the requirement of having an average above 73.0%. However, she failed 2 classes (122 and 126), so she will have to repeat level 2.

**Requirements for Passing Level 6:**

Because classes in Level 6 are the final capstones for each of the skills, students in Level 6 are required to complete each course with a final grade of 73% or higher. If students receive a grade lower than 73%, they must repeat that course in the next session. However, they must only repeat the course that they failed, unless, in order to maintain full-time status for immigration purposes (at the middle of a semester), they may have to enroll in full-time IEI for the second session. If students are required to enroll full-time in the middle of a semester, they must take courses that they have already passed or placed out of. If this is the case, then students must pass the courses again in order to be released from the IEI at the end of the semester.

**Academic Retention and Probation Policy**

The Intensive English Institute has a rigorous plan of study designed to prepare students for their academic programs. Like other educational institutions in the US, Ball State expects its students to progress in a timely manner. We understand that all students do not progress at the same pace and may need some additional support. Therefore, the IEI’s Academic Retention and Probation Policy was designed to assist and guide those students who have difficulty improving their English proficiency. The IEI administrators and instructors want to make sure that academic support is available for
those students who are serious about improving their English proficiency so that they can begin their academic studies.

Below is a “Quick Glance” of the steps of academic probation followed by a detailed explanation.

**Academic Probation 1- Failed for the First Time**
- Meets with the Assistant Director
- Receives first warning letter
- Repeats level

**Academic Probation 2- Failed for the Second Time**
- Meets with the Assistant Director
- Receives second letter
- Repeats level again
- Assigned a tutor
- Required attendance at two academic success workshops

**Ineligible to Continue- Failed for the Third Time OR Failed for the Second Time without meeting the attendance requirements**
- Asked to withdraw
- Has the opportunity to appeal

**Academic Probation 1- Failed for the First Time**

If you do not meet the requirements to pass the level, you must repeat the level during the next session you attend, AND you will be placed on Academic Probation 1. You are placed on Academic Probation 1 as a warning that you are in danger of being asked to leave the IEI.

During the first week of the new session, your probationary status will be explained during a meeting with the Assistant Director. You will be required to sign your probation letter at that meeting. The letter will include the conditions/requirements of an AP1 status. You will be assigned a faculty tutor, and you should meet with the tutor to arrange a plan for additional work to assist you with your IEI classes. You will also be
required to attend two academic success workshops. The probation status is removed when you pass the level at the end of the session during which you are on probation.

If you are ineligible to continue in the IEI, you will receive your letter of dismissal from the Assistant Director by Advising Day.

**Academic Probation 2- Failed for the Second Time**

- If you are placed on Academic Probation 1 (AP1), and you fail the level again you will be placed on Academic Probation 2 (AP2). If, however, you attended less than 85% of your IEI classes, you will be dismissed according to the Attendance Probation Policy.
- During the first week of the new session, your probationary status will be explained at a meeting with the Assistant Director. You will be required to sign your probation letter at that meeting. The AP2 letter will include the conditions/requirements of an AP2 status.
- You will be assigned a tutor, and you should meet with the tutor to arrange a plan for additional work to assist you with your IEI classes. You will also be required to attend two academic success workshops. Additionally, you will be required to maintain no less than 85% class attendance while on AP2 to be eligible to appeal your academic dismissal if you fail again.
- The IEI Academic Probation Committee will consider your attendance with your tutor, your attendance at the required workshops, and your class attendance when making a decision on granting you Academic Probation 3 status. If you have poor attendance at these opportunities, it is unlikely that you will be allowed to remain in the IEI.

**Ineligible to Continue- Failed for the Third Time or Failed for the Second Time without meeting the attendance requirements**

- If you fail the level while you are on AP2 or while you are on AP1 and do not fulfill the attendance requirements, you will be asked to withdraw from the IEI.
- You will receive your letter of dismissal from the Assistant Director by Advising Day.

If you are asked to withdraw from the program and want to appeal the decision, you may appeal your ineligible to continue status to the IEI Academic Probation Committee.

Make an appointment to see the IEI Assistant Director if you want to appeal. See below for the appeal procedures.

**Procedures for Appeals**

- If you have been asked to withdraw from the program and want to appeal the decision, you may appeal your ineligible to continue status to the IEI Academic Probation Committee (IAPC) if you believe that extraordinary circumstances
beyond your reasonable control contributed to the failure/s and merit an exception to the rules.

- You must write a letter of appeal to the IEI Assistant Director two (2) school days after the IEI Advising Day of the following session. You need to clearly outline the nature of the circumstances and provide supporting documentation. Only written statements of appeal (paper or email) are accepted by the IAPC. It is the student’s obligation to check their academic status on the date published by the IEI. Additionally, letters of recommendation from two of your returning instructors must be included in your appeal package. In addition to the information provided in the appeal letter, the IEI Academic Probation Committee will consider the student’s attendance with their tutor, their attendance at workshops, their class attendance, and the contents of their student file when making a decision on accepting an appeal. If the student has poor attendance at these opportunities or a history of academic dishonesty or classroom disruption, it is unlikely that they will be allowed to remain in the IEI.

- Within two (2) school days after receipt of the written appeal, the IEI Assistant Director will convene a meeting of the IAPC, which is charged with reviewing all appeals. The committee meets only once per session and will not consider letters of appeal received after the deadline. Decisions of the committee are final, and there is no appeal in the IEI beyond that body. You will receive a letter with the committee’s decision within one (1) school day.

- If you are dismissed after you were on AP2 and the appeal is accepted, then you will be reinstated and placed on Academic Probation 3. If you are dismissed after you were on AP1 and the appeal is accepted, then you will be reinstated and placed on AP3. This is the last opportunity you will have to pass the level. If you fail again, you will be ineligible to continue in the IEI program at that time.

- If the IAPC denies your appeal, you will be ineligible to attend the Intensive English Institute for a minimum of two consecutive sessions. You are allowed to reapply to the IEI after waiting out the two consecutive IEI sessions. A denial, however, does not prevent you from meeting the University English Proficiency requirement through TOEFL or IELTS testing. At this point, you will be required to meet with the Director of International Student Services at RCIP.

**Academic Support**

Academic support is available for all students. Tutoring sessions take place in the IEI Tutoring Center (RB 359). The schedule for tutoring sessions changes each session. While students on academic probation are given first priority to schedule tutoring sessions, any student may go to the Tutoring Center when a tutor is available.

**IEI Tutoring Center**

The IEI tutoring center serves students in two ways:

- Offers a free tutoring service for IEI students
- Students who are on academic probation meet with a tutor for two (2) hours each week.
- Students who would like extra help on their coursework or have been referred to a tutor can schedule an appointment with a tutor in the center up to a week before the desired appointment time.

The IEI tutoring center is usually open Monday through Friday and attended by an IEI instructor. Hours are subject to change every session.

**IEI Cardinal Awards**

An IEI Cardinal Award is given to an IEI student who demonstrates outstanding scholarship and commitment. IEI students can receive cardinal awards in the following categories: Executive Director of Global Affairs Cardinal Award and the IEI Cardinal Award for Perfect Attendance.

**Executive Director of Global Affairs Cardinal Award** - This award is presented to a student who maintains an overall average of 90% and above in each course over two consecutive sessions. This award will be given in September and March.

**IEI Cardinal Award for Perfect Attendance** - This award is presented to a student who maintains perfect attendance over two consecutive sessions. This award will be given in September and March.

**Eligibility** - To be eligible for an IEI Cardinal Award, a student must

1. Be a current full-time or bridge student
2. Be in good-standing- not on academic or attendance probation for the two sessions and not have any academic dishonesty or disciplinary records.

**Registration**

In order to attend IEI classes, students must register using the Self-Service Banner found at [http://my.bsu.edu/](http://my.bsu.edu/). Registration times and access information are often unique for various groups. Students on academic probation will receive their registration information when they meet with the Assistant Director.

All returning students enrolled in Levels F-6 are expected to register themselves.

**Level F to Level 6 Full-time Students**

Students are required to register by 12 p.m. (noon) on Wednesday, the first day of IEI classes. An email from the IEI will be sent to your BSU email account the weekend before the session starts. Follow the instructions given in the email. It is your
responsibility to take care of all of your BSU holds (See page 61 for descriptions of types of holds) before you can register. If you have a problem, seek help from your IEI advisor. **Unregistered students will not be allowed in class.** Classes begin at noon (12:00 pm) on the first Wednesday of the first week in each session.

**Level 6 Bridge Students**

Follow all of the registration instructions below for Level F to Level 6 full-time students. However, you may only register for academic classes that are offered after 12:50 p.m.

**Level 6 Part-time Non-bridge Students**

Follow all of the instructions below for Level F to Level 6 full-time students. In addition, if there is a conflict with an academic course before 1:00 p.m., you are required to drop that academic course and add your IEI course.

**Specific Registration Instructions** *(for IEI Level F to Level 6 full-time students)*

Try to register without the help of your advisor before 10 a.m. on the Monday before classes begin. To register for your IEI class, please go online to [http://my.bsu.edu/](http://my.bsu.edu/). From there, you will login and follow the steps below:

1. Click on Self Service (SSB)
2. Click on Student
3. Click on Registration
4. Click on Course Add/Drop/Withdrawal
5. Select a Term (for example, Fall 2020)
6. Click Submit
7. Scroll down to Add CRN(s) in the boxes on the Worksheet **
8. Submit Changes

**The CRN number(s) you will use is/are:**  
__________ (CRN number)

If you have either of the following problems, please call the registrar at (765) 285-1722:

1. Need alternate pin
2. Maximum credit hours exceeded

- If you have holds (bursar and/or health center), you will need to take care of those in order to successfully register. If you do not register by 12 p.m. (noon) on Wednesday, the first day of IEI classes, you might not be able to attend classes for the session.
- If you have an **IEI registration hold**, please email us at iei@bsu.edu.
- Contact your IEI advisor by noon (12 p.m.) on Monday of the first week of BSU classes to report any registration problems that are beyond your control.

**Dropping a Course**

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No full-time IEI student is allowed to drop a course.

Partial IEI students may drop a non-IEI course if the following requirements are met:

- The student has met with their academic advisor, and the academic advisor agrees that it is a good idea.
- The student has met with their international student advisor to ensure that they will still be registered for enough credits to maintain full-time student status (for visa purposes).

Partial IEI students may not drop any IEI courses because IEI students are required to complete all IEI courses in order to be released from the IEI. If partial IEI students do drop an IEI course, they will have problems registering for the next semester.

Summer IEI enrollment is optional if the session is offered which allows any IEI student to drop or withdraw from summer IEI or non-IEI courses.

Students who have not been released from IEI coursework cannot enroll in BSU coursework without concurrent IEI course enrollment. Partial IEI students enrolled in online academic BSU coursework cannot drop or withdraw from IEI courses and maintain their active enrollment status.

Withdrawing from Courses and the University

If you wish to cancel your courses or withdraw from them, make an appointment with an international student advisor at the Rinker Center AND follow the instructions outlined at the following link:

Cancellation and Complete Withdrawal Information

In addition, inform your instructors and IEI advisor when you have withdrawn.

Textbooks and Technology

Textbooks

Students are required to obtain a textbook for most IEI courses by the end of the first week in any session. Some teachers may penalize students for not obtaining the book in time.

Students can buy the textbooks at the campus bookstore. This bookstore is near the Atrium in the Arts and Journalism building. There are also other bookstores in the Village. These bookstores may also have IEI textbooks. Finally, students can buy textbooks online. If students buy their textbook online from a website such as Amazon.com, they may save a lot of money. However, it can take a long time for the book(s) to arrive. The instructor will not wait for the students’ book(s) to arrive. If
students choose to purchase books online, then they must find a way to make sure they can still do their work while they wait for the book to arrive.

Students can also buy used textbooks. That means that students can buy a copy of a book that someone else has already owned and sold back to the bookstore or sold on Amazon.com. However, students cannot buy a used textbook if it is a workbook. If a book has the answers written in it already, then students cannot buy it. Students will have to find a different book. Students should be careful of this when buying used textbooks.

**Email**

Ball State University gives every student a Ball State email address. Ball State email addresses look like this: studentname@bsu.edu. Students should remember their email addresses and passwords. It is the student’s responsibility to remember this information. It is also the student’s responsibility to check his Ball State email address at least once a day. The IEI and the university will send important messages to the Ball State email addresses. *The IEI will not send emails to any other email address.* Students should use only their Ball State email address to send emails to their instructors or anyone in the IEI.

**Emergency alerts**

Here at Ball State University, urgent and important information is communicated electronically. You must check your Ball State e-mail regularly. When there is an immediate and time-sensitive threat to the campus community, emergency notifications are sent simultaneously via the Ball State Web site, e-mail, campus voice mail, and mobile text messaging (to those who subscribe). For example, if classes need to be cancelled due to severe weather, you will be informed in an e-mail. Sign up here: [https://www.bsu.edu/about/administrativeoffices/riskmanagement/student-personal-safety/emergency-alerts](https://www.bsu.edu/about/administrativeoffices/riskmanagement/student-personal-safety/emergency-alerts)

**Canvas**

Canvas is an online tool for teachers and students to help with course management. Some teachers will set up a Canvas site for their IEI classes. This is a place for online discussion, file sharing and submission of course work. Many courses at Ball State utilize this program, so it is important to spend some time becoming familiar with the way it works. Unregistered students do not have access to Canvas.

**Benny Link**

Ball State encourages student involvement in many campus events. Benny Link is Ball State’s student involvement system that helps students become involved on campus in over 400 student organizations and explore various campus events. Benny Link serves as the primary calendar for the Office of Student Life and has every registered student
organization, residence hall, and living learning community on campus as well as a variety of university departments, programs, and resources.

**Wireless**

Ball State University is committed to maintaining a wireless campus, so if a student has a laptop of his own it will be able to wirelessly access the Internet from any point on campus. Students will use their Ball State ID to log on to the system.

**Attendance Policy**

Ball State University considers a student's official course program as a contract with the university. The university's policy is that students are expected to attend all classes for which they are registered. Thus, it considers class attendance to be a key component of academic success. Students must attend all IEI classes all the time. If you cannot attend class, you should communicate about your absence with your instructors. If you have excessive absences without communicating with your instructors, you may be required to meet with the IEI Assistant Director about your absences. Being absent from class will negatively affect your learning and the classroom environment. Excessive absences may also negatively affect final class grades.

In the Intensive English Institute, students must attend classes in order to gain the full benefit of the courses offered. They must attend regularly and on time to be successful in learning the language. Thus, students are expected to attend 85% of the total IEI class hours for which they are registered. All absences, whether excused or unexcused, will be counted towards the total number of absences.

**Punctuality**

University instructors expect to begin class right when the class is scheduled to begin. If the class starts at 9:00 a.m., then professors will begin class at 9:00 a.m. Students should arrive early for class, at least two or three minutes before the class begins. This means that instructors expect students to be at their desks with appropriate writing materials and textbooks for the class out on the desk.

Another word for “late” is “tardy.” Specifically, a student is considered tardy if either of the following is true:

- The student arrives up to 10 minutes late to class.
- The student misses up to 10 minutes of instruction time at any point during the class.

**Definition of Absence**
Instructors record your attendance every day. Although each instructor may deal with absences differently, there are some departmental guidelines that students should be familiar with.

A student is absent for the class if any of the following is true:

- The student is not present for an entire class period.
- The student misses 10 minutes or more of class.
- A student is sleeping during class.
- The student is tardy two times (see below for definition of tardy).

**Excused vs. Unexcused Absences**

There are two types of absences, excused and unexcused absences. Your instructors will decide what is considered excused or unexcused (if they make a distinction at all). Check your syllabus to find out how your instructors define unexcused absences.

Below are excused absences as defined by Ball State University. Instructors will provide reasonable accommodations under the following circumstances:

**Field Trips in IEI Classes**

IEI instructors may schedule a field trip for students in their classes because it offers an opportunity for authentic learning outside of the classroom. Such trips are carefully planned and coordinated among your IEI instructors, so any missed class hours are made up before or after the field trip. Students will provide information needed to complete the IEI Field Trip Form. Students who cannot attend a field trip will be expected to complete any alternative assignment offered by the instructor.

**Field Trips in Academic Classes**

From time to time, instructors may schedule field trips for students. Because these opportunities are targeted toward learning, students are welcome to attend these trips or events even if they will occur during class time. However, students should be aware that there is a proper procedure for making sure that their absence will be excused. If they participate in an academic field trip or event, they must follow these steps:

**Step 1:** Ask the instructor who is planning the event to write a note or an email to the IEI instructors whose classes will be missed. Ask the instructor to do this at least one week before the field trip or event. This should be done as soon as the student is aware that he will miss classes.

**Step 2:** The IEI instructors whose classes will be missed must receive the note or email at least one week before the student will miss the class. Students should do this as soon as they know they will miss classes.
Step 3: Students should consult with their IEI instructors about how they will make up missed work.

Step 4: After the field trip or event, students return to their courses. Students should be prepared to rejoin the course. Students should study for any tests or quizzes that the instructor will give on the day they come back.

**Participation in Ball State University Athletic Competitions**

If a student is a member of a Ball State University athletic team, then that student might need to miss classes sometimes. The coach will give the student a note to tell instructors that the student will miss some classes.

**Observance of Approved Religious Holidays**

It is university policy that instructors should allow students to observe religious holidays. Therefore, students can miss class if they would like to celebrate a religious holiday. The students should provide a written explanation concerning the day or dates for the religious holiday that they would like to observe. The explanation should be taken to the IEI instructors at least one week in advance of the religious holiday that the student would like to observe. It will be the student’s responsibility to make arrangements with instructors to make up the work that was missed, so that the absence does not harm his course grades.

**Student Responsibilities Related to Absences and Tardies**

It is the responsibility of the students to follow their instructors’ policies for making up missed assignments. The policies are noted in the syllabus of each class.

It is the students’ responsibility to find out what they missed when they miss part of a class or a whole class. They can find out this information in a few different ways:
- Students can ask a responsible classmate to tell them what the assignments were.
- Students can email the instructor to ask about the assignments.
- Students can make an appointment or go to the instructor’s office, during office hours, to ask about the assignment.

Most importantly, students should understand the specific policies each instructor has for both attendance and making up missed assignments such as homework, tests, quizzes, projects, etc. These policies will vary from instructor to instructor, and students need to find out these policies at the beginning of the session.

**Extended Absence Leave**

Students may be eligible for a leave of absence during a session. Approval of the leave is based upon the circumstances surrounding the request. Some examples would include bereavement, family emergencies, or other extenuating circumstances.
Please schedule an appointment with the IEI Assistant Director and an international student advisor at RCIP if you may need to take a leave of absence.

**Attendance Probation**

A student who does not pass the level and does not meet attendance requirements during a seven-week session will be placed on **attendance probation** for the following session. If the student does not pass the level again and does not meet the IEI attendance requirements while on **attendance probation**, the student will be dismissed from the IEI program and will be referred to the Rinker Center for International Programs for action regarding their immigration status. Absences caused by extenuating circumstances, which include pregnancy, will be handled on a case-by-case basis. However, students are advised to communicate their intentions or desire to appeal as soon as possible. Students who meet the IEI attendance policy requirements when on **attendance probation** are taken off **attendance probation** for the subsequent session.

**Disruption Policy**

The following Ball State Disruption policy can be found in the section called [Appendix Q - Responding to Disruption in the Academic Setting](https://www.bsu.edu/about/administrativeoffices/student-conduct/policiesandprocedures/studentcode/appendixq).

Students need to familiarize themselves with the Ball State University disruption policy. Under each section is a summary of what the policy section means. Students should carefully read it and talk to their IEI advisor if they have any questions.

Disruption by a student in a Ball State classroom or other academic setting is a violation of the Code of Students Rights and Responsibilities [https://www.bsu.edu/about/administrativeoffices/student-conduct/policiesandprocedures/studentcode/appendixq](https://www.bsu.edu/about/administrativeoffices/student-conduct/policiesandprocedures/studentcode/appendixq).

**Obstruction or Disruption**

Obstructing or disruption includes obstructing or disrupting the teaching and/or learning process in any campus classroom, building, or meeting area, or any University-sponsored activity, pedestrian or vehicular traffic, classes, lectures or meetings, obstructing or restricting another person’s freedom of movement, or inciting, aiding, or encouraging other persons to do so.

**Definitions**

“**Disruption**” is defined as any “behavior a reasonable person would view as being likely to substantially or repeatedly interfere with the conduct of” an academic setting.
Some behaviors or single incidents of some behaviors are not the focus of these guidelines. These include but are not limited to coming late to or leaving early from class, tapping fingers, chewing gum, reading a newspaper, and using electronic devices without authorization. While annoying and distracting, these usually can be addressed effectively through conventional classroom management techniques that include addressing behavior expectations in the syllabus and during the first class period, in-class intervention, and speaking to a student after class.

However, students who exhibit behaviors listed above and who do not respond to reasonable intervention, who exhibit more severe behaviors, or who violate another University policy in an academic setting (e.g., intoxication, weapons policy violation) should be referred for adjudication through procedures outlined in the Code of Student Rights and Responsibilities: https://www.bsu.edu/about/administrativeoffices/student-conduct/policiesandprocedures/studentcode

Such behaviors include but are not limited to

   a. repeated and unauthorized use of cell phones, pagers or other technical devices,
   b. persistent speaking without being called upon or disregarding instructor’s requests,
   c. making loud or distracting noises,
   d. making physical or verbal threats, and
   e. engaging in behaviors reasonable people consider intimidating.

"Academic Setting" is defined to be a classroom, office, laboratory, library, field experience site, online forums or other venues where instruction, advising, or service occurs.

Guidelines for Intervening When Disruption Occurs

Faculty members and administrators have the authority to instruct the student to temporarily leave the academic setting where the disruption is taking place. For instance, in the case of a classroom setting, the faculty member may instruct the student to leave for the remainder of a class period. The student should be told the reason for this request and instructed to meet with the instructor, the IEI AD, or a staff member from the Office of Student Rights and Community Standards prior to returning to the next class. The instructor should promptly inform the IEI administration and the Office of Student Rights and Community Standards of the situation. If the student refuses to leave, University Police should be called and requested to remove the student from the academic setting.

Suspensions for more than one class period or restrictions from entering a service office require disciplinary procedures outlined in the Code of Student Rights and Responsibilities.

These procedures, conducted by the Office of Student Rights and Community Standards, include notifying the student of the complaint, providing the student with an opportunity in
a hearing to defend against the complaint, and ensuring the decision is made based on substantial information.

Outcomes of disciplinary procedures can include finding the student not responsible or finding the student responsible for a violation of the Code of Student Rights and Responsibilities: https://www.bsu.edu/about/administrativeoffices/student-conduct/policiesandprocedures/studentcode

Sanctions imposed can range from official reprimand to suspension or expulsion in the most severe cases.

A student may also be restricted from returning to a specific classroom or to using an alternative method of accessing services. In the case of restriction from a specific class, the student may be withdrawn administratively from the class with transcript notation (i.e., W, WP, WF, etc.) to be determined by nature and severity of disruption, timing of withdrawal, and other relevant circumstances.

Academic Honesty

The following is from the Ball State University Code of Students Rights and Community Standards. This is the section called https://www.bsu.edu/about/administrativeoffices/vice-provost/student-services/academic-integrity. The IEI fully adheres to the University’s academic dishonesty policy.

Below are the exact words of the Ball State University policy. Under each section is a summary of what the policy section means. This summary will help IEI students understand the difficult language in the policies.

Introduction

Honesty, trust, and personal responsibility are fundamental attributes of the University community. Academic dishonesty by a student will not be tolerated, for it threatens the foundation of an institution dedicated to the pursuit of knowledge. To maintain its credibility and reputation, and to equitably assign evaluations of scholastic and creative performance, Ball State University is committed to maintaining a climate that upholds and values the highest standards of academic integrity.

In the United States, being honest about schoolwork is very important. Professors and university officials are very serious about this. They feel that if students are not honest about their work or if they cheat, then this can hurt the whole university Academic Dishonesty

If a student is involved in any kind of academic dishonesty activity, the student will be required to meet with the instructor to discuss the incident and complete the IEI Student/Instructor Academic Dishonesty & Acculturation Form. A student’s failure to sign the form will result in the case being handled through the Ball State Student
Course Evaluation

In the United States, students have the opportunity to evaluate their courses and instructors. Students get to report what they think is good for their learning and what is bad for their learning. These course evaluations have a couple of purposes:

1. To help instructors improve their teaching and understand what students want
2. To help the university decide which instructors are successful teachers and which ones are unsuccessful

Evaluations are online. The questions will ask about things like instructors' ability to teach, their professionalism, and the quality of the courses.

Students might be afraid to evaluate an instructor because they feel the instructor will become angry. However, there are several ways that the university protects students' identities:

1. Students do not write their names on their evaluations.
2. The instructor may not be in the room while students work on their evaluations.
3. Since evaluations are typed, instructors will not know who completed the evaluation.
4. Instructor cannot see evaluations until after they have handed in the students' grades.

Therefore, students should tell the truth. If an instructor has been a good teacher, then this should be made clear in the evaluation. If an instructor has not been a good teacher, then this should made clear in the evaluation.

Complaint Procedures

Student Complaint Policy
From time to time, students may have a complaint or an issue that they do not understand regarding a class, assignments, or an instructor's expectations. In such a situation, they should follow the IEI policy as it is stated below. If students have questions about this process, they should ask their IEI Advisors.
This policy is for students who have a complaint about professionalism, IEI policy, classroom expectations, and so on. This is a very serious process. Students will be required to sign the complaint if they submit it to the IEI Assistant Director.

Students should be aware of the general classroom expectations at Ball State before filing a complaint. At Ball State, students are expected to participate in all class activities, be alert, pay attention, keep up in class, work diligently on homework and classwork, and communicate with their instructors.

*Note: Complaints and concerns relating to physical abuse, verbal abuse, sexual harassment, etc. should be addressed in accordance with Ball State Student Handbook policies.*

Below is the procedure all IEI students must follow to file a complaint:

1. **Speak directly to your instructor about your complaint**
   - Send an email or talk to your instructor during the instructor’s office hours and discuss your complaint. In the United States, instructors expect students to come to them with problems or questions about the class.
   - It is very important that you are very respectful with your instructor, both in email and when you speak. Here are recommended strategies for talking to the instructor:
     - Send an email to the instructor with a question or request an appointment to discuss the problem. Make sure to say in the email what you want to discuss. See a sample email you can send to your instructor.
     - Talk to your instructor during office hours and discuss the complaint.

2. **Seek advice from your IEI Advisor**
   - One of the IEI Advisor's responsibilities is to advise you in culturally appropriate ways to deal with problems that you encounter in your academic life. If you have tried to speak to your instructor repeatedly, but your discussions have been unsatisfactory, then you could ask for advice from your IEI Advisor. The IEI Advisor can help you learn the best ways to communicate with your instructor.
   - It is not the Advisor's job to advocate to instructors for you, so you should not ask or expect your Advisor to do so. Also kindly keep in mind that the IEI Advisor cannot change grades, policies, or assignments in your instructor’s class.

   ***Most complaints should be resolved by this point in the process.***

3. **Fill out an IEI Complaint form**
   - If you still feel that the response from the instructor is unsatisfactory, you can fill out an IEI Complaint Form. The purpose of this form is to have a paper record of your complaint and show that you have correctly followed the complaint procedure. In cases of lower English proficiency, complaints may be accepted in languages other than English.
4. Speak to the IEI Assistant (AD)
After submitting your Complaint Form to the IEI Office, you can make an appointment to see the AD to seek additional advice regarding the issue.
When you meet with the AD, the following procedure will be followed:

1. The AD will review your form before meeting with you.
2. The AD will interview you.
3. The AD will meet with the instructor and share the written complaint with the instructor.
4. Within 5 working days after being informed of the complaint, the instructor will submit to the AD a response that includes a timeline as well as adaptations that have been adopted in the classroom (if necessary).
5. From the student and faculty documents, the AD will write a resolution report about the complaint and communicate it in writing to the student.

ALL complaints about instruction in the IEI will be dealt with in the manner described above.

For all other IEI-related questions, a student should first talk to their IEI advisor.

Course Grade Review and Appeal Process (link to the institutional page)

Department Grade Review Process

A student wishing to review a final grade must inform the instructor, or in the absence of the instructor, the AD, by 12:00 P.M. (noon) on the Wednesday of the first week of the session. The student’s request for review of the grade must be submitted in an e-mail to the instructor who taught the course. After the instructor receives your request, the instructor will meet with you and provide you with a detailed breakdown of your class grade.

Grade Appeals - Adapted from the Ball State’s Grade Appeal Policy.

Introduction

This process includes any appeal of a final grade (pass-fail or letter grade) for a classroom course. Students considering an appeal of a final grade should meet informally with their instructor for a grade review (mentioned above) before submitting a written appeal.

NOTE: Time deadlines in the following procedures are intended to provide a framework for the grade appeal process and may be extended, as circumstances warrant, by the Director of Student Rights and Community Standards or by the Associate Provost.

Department Grade Appeal Process
STEP 1: Meeting with the Instructor.
Within two (2) school days of the grade review, if a student finds cause for appeal, the student should write an email to request a grade appeal, which includes the basis for the appeal. The instructor, or the IEI Director of Operations (IEI-DO) in the instructor’s absence, must respond via letter or e-mail with a decision regarding the student’s grade within two (2) school days after receipt of the request. A student must contact the IEI-DO if the instructor does not respond within two (2) school days.

**STEP 2: Appeal of Instructor’s Review.**
If the matter cannot be resolved with the instructor, the student may notify the IEI-DO within two (2) school days after the date of the instructor’s response. This notification shall be made via letter or e-mail to the IEI-DO and should outline the nature of the dispute.

**STEP 3: Resolution by the Director of Operations**
The IEI-DO will then attempt to resolve the dispute. If resolution is successful, the AD shall inform the student and the instructor of the nature of the resolution in writing. If the matter cannot be resolved, the IEI-DO shall notify the student via letter or e-mail. Either notification must be made within two (2) school days of the student’s contact with the IEI-DO. The student may then choose to proceed with a university appeal.

**University Grade Appeal Process (link to the IEI Canvas Community shell)**

a. **Notification of Intent to Appeal.** If the matter cannot be resolved satisfactorily at the department level, the student may request consideration of a grade appeal hearing. To do so, the student must submit a formal appeal of the grade appeal in writing to the Office of Student Rights and Community Standards within five (5) school days after notification from the department chairperson, clearly stating the basis for appeal and providing a supporting argument. The Director of Student Rights and Community Standards or his/her designee shall solicit a written response from the instructor. Within (5) school days after receipt of the written appeal in the Office of Student Rights and Community Standards, the Director or designee, in collaboration with the Associate Provost or designee and the Vice President of the Student Government Association, will make a decision on whether to refer the appeal to the University Grade Appeal Committee for a hearing. The decision to refer or not to refer shall be based upon the student’s compliance with grade appeal procedures, the written request for appeal and the criteria cited within the written appeal. If the decision is not to forward the appeal to a hearing, the matter is concluded.

b. **Basis for Grade Appeals.** The University Grade Appeal Committee will only address those appeals for which a procedural or fairness issue is in question. The criteria of a grade appeal are:
   1. An obvious error in the calculation of the grade.
   2. The assignment of a grade to a particular student by application of more exacting or demanding standards than were applied to other students in the course.
   3. The assignment of a grade to a particular student on some basis other than performance in the course.
4. The assignment of a grade by a substantial departure from the instructor's previously announced standards.

**NOTE:** This appeal procedure is not to be used for a review of the judgment of an instructor in assessing the quality of a student's work.

**IEI Exam Grade Appeal Process**

In recognition of the need and desire for transparency in grading, the IEI makes it possible for students to review their exams and appeal the grade assigned to the exam. However, their content is extremely sensitive, and, as a result, access to the exams is restricted.

Access to an exam for the purpose of review and appeal of a grade will be granted following the procedures described below.

**Grounds for Appeal**

Of the four bases upon which course grades can be appealed at Ball State, only one is applicable for final exam grades.

1. An obvious error in the calculation of the grade.

It is important to note that 'obvious' here implies that objective criteria can be applied to determine that the grade is in error. Examples of such 'obvious errors' include:

1. The student provides an appropriate or correct response to an item, but is not awarded credit for the item.
2. An error has occurred in the mathematical calculation of the final grade.

**Appointments for Exam Review**

In order to be granted access to an exam, students must request an appointment and indicate which exam(s) they would like to review. Appointments are made by speaking with the office personnel in RB 353. Before coming to an appointment, students must read the exam appeal policy. Exam review appointments will only be granted to students who come to the IEI main office, RB 353, on Advising Day (the Monday of the first week of the next session in which the student enrolls). Therefore, if students take exams at the end of Fall semester, Session 1, and wish to appeal those exam grades, they must come in to make an appointment on the Monday of the first week of Fall semester, Session 2 (assuming they are enrolled in that session). If students take the exam at the end of Spring semester, Session 4, they must come in to make an appointment on the Monday of the first week of Summer session, Session 5, or if they do not enroll in the Summer session, then by the Monday of the next Fall session, in which they enroll.

Appointments for exam review will only be granted to students when the situation meets the following conditions:

1. Students came in to the office and requested the appointment on the **Monday of the first week of the session**.
2. Students indicated that they have read the procedures for an exam review.
Procedures for Exam Review Appointments

Because of the sensitive nature of the exam materials, access is restricted. Only students who have been authorized are allowed to view the exam. One other individual may accompany if students’ consent has been documented in satisfaction of FERPA requirements. This person’s role is as translator only.

Students will come to RB 353 at the scheduled appointment time. They will be allowed access to the exams in question for a period of no more than 30 minutes for one exam (or two for 30 minutes ONLY) or 60 minutes for two or more exams. Students will be under the supervision of an IEI staff member.

Student (and anyone accompanying the students) will not be allowed to use the following items while viewing the exam:

- Writing tools, i.e. pens, pencils, markers
- Electronic devices including but not limited to cell phones, laptop computers, video, still cameras or other recording devices

While viewing the exam, students may ask questions about the procedures but may not ask questions about the exam content of the IEI staff member. However, no grades can be changed during this appointment. The purpose of the appointment is strictly to allow access to the exam for the purpose of identifying discrepancies that merit appeal.

If while viewing the exam students identify problems with the assessment, they will report the specific nature of these to the IEI staff member who will record two pieces of information:

1. Specific details regarding the discrepancy (i.e. the question/item #, the mathematical inaccuracy, etc.)
2. The nature of the alleged discrepancy (i.e. upon what grounds the student is appealing the grade)

The list of items will be reviewed at a later time by the IEI-DO, who will issue a final response in consultation with other members of the IEI administration and the faculty grading team. Within five (5) school days or no later than the Wednesday of week 2, students and their IEI advisors will be informed of the result of their grade appeal via e-mail. Results cannot be given over the phone or to a third party.

Student Rights and Responsibilities

Students need to know that they DO HAVE RIGHTS. Students have the right to an education that is free from abuse, harassment and unfair treatment. This extends to the administration of the university, the instructors, and the other students. Students also
have the right to expect a safe environment and have a responsibility to ensure that others exist in a safe environment as well. It is each student’s job to make sure that he/she is always upholding the expectations and standards of the school.

Students also have the right to a fair hearing if they feel that their rights are not being upheld. This includes, but is not limited to, the right to seek recourse if students feel they are not being treated fairly.

One of the things students are protected from is discrimination. If students feel they are being discriminated against, the University has made sure that there are ways that students can express their concerns. This goes two ways, however, and students also have the responsibility to make sure they are not discriminating against other students.

Discrimination based on gender, sexuality, religion, race, skin color, language, nationality, culture or age is not tolerated under any circumstances.

The BSU Student Code describes all of students’ rights and responsibilities. [https://www.bsu.edu/about/administrativeoffices/student-conduct/policiesandprocedures/studentcode](https://www.bsu.edu/about/administrativeoffices/student-conduct/policiesandprocedures/studentcode)

However, some of the language can be difficult to understand. If there are any questions about rights, students should speak with their IEI advisor. IEI advisors will be able to help or direct students to someone who can help.

**Disability Accommodations (no text- just link)**

Disability Services coordinates university efforts to provide access and opportunities to students with disabilities, including students who have disabilities that are non-apparent or temporary. Visit the office’s website at [www.bsu.edu/disabilityservices](https://www.bsu.edu/disabilityservices), or contact the office in person at the Student Center room 116, by phone at 765-285-5293, TDD 765-285-2206, or e-mail dsd@bsu.edu. Accommodation letters must be renewed every semester through Disability Services.

Click the link below for the Disability Services Verification Process: [https://www.bsu.edu/about/administrativeoffices/disability-services/accommodations/verification](https://www.bsu.edu/about/administrativeoffices/disability-services/accommodations/verification)

**Support for Pregnant Students (Title IX)**

The United States has a law called Title IX that protects people from discrimination based on sex in education programs or activities. This includes pregnancy, parenting and all related conditions. If you are pregnant and you need special accommodation for medical reasons, inform your IEI instructors, IEI advisor, and the AD as soon as possible. You will need to bring a note from your doctor that includes your due date and that explains what accommodation you need. In order for the IEI to help you, it is very important that you tell us as soon as you know you need accommodation. Accommodations are made based on individual need. In the case of mobility during
pregnancy, you should visit the Office of Disability Services in the Student Center-Room 116.

**Maternity-related absence**

It is up to you to decide when to start your maternity-related absence. If you wish, you can study up to your due date, where practicable. At least 3 weeks before your baby is due, you are required to inform your IEI advisor, your instructors, and the AD of the date on which you intend to start your maternity-related absence. They will meet to discuss and plan reasonable accommodations that can be provided during your maternity-related absence. Once a plan has been agreed on, you will meet with your IEI advisor and the AD before you leave.

The IEI recommends that you focus on your health and your new baby. Consequently, if we are concerned about your proposed return date, we may ask you to provide evidence from your doctor that you are fit to return to study.

Below, you will find a couple options you have here at the IEI if you need to take a maternity-related break:

1. You may be eligible for an extended leave of absence. Approval of the leave is based upon the circumstances surrounding the request. Please schedule an appointment with the IEI AD and an international student advisor at RCIP if you may need to take a leave of absence.

2. You may request a reduced course load which means that your courses will be completed in the subsequent session. Please schedule an appointment with the AD and an international student advisor at RCIP if you need to request a reduced course load.

For more information about Title IX, see the Title IX at the end of this handbook.

**Sexual Harassment and Misconduct Information**

Please read the important information using the link below:
[https://www.bsu.edu/about/administrativeoffices/associate-dean-of-students](https://www.bsu.edu/about/administrativeoffices/associate-dean-of-students)

**International Studies at BSU**

RCIP offers services to the campus including International Student Services, International Admissions and the Study Abroad. You can attend one of the many international programs, join an international student organization or learn about opportunities to study outside the United States. You can make an appointment to see an International Student Advisor, the International Student Academic Advisor or other members of RCIP by calling (756) 285-5422. One of these advisors will be able to help
you by answering questions about immigration or longer questions and assist you with more complex problems you may have. Remember, all meetings at RCIP will require a scheduled appointment.

**Important Immigration Vocabulary**

**SEVIS:** The Student Exchange Visitor Information System. This is the computer database that allows communication between Ball State and the U.S. Government. School Officials record information about F-1 or J-1 students and the U.S. Government monitors the status of all international students in the US.

**DSO:** A Designated School Official is a Ball State employee that is authorized to sign immigration documents and advise a student on maintaining F and J status while in the U.S. All DSOs are located in RCIP.

**I-20 or DS-2019:** These are official documents issued by Ball State indicating that you are eligible to attend Ball State University. The I-20 (F-1) and the DS-2019 (J-1) are one of the four important documents (including your Passport, Visa, and I-94 card) that indicate your status in the US.

**Maintaining F-1 or J-1 Status**

In order to maintain your F-1 or J-1 Status you must:

- Enroll in a full course of study.
- Get permission from DSO before you drop below a full course load.
- Make normal progress towards completing the course of study.
- Maintain a valid passport and I-20 or DS-2019.
- Tell a DSO within 10 days if you change your address or legal name.
- Talk to a DSO if you wish to change schools, extend your studies or change your degree program.
- Only work on campus (if authorized by a DSO) for less than 20 hours per week while school is in session.
- Not work off-campus without special authorization.
- Not stay in the United States beyond the time you are allowed.

Please refer to the “Maintaining your F-1 or J-1 Student Status” booklet (available from RCIP) for more detailed information.

**Travel Information**

Planning is the key to avoiding unexpected delays when you travel outside the United States. Students should plan what they will need for their trip several weeks in advance.

Make sure that you have the following items when traveling outside the United States:
- Passport (passport must be valid for at least 6 months)
● U. S. Visa (you may need to visit a US consulate to renew the visa while you are outside the US).
● I-20 or DS 2019 signed for travel by a DSO. Signatures are good for 1 year and need to be requested at least a week before you travel.
● New financial documents showing that you can pay for school.
● Transcripts or Enrollment verification letters. You can collect transcripts or have them mailed from the Registrar's Office in Lucina Hall B-43.
● Keep copies of important papers in both your carry-on luggage and in your checked luggage.

If you are traveling in the United States, you should carry your passport and I-20 with you at all times. You may need to present these documents in the event that you are stopped by any government official (police, border patrols, immigration officers, etc.).

Renewing/Applying for a Visa

If your Student Visa has expired while you are in the US, you will need to visit a US consulate to renew the visa on your next trip outside the US. Make sure that you plan ahead and have sufficient time to get a new visa. Some consulates have long wait times. You will not be able to return to the US without a new visa if your old one has expired. Information about each consulate (and their specific process) can be found at www.usembassy.gov.

Returning to the United States

When returning to the U.S., students should be prepared for long waits at the initial port of entry. Different routing procedures may be used for students. Students will need to plan their travel, transportation, and connecting flights accordingly.

US Customs and Practices

Moving to a New Country

Moving to a new country (or continent) can be both an exciting and scary process. You are likely to experience something called “culture shock”, which is when the differences between your home and the US can become difficult to deal with.

Do not worry; you are not alone! Most people when living in a new place encounter culture shock to one degree or another, and there are lots of resources here to help you adapt.

The next few pages provide some advice for specific customs here in the US. If you ever feel lost or confused, check back here for some helpful hints, or ask a friend!

General Hints for Living in the US
Smoking: Smoking is not permitted anywhere on the Ball State campus except in designated smoking areas. Be aware many Americans do not approve of smoking and Muncie has made it illegal to smoke indoors at restaurants and businesses.

Alcohol: In the United States, a person must be 21 years old to drink alcohol legally. Underage drinking and supplying alcohol to an underage person are both crimes in the United States. Also drinking and driving has severe legal penalties.

U.S. Social Customs

Language: It is recommended that students use English as much as possible while studying in IEI. Frequent usage of English will make the adjustment to living in the U.S. easier and will greatly increase the likelihood of academic success.

Food: American food might be quite different from the food in your home country. Take the time to try a variety of American foods to find out what you like. Part of the fun of being in a new country is discovering the food and culture of the country.

Time: In general, Americans value punctuality. When specific times are given for events, it is expected that everyone involved will be on time or maybe a little early.

Names: Use "Mr.", "Mrs.", or "Ms." when you speak to people, especially when they are older than you or in formal situations. If someone tells you to call them by their first name, then you can do that.

Eye Contact: In the United States, eye contact is very important. Maintaining eye contact shows interest and honesty.

Polite Words: Use words and phrases such as "please", "excuse me", and "thank you" in your conversations. You can see examples of polite words and phrases in the Suggested Emails for Students.

Questions: In the United States, asking questions is seen as a good way to learn and show interest. Students are encouraged to ask questions in class.

Visiting Someone’s Room or Office: Many Americans keep their office or dorm room doors open when they are in the room. Before you enter the room, you should still knock or ask if it is okay for you to enter the room.

Negotiating Prices: In the United States, the price listed on a product is generally not negotiable. The exception to this is high priced items such as cars and houses.

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)
What is the approach to teaching English in the IEI?
The IEI’s primary goal is to prepare students for academic success in the United States. As a result, each course is designed to teach students a set of learning outcomes which build the language and strategic and cultural competencies necessary to succeed in the American university setting. Instructors utilize a variety of methodologies and technologies to design interesting and effective classroom interactions.

How many students are in a typical class in the IEI?
Most classes in the IEI have about 10-15 students. We intentionally keep the class size small to enhance student participation and classroom interaction.

How are students placed in the different levels of the IEI?
When students arrive at Ball State University, they will take an IEI English Placement Exam. After assessing students’ language skills, they are placed in an appropriate level in the IEI.

Can students appeal their level placement or the grades that they receive in their classes?
Yes, this handbook outlines the processes for change of level and grade appeal. Read pages 25 and 48 to get more information.

Can students request a change of section?
No. Class lists are carefully put together after considering a number of pedagogical factors, so requests for changing sections are not considered.

Does the IEI prepare students for the TOEFL or IELTS exam?
Everything a student does in and with English is preparation for performing well in the American university setting. This should translate into higher scores on the TOEFL or IELTS. It is important to note, however, that success on the TOEFL or IELTS requires additional understanding of the test design and effective test taking strategies. The IEI is not designed to prepare students for those components of the TOEFL or IELTS exam.

How long will it take to learn English? How long does it take to finish the program?
The IEI offers seven levels of English language instruction. Students can enter the program at any level, F through 6, depending on their English language proficiency. Also, they can move at any rate through these levels, or even skip levels, depending on how their English proficiency develops. It should be noted that students who do not pass a level will have to repeat that level. As a result, if students do not pass one or more levels, it will take them longer to finish, and this fact may affect whether their scholarships continue (if they are scholarship students). For example, if a student places into level 3 and passes all his courses, he can finish the program in 4 sessions, or 2 semesters. However, if a student places into level F (Fundamentals), does not skip a level and does not fail, she will need to study in the IEI for a year and a half. Generally, it takes one to two years to complete IEI studies. Serious and hard-working
students who participate fully in class work and the broader university community improve their English language proficiency quickly.

**Are students allowed to leave the United States during breaks?**
This is possible, but students need to contact RCIP in order to ensure that they do not lose their visa status. If a student misses two consecutive sessions (except during summer), the student will be required to take the IEI placement exam again.

**Are students allowed to miss classes in order to observe religious holidays?**
BSU has a specific procedure for missing class due to a religious holiday. Students must contact each instructor to explain the reason for missing class and to receive information that they might miss during their absence. Instructors in the IEI are sensitive to the diverse cultural and religious backgrounds of their students and may accommodate special circumstances that might arise. Read page 41 to get more information.

**Can I take academic courses if I am in the IEI?**
Some level 6 students may take academic courses through the IEI Academic Bridge Program. The procedure for this is outlined in this handbook on page 19. Students in levels lower than 6 may not take academic classes. US classes require a high level of English which you must achieve before enrolling in them.

**Can I bring an interpreter with me during my IEI appointments?**
Yes, you may. However, in the United States the educational records of an individual cannot legally be shared with anyone else without that individual's signed consent. This law is called “FERPA”. Educational records include information about that person's coursework, grades, and general academic progress. If you would like a relative or friend to accompany you to any academic meeting with an advisor, instructor or administrator, you will both be asked to sign a FERPA form. This form indicates that you give this person permission to know about the subject being discussed. This is also necessary if you are being aided by a translator or if you would like someone to pick up your grade report on your behalf. The FERPA form is included at the end of the handbook on page 69 for your convenience.

**Glossary**

**academic advisor:** The academic advisor is the person from a student's academic program that has been assigned to help them with their academic program. This person
will help students with registration and answer all questions about their academic program.

**bursar:** This is the office that deals with billing (tuition) and payment. It is located in room B31 in Lucina Hall.

**bursar hold:** A bursar hold is placed on a student’s account when they do not pay all the money that they owe Ball State. A bursar hold may prevent students from registering for classes and/or from being released from the IEI.

**health center hold:** A health center hold is placed on a student’s account when they have not provided the health center with all the required medical records or when they still need to take some more tests and/or vaccinations. A health center hold may prevent students from registering for classes and/or from being released from the IEI.

**IEI advisor:** The IEI advisor is the IEI instructor to whom a student has been assigned. This is the person who can answer all questions about the IEI and about student life here at Ball State.

**IEI hold:** An IEI hold is placed on all IEI full time students during regular IEI sessions. This hold prevents unauthorized course changes. It is temporarily removed to allow registration at the beginning of each IEI session. It is added back after the registration period. Requests for lifting IEI holds have to be made through the International Student Academic Advisor at the RCIP. Requests for lifting IEI holds have to be made through the International Student Academic Advisor. A hold may prevent students from registering for classes and/or from being released from the IEI.

**IEI tutor:** An IEI tutor is an IEI instructor who offers academic help in the various language skills. There is no charge for students who need tutoring services.

**International registration hold** - An international registration hold is placed on a student’s account when they have not provided all the required documents to complete the admissions process. A hold may prevent students from registering for classes and/or from being released from the IEI.

**international student advisor:** The international student advisor takes care of all immigration papers and answers questions about visas. This is the person that students MUST see if they plan to travel outside the US. This person can be found at RCIP.

**registrar:** This is the office where official student records are kept. This is also the place where students can get a copy of their official Ball State transcript.

**WES hold:** A WES hold is put on a student's account if translated transcripts have not been submitted to the International Admissions Office. Please visit an international student advisor at the Rinker Center to address this issue. A hold may prevent students from registering for classes and/or from being released from the IEI.
Some Important Abbreviations

AD: Assistant Director
CR: Credit
CRN: Course registration number
EFL: English as a Foreign language; technically this refers to English learned/taught in a non-English-speaking environment.
EIL: English as an International Language
ESL: English as a Second Language; technically this refers to English learned/taught in an English-speaking environment.
ESP: English for Specific Purposes; English for specific subject/career areas.
IEI: Intensive English Institute
IELTS: International English Language Testing System
IEP: Intensive English Program(s)
NC: No Credit
R: Thursday (used at Ball State University)
RB: Robert Bell Building
RCIP: Rinker Center for International Programs
TEFL: Teaching EFL (see EFL)
TESL: Teaching ESL (see ESL)
TESOL: Teachers of English (or Teaching English) to Speakers of Other Languages; this is an umbrella term that includes both (T)ESL and (T)EFL.
TOEFL: Test of English as a Foreign Language; this is a standard English test for non-native speakers.
Forms and Handouts

Suggested Emails for Students:

Email 1: to be used for problems or issues with the class

Dear Instructor’s Name,

I have a question about the assignment, my grade, your attendance policy, etc. Could we please meet to discuss it? I am available at ________. When are you available?

Sincerely,
Your Name

Email 2: to request a course grade review

Dear Instructor’s Name,

I would like to request a grade review for my _____ class.

Can we please meet to discuss it? I am available at ________. When are you available?

Sincerely,
Your Name
FACT SHEET

Pregnant and Parenting Students’ Rights: FAQs for College and Graduate Students

October 2012

If you are a pregnant or parenting student, you should know that under Title IX, you have a right to stay in school so you can meet your education and career goals. Below are answers to frequently asked questions from students in post-secondary schools, including colleges, community colleges, universities, for-profit institutions, trade schools, etc.

How does Title IX apply to pregnant or parenting students?

Title IX prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex - including pregnancy, parenting, and all related conditions, such as abortion - in all educational programs and activities that get federal funding. This means that schools must give all students who might be, are, or have been pregnant the same access to school programs and educational opportunities that other students have. Your professors or administrators should not tell you that you have to drop out of your classes or program or change your educational plans due to your pregnancy.

Does my school have to excuse my absences due to pregnancy, childbirth, or abortion?

Your school must excuse your absences due to pregnancy or any related conditions for as long as your doctor says it is necessary for you to be absent. This is true even if there is no leave policy for students with other conditions. When you return to school, you must be reinstated to the status you held before your leave. The school can require you to submit a doctor's note only if that is required of students with other medical conditions.

My professor adjusts grades based on class attendance. Can she lower my grade because of the classes I miss?

You cannot be penalized for pregnancy or other related conditions. If a professor provides specific “points” or other advantages to students based on class attendance, you must be given the opportunity to earn back the credit from classes you miss due to pregnancy, so that you can be reinstated to the status you held before you took leave.

Does my school have to let me make up the work I missed while I was absent?

Yes, your school must let you make up the work you missed while you were out due to pregnancy or any related conditions, including recovery from childbirth.

Where do I start to figure out whether or not my school is violating Title IX?

• A good first step in measuring your school's compliance is to compare how they treat pregnant students to how they treat students with other temporary disabilities. Under Title IX, schools must offer pregnant students the same benefits they offer to students with other temporary medical conditions.
• One exception to this rule is absences - Title IX requires that schools excuse absences due to pregnancy and related conditions, regardless of the school's absence policy.
• Your school is required to designate a Title IX Coordinator who should be able to answer questions for you about Title IX and pregnancy.
• Some states and school districts have their own laws that provide other protections, or even support services, for students. You should talk to a lawyer to find out what policies apply in your area.

For example, if you have a doctor’s note that excuses you from class for several weeks because you were on “bed rest” before giving birth, your school has to provide you with the appropriate assignments and information to make up all of the work you would have been required to complete while you were out. For an extended absence, it is best if your school provides you with the work you miss regularly, so you do not fall far behind.

But what if my school says that absence or make-up work policies are up to each individual professor?

While that may be the school’s practice, the school administration and professors are bound by federal civil rights law. Title IX requires that schools ensure that all faculty and staff comply with the law and do not discriminate against pregnant and parenting students. An individual professor’s policy is not okay if it breaks the law.

Does my school have to provide special academic services to me, like tutoring?

Title IX requires that schools provide pregnant students with any special services they provide to students with temporary disabilities. If students with temporary disabilities get at-home tutoring to help them keep up with work they miss when absent, the school must provide students who miss class because of pregnancy or childbirth with the same benefit.

What about internships, career rotations, and other off-campus elements of my program - do I have a right to participate in those?

Yes. Your school must allow you to continue participating in off-campus programs. For example, if your program provides opportunities to “work in the field” your school cannot deny you participation based on your pregnancy. The school cannot require a doctor’s note for continued participation, unless the school requires one for all students who have a medical condition that requires treatment by a doctor. If they do ask for a note, they cannot second-guess your doctor’s decision.

Classmates and even professors have made offensive comments to me about my pregnancy. Should I complain to the school about it?

Title IX requires schools to prevent and address sex-based harassment, including harassment based on pregnancy. If you experience this sort of treatment at school, you should seek help immediately. The law prohibits the school from retaliating against you for making a complaint or raising a concern.

I have a scholarship - can my school take it back when they find out I am pregnant?

No, schools cannot terminate or reduce athletic, merit, or need-based scholarships based on pregnancy. If you stay in school, you can keep your scholarship.

I want to take a semester off. Can I keep my student status, scholarship, etc.?

Not necessarily - it depends on the leave policy at your school. If you want to take off more time than your doctor says is medically necessary, you will need to consult your school’s non-medical leave policy.

What if I work for the school as a graduate assistant, in addition to being a student? Do I still have the same rights? Do I qualify for maternity leave?

Your rights as an employee are different from your rights as a student. If you work for the school, you may be eligible for family or medical leave, or you may qualify for maternity leave under the school’s policy, but that may not include leave from your classes, beyond what is medically necessary.

I am no longer pregnant and/or have already graduated - is there anything I can do about the discrimination I experienced as a pregnant student?

You may still have options. Contact your Title IX Coordinator, the U.S. Department of Education’s Office for Civil Rights, or the National Women’s Law Center to learn more. Even if it is too late for you, you can help us ensure that women who find themselves in your shoes do not run into the same barriers.

I want to return to school 3 days after I have the baby, so I don’t fall too far behind, but my department head thinks I should take more time off to recover. What should I do?

Your school must leave it up to you and your doctor to decide when you can return. While the school must offer to excuse more leave than that (under Title IX your absence must be excused for as long as your doctor says is medically necessary), no one can force you to take more leave just because they think it would be better for you (or your baby). And the school cannot have a rule that prohibits students from returning to classes for a set period of time after childbirth.
Change-of-Level Form

Intensive English Institute
IEI CHANGE OF LEVEL REQUEST FORM

Student’s Name: _____________________________  __________________

BSU ID: ______________________________________

IEI Advisor: _______________________________

☐ New  ☐ Returning (overall average score for previous session is 90% or higher)

Current Level: __________  Requesting to change to Level: _________

Note: Students are not allowed to skip more than one level.

Reasons for change request: ____________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________

Advisor’s Comments: ________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________

Advisor’s Name (print):__________________________________________ Date ________

Waiver:
I understand that if I am allowed to change my proficiency level, I am not allowed to reverse my decision once I start the new level. I hereby assume all risks associated with a change of proficiency level, including but not limited to being responsible for all topics previously covered in the new level. I further agree not to hold Ball State University and/or the Intensive English Institute (its Administration, Faculty, and/or Staff) liable should I fail the new level.

I also understand that space availability will also determine whether I can move into another level.

I hereby certify that I am voluntarily signing this change of proficiency level form, and I intend to be bound by the terms of this agreement. I have read all the information and fully understand its significance.

Student’s Signature ____________________________  Email: ____________________________
_____________________________________________________________________
IEI Department Use Only........................................

Test Placement: _________________

Assistant Director Signature ____________________________ Date __________

Decision: ____________________________  (Approved/Denied)
Determined by: ____________________________  Date __________
IEI Request to Move Down a Level Consent Form

I, _______________________ was placed in level _____ but wish to move down to
(Student’s name)
level _______ for the following reasons:
_______________________________________________________________________
_______________________________________________________________________
_______________________________________________________________________
___________________________________________

I understand that once I move down a level, I cannot change my mind and move
back up to my original level. I understand that moving down a level means it will
take longer to finish the IEI program, which may affect any financial aid I receive. I
understand that I may have to repeat a level or levels, and I may have to repeat a
level more than one time, which will further increase the amount of time it takes to
finish the IEI program. I understand that I will not be able to skip any level in the
future unless I receive a 90% or above in all 6 classes and get approved for a
change of level.

Student’s Signature: ______________________ Date: __________
Advisor’s Signature: ______________________ Date: __________
Approved by: ______________________ Date: __________
Intensive English Institute (IEI)

IEI ALTERNATE STUDY FORM

To be signed by

Bridge, Pathway, Part-time, and Level 5 students who have passed level 5 and/or 6 but do not have admission

There are two types of students in the Intensive English Institute (IEI). Some students are conditionally admitted to Ball State University. Other students are admitted for IEI study only. Students who are conditionally admitted and are a part of the IEI Academic Bridge Program or Pathway Program are considered part-time students. Level 6 students who are repeating a level 6 course or courses are also part-time students. IEI-only students may only study in the IEI, irrespective of their language level.

IEI Academic Bridge Program and Pathway Program (Part-Time Study in the IEI)

By electing to be enrolled in the IEI Academic Bridge Program or Pathway Program as a part-time student in the IEI, the student will be allowed to take regular BSU courses up to the amount that the student would be considered full-time for Ball State purposes. Undergraduate bridge students may take three (3) or six (6) academic credits in addition to the required IEI courses for a total of 12-15 credit hours during the bridge semester. While concurrently enrolled in the IEI, graduate students may take only three (3) academic graduate credits in addition to the required IEI courses. By electing to be part-time in the IEI, the student will no longer receive the reduced IEI tuition rate and will be required to pay the full non-resident tuition for all courses (including IEI courses).

Full-Time Study in the IEI

By electing to be enrolled full-time in the IEI, the student will continue to receive the reduced IEI tuition rate. However, the student must continue to be enrolled in six IEI courses in each session in the semester. This may require the student to take courses that he/she has already passed (at level 5 and/or level 6). If this is the case, then the student must pass the courses again in order to move out of the level.

I, _____________________________________, understand the policy stated above and the consequences of this decision.

_____ I choose to be enrolled part-time in the IEI. By making this selection I am also stating that I have spoken with either an RCIP or Ball State Bursar representative about the change in tuition that this choice comes with.

_____ I choose to be enrolled full-time in the IEI. By making this selection I am also stating that I understand that I am eligible for part-time study, but I am choosing not to take academic classes this semester. I understand that I must repeat and pass level 5 and/or level 6 again.

Semester/ Session ________________________

Student’s Signature _______________________________ Date ______________

Advisor’s Signature _______________________________ Date ______________

Assistant Director’s Signature _________________________ Date ______________

** A copy of this form is to be placed in the student’s file in the main office.
ATTACHMENT B

Student Authorization to Disclose Information to Third Parties
BALL STATE UNIVERSITY

PLEASE PRINT OR TYPE

Department or Office ________________________________

You are hereby authorized to disclose the following records/information to (individual, party, or class of parties):

Subject to the following specifications:

Type of records/information to be disclosed:

Purpose(s) for such disclosure:

___ Student should check if he/she desires a copy of records/information disclosed.

Student’s Signature ___________________________ Date ________________

Authorization received by ________________________ Date ________________

7/99
S: student affairs and enrollment management
IEI Complaint Form

A student must fill out this form and turn it in to the IEI Office to make an appointment with an AD regarding the complaint. If you have questions or need help with this form, contact your IEI Advisor.

Name: _____________________________________________________  Date: _____________________________

Level: _______  Section: ____________

Instructor: ____________________________  Advisor: _____________________________

A. Concern

Explain your concern here. Please provide as much detail as possible.

________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________

B. Timeline

1. When did this issue happen?
   Date of incident: ____________________________________________

2. When did you first speak to your instructor about this concern? (If you emailed your instructor, please attach all emails.)
   Date of first contact: _________________________________
   If you contacted your instructor about your concern more than once, please explain what happened when you contacted him/her:

   ______________________________________________________________________________________

   ______________________________________________________________________________________

   ______________________________________________________________________________________

3. When did you speak to your IEI Advisor about this concern? (If you emailed your advisor, please attach the email.)
   Date/s of contact with advisor: ________________________________
C. Solution
What solution do you seek?

Student Signature: ___________________________  Date: ____________________
Final Exam Review

Name: ___________________________ Signature: ___________________________
Student ID: ______________________ Date: ______________________
Session of Reviewed Exam: ________ Exam Reviewed: _________________
Total # of Exams Reviewed: ________ Start Time: __________ End Time: __________

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Student Comments/Concerns</th>
<th>Action Taken/Results</th>
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<tbody>
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Exam Issues have been investigated
Student has been notified of results via email
Grade changed in Blackboard (if applicable)
Grade card updated (if applicable)
Grade changed in Banner (if applicable)

Date | Initials
-----|--------

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Intensive English Institute

GENERAL FINAL EXAMINATION RULES (2020-2021)
Face-to-Face Version

ALL IEI students are responsible for reading and abiding by all final examination rules AND procedures. The following general rules apply:

BEFORE THE EXAM:

• Arrive 15 minutes before the exam begins and show your Ball State ID to the proctor standing at the door.
• You may bring only a pencil, pen, or eraser to keep on your desk.
• You cannot bring food or beverages into the testing room.
• You cannot use books, dictionaries, electronic translators, or other materials for the exam.
• Your cell phones MUST be turned off. They cannot ring, vibrate, or make noise during the exam.

DURING THE EXAM:

• You must be completely quiet. If you are not quiet, your exam will be taken away.
• You cannot ask questions or talk once the exam has started.
• If you must leave the room, then you must hand in your exam and leave. However, you CANNOT come back in the room.
• CHEATING- If cheating is suspected, your paper will be taken away, and you will be asked to leave the testing room. Students who are talking in English or another language will be assumed to be cheating regardless of the content of their discussion. The content of the discussion is irrelevant. The act of talking during the exam is considered cheating. Looking at someone’s exam paper is also considered cheating. KEEP YOUR EYES ON YOUR EXAM PAPER.
• If you are removed from the room for cheating, whatever portion of the exam is complete will be kept and may potentially be scored (depending on the nature of the cheating, details will be provided to the Assistant Director in order for a decision to be made), but you will not be allowed to finish the remaining sections of the exam.
• If you have more than one exam to take during the exam time, you will have 2 hours to complete both exams. It does not matter which exam you finish first. You can hand them both in after 2 hours.

AT THE END OF THE EXAM:

• Stop writing when you are told to do so. If you continue to write, your exam paper will be taken away immediately. If you refuse (through physical prevention) to relinquish an exam, you will be warned that you may get a “0” on the exam. If you are caught continuing to write after time has expired, the proctor will immediately make a note on the exam items that were being completed, so that they will not be scored.

PROCEDURES:

• The exam will end at 60 minutes after it starts, e.g. 9:30 for an 8:30 exam. If it is a combined exam time, the exam will end 2 hours after it starts, e.g. 10:30 for an 8:30 exam.
• ABSOLUTELY NO student will be allowed to enter the Extensive Listening, Listening, Level F Vocabulary and Literacy, or Level 1 Vocabulary and Literacy while the recording is playing. Students will not be allowed into the room after the door has closed in order to begin the exam, but they may be allowed in after the recording has finished.
• If you finish before the exam time has expired, then you may quietly hand in your exam and leave the room immediately.

UPDATED: 7.17.1
Intensive English Institute

GENERAL FINAL EXAMINATION RULES (2020-2021)
Online Version (Fall 2020)

ALL IEI students are responsible for reading and abiding by all final examination rules AND procedures. The following general rules apply:

BEFORE THE EXAM:
• Each exam will be administered during a specific time frame. There will be a schedule sent out with the specific times.

• Each exam will be administered in your Canvas course. You should log into the exam at least 15 minutes before the exam starts to make sure your computer access is set up correctly. You will not be able to start the exam after 15 minutes past the start time of the exam.

• Prepare your equipment (at least one day before exam):
  o This exam will use LockDown Browser and Respondus Monitor. Your computer must have Respondus Monitor installed. The instructions to install Respondus Monitor have been attached to this email.

  o Your computer needs to have a microphone, camera, and keyboard.

  o Your computer needs to have a reliable internet connection. If you are having technological difficulties, contact the Helpdesk right away.

  o You should have done a practice quiz in one of your current courses to test this process. Check with an instructor now if you have not yet done a practice quiz.

• Prepare your environment:
  o Make sure that you have a quiet space to take the exam.
- Make sure that you have proper lighting in the room where you will take the exam.

- Make sure the camera can capture your face clearly at all times.

- Remove any books, dictionaries, electronic translators, or other materials for the exam. The camera will be monitoring your access to these items. You will be asked to move the camera around to show what is in the room and on the desk where you plan to take the exam.

- Turn off your cell phone.

**DURING THE EXAM:**
- Your browser will be locked down and you will not be able to access browsers.

- Before you begin the exam, you will be asked to do an environment check. You will be asked to move your webcam around the testing area. During the exam, you cannot use cell phones, books, dictionaries, electronic translators, or other materials. You must have your test area clear of these items. You must keep your face in clear view of the camera.

- You cannot ask questions once the exam has started.

- If you must exit the online exam before you are finished, you CANNOT continue the exam.

- The camera will record your movements. Respondus Monitor will be reviewed by proctors after the exam is finished. Cheating is defined as any suspicious body movement, for example when your face is not in clear view of the camera. Cheating is also defined as use of any unauthorized material or source other than your own mind.

- A proctor will determine if any cheating occurred during the exam. If the proctor sees evidence of unauthorized material being used or suspicious body movement, then the IEI administrative directors will be informed and you may receive a 0 (zero) on the final exam.
• The exams are timed exams. To provide enough time for using the keyboard, each exam will be 90 minutes.

AT THE END OF THE EXAM:
• The exam will not allow you to submit answers after the time has run out. You will be able to see the timer for the exam at the top right-hand corner of the computer screen.

• If you finish before the exam time has expired, you may submit the exam early. Make sure that you have completed the exam before your click “submit quiz.” You will not be able to open up the exam again or restart the exam.
IEI STUDENT/INSTRUCTOR ACADEMIC DISHONESTY & ACCULTURATION FORM

Student: ___________________________ Date: __________________
BSU ID: ___________________________ Session/Year: ____________
Course: ____________________________
Instructor: _________________________
Advisor: __________________________

Purpose of Conference (Circle one.): Academic Dishonesty   Plagiarism

Description of Incident (Attach supporting documents, if available.):

______________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________

History of Academic Dishonesty:
Based on the student’s IEI file, the student was involved in academic dishonesty in the past. (Circle one.): YES   NO

Steps Taken:
(points discussed in the conference concerning how to deal with the present issue)

______________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________

*Did this academic dishonesty incident have any effect on the student’s grade? (Circle one.): YES   NO

If yes, explain how the grade was affected.

______________________________________________________________________
**Future Consequences:**
(Indicate what will happen if the student commits this type of academic dishonesty in this course again.)

**Student’s Response** (optional):

☐ I acknowledge that I understand the information written on this form.
☐ I admit that I was involved in academic dishonesty.
☐ I deny that I was involved in academic dishonesty. Since I deny this allegation, I understand that this case will be handled through the Ball State Student Academic Ethics Policy.
☐ I do not admit to academic dishonesty and opt not to sign this form. By not signing this form, I understand that this case will be handled through the Ball State Student Academic Ethics Policy.

I also understand that a repeated offence (of a similar nature) will be handled through Ball State’s Student Academic Ethics Policy.

Student’s Name: _______________________________________________________

Student’s Signature: ___________________________________________________

Instructor’s Name: ______________________________________________________

Instructor’s Signature: ___________________________________________________

Assistant Director’s Signature: _________________________________________

*A copy of this signed form will be placed in the student’s file.*
*One copy of this form will be sent to the Interim Assistant Provost for Undergraduate Education, one copy to the Interim Executive Director of Global Affairs, and one copy to the IEI Director of Operations if the result is a change in a student's grade.  
**A BSU academic dishonesty form needs to be completed and submitted to the Interim Assistant Provost for Undergraduate Education.

**NOTES:**

1. If a student fails to sign the IEI Academic Dishonesty Form, the instructor is still required to complete the Student Academic Ethics Reporting Form.

2. If a student disagrees that an alleged violation took place, the academic dishonesty incident will be handled through the University's Student Academic Ethics Policy.

3. If a grade change takes place as a result of an academic dishonesty incident, electronic copies of that form will be provided to the Interim Associate Provost for Undergraduate Education, the Interim Executive Director of Global Affairs, and the IEI Director of Operations.

4. The student response section is optional. This section allows students the opportunity to explain why he/she refuses to sign. Kindly encourage them to fill it out.

5. Any action needs to be completed on the institutional academic dishonesty form.
The Code of Student Rights and Responsibilities explains the rules to follow as a student. If you do not follow the rules on or off campus, you could be found responsible for a violation. The complete Code of Student Rights and Responsibilities is at: http://cms.bsu.edu/about/administrativeoffices/studentrights/policiesandprocedures/studentcode

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rule</th>
<th>Read link above.</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Do not hurt, harass or threaten another person.</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Do not touch any person’s private body without his or her permission.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Do not disrupt your class with words or behavior not related to the class.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Do not drink alcohol if under 21 years of age.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Do not give alcohol to someone under 21 years of age.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Do not drive a vehicle after drinking alcohol.</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Do not use illegal drugs.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Do not give others drugs given to you by a doctor.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Do not smoke on campus. (except at designated area on Petty Road near Robert Bell)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Do not bring guns, knives, or other weapons to campus.</td>
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<td>Do not take another person’s property without permission.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Do not break or harm another person’s property.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Do not use someone else’s work when completing schoolwork.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Do not take tests or do assignments for someone else.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Do not copy work from a book for a test without permission from teacher.</td>
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