



Spoken Communication: Partners and Spouses

Course Description

Spoken Communication: Partners and Spouses is an intermediate course in which students learn the speaking skills and conversational strategies needed to ask culturally and linguistically appropriate questions and to communicate effectively in a range of authentic contexts. Students participate in real-life scenarios, group discussions, and presentations. The final project of this course centers around hosting a dinner party or a similar gathering and documenting the course experience. This course invites students to explore this specific facet of North American culture as a way to expand their social network and make new acquaintances. Students will explore common U.S. customs, expectations and other contextual factors when planning and implementing a dinner party in the United States and in Chicago. By preparing for and hosting a dinner party, students refresh and embed vocabulary, get to know the city of Chicago through route planning, utilize conversation skills and a range of other relevant tasks that can be immediately applied to everyday life.

Student Learning Outcomes

At the end of the course, students will be able to:

- Demonstrate awareness of the Englishes of Chicago
- Communicate in English employing skills for a range of common contexts • Interact in English with improved confidence
- Exercise learner autonomy for practicing English
- Demonstrate knowledge and critical understanding of the city of Chicago • Plan social gatherings while keeping in mind the customs and expectations of dinner party culture in the U.S.

Required Materials

- Cell phone or laptop to access the internet
- A notebook for new vocabulary and class notes