

American English
BBN-AME-232 (BBI-AME-232E)

Time and Place

Tuesdays 8 – 9.30 AM, Room 030

Instructor

Eszter Nucz (E-mail: eszter.nucz@hotmail.com)

Office hours

Room 432 (By appointment)

Course description

The aim of this course is to study American English, a distinct variety of the English language, in a systematic manner. The particular topics we will be working with are, among others, as follows: (1) American English vs. British English; (2) The characteristic features of American English; (3) The major historical periods in the development of American English; (4) Regional, social, and ethnic dialects of American English; and (5) American slang.

Requirements

There is one midterm and one end-term test. Please note that if you miss to sit for both tests, your grade will be an automatic “fail” in the course.

Grading

Midterm test	40%
End-Term test	60%

Projected course schedule

<i>Date</i>	<i>Topic</i>	<i>Readings for the day</i>
Sept 13	Orientation	
Sept 20	The history of AE 1	Ch 2
Sept 27	The history of AE 2	Ch 3
Oct 4	Linguistic geography in the US The regional dialects of AE	Ch 4-5
Oct 11	The social dialects of AE	Ch 6
Oct 18	The ethnic dialects of AE	Ch 7
Oct 25	Midterm test	All the material covered in the course so far
<i>Nov 1</i>	<i>No class</i>	
Nov 8	Style in AE, American slang	Ch 8 - 9
Nov 15	AE & BE differences 1	Ch 10
Nov 22	AE & BE differences 2	Ch 10
Nov 29	General accounts of the distinctiveness of AE	Ch 11
<i>Dec 6</i>	<i>No class</i>	
Dec 13	End-Term test	All the material covered in the course

Required reading

Kövecses, Zoltán. 2000. American English. An Introduction. Peterborough, Canada: Broadview Press.

Recommended reading

Kövecses, Zoltán. 2000. Bridge One. British and American English Differences for Learners of English. Budapest: Librotrade.

Kövecses, Zoltán. 2000. Bridge Two. A British-American, American British Dictionary. Budapest: Librotrade.