



Course Objectives, Student Learning Outcomes, and Promotion Requirements

**Interpretation of Achievement Scale – Discover America Skills Levels 1-4**

*The purpose of this course is to give students an opportunity to explore basic similarities and differences between their home countries and the U.S. It is essential for international ESL students to know about their host country to enhance this or her performance in the classroom, learn English language faster, and adjust to the classroom culture better. This course is designed for lower levels and students who need guide through the process of adjusting to a new environment.*

--Students will increase their understanding of similarities and differences between their home countries and the US.

--Successfully discuss topics related to American cities, language, entertainment and food.

**Discover America Objectives:**

- 1 Develop students' cultural adjustment.
  - 1.1 Assist students' understanding of American culture.
  - 1.2 Aid students in understanding the similarities and differences between their home countries and the host country.
  - 1.3 Prepare students for interacting with Americans in their daily lives.
  - 1.4 Equip students with the necessary skills to travel within the U.S.
- 2 Develop students' skills in acquiring English.
  - 2.1 Advance use of different vocabulary in common English use, including home, food, geography and sports with correct meaning.
  - 2.2 Ease confusion students may have about native speaker English usage.
  - 2.3 Encourage students to make connections between culture and language.
  - 2.4 Prepare students to feel comfortable sharing their cultures and experiences with people not from their home countries.
  - 2.5

**Course Evaluation**

In-Class activities	30%
Quizzes	50%
Comprehensive Final Project	20%



**Discover America Learning Outcomes to Formally Assess:**

Students will be able to:

- i. Use and understand topic specific vocabulary.
- 1.2 Correctly answer basic comprehension questions about a given text or graphic.
- 1.3 Use complete sentences when speaking about a given topic.
- 1.4 Use complete sentences when writing about a given topic.
- 1.5 Correctly identify symbolism during a class discussion.
- 1.6 Effectively use visuals to give a presentation.

**Grading Scale**

SATISFACTORY	UNSATISFACTORY
S 71 - 100	U 0 -70
The student demonstrates level-appropriate English ability that is generally accurate and is characterized by competence in the SLOs listed above.	The student does not demonstrate level-appropriate English ability and is incompetent in the SLOs listed above.

**Discover America Requirements Passing**

- 1. Students must pass the class with a cumulative grade of S (71%) or better.