IMPORTANT UPDATE: Please note that OISS has postponed all English Conversation Group meetings until further notice in compliance with Yale guidance on the prevention of COVID-19 [1]. We will update our website once we have more information and when we will be able to resume group meetings. Thank you for your patience and understanding.

The Office of International Students & Scholars offers daily English Conversation Groups at the International Center for international students, scholars and their spouses and partners who wish to gain further experience speaking English as a foreign language. Join one or more of the groups, Monday - Friday, 12:30pm - 1:30pm, International Center/OISS, 421 Temple Street. Open to all with no registration required. English Conversation Groups will run in the spring semester from Tuesday, January 21 through Thursday, May 7.

These popular volunteer-led groups provide an enjoyable, informal means for improving conversation skills and are also a good place for participants to meet new friends and explore topics in American culture. While they are not formal classes, they are an excellent supplement to a course of study in English as a second language (ESL).

Conversation Partners Available at the Whitney Center

The OISS is thrilled to be partnering with the Whitney Center [2] in Hamden, CT to match Yale international students, scholars, and their spouses/partners with residents (including retired Yale faculty) at the center for a conversation and cultural exchange program. The topic and format of the meetings is up to the participants, but most often it is simply informal conversation. Participants must be able to get to the Whitney Center in Hamden on their own, as transportation is not provided. We ask for a minimum commitment of four weeks (typically an hour a week) with the hope that the conversations continue for one or two semesters.

The time commitment is minimal and the possible benefits include:

- Improving your English through informal conversation practice
- Sharing your country and culture with others
- Expanding your understanding of the U.S.
- Offering friendship across cultures

Matches are based on availability; we are currently accepting 10-20 new matches for the 2018-2019 academic
year! If you're interested, please sign-up below and you will be contacted if and when a match has been made!

Sign-Up to be Matched! [3]

English Language Programs

Heralded for superior attention to the English language needs of Yale international students and scholars, the **English Language Program at Yale (ELP)** was created specifically to support their English language academic and professional development needs. The ELP offers academic courses in speaking, writing, vocabulary, Teaching in the American Classroom, and Professional Communication Skills to prepare students for their academic classes, teaching, professional presentations, and careers beyond Yale. The twelve-week courses meet in the **Center for Language Study (CLS)** [4] Well-equipped multimedia facilities with specialized software and self-study material are also available for use in the CLS by Yale international students and scholars with a valid ID.

- [Yale Center for Language Study](https://cls.yale.edu) [5]
- [Yale English Language Institute](http://summer.yale.edu/academics/english-language-institute) [6]
- [Bridges (free Saturday classes)](http://campuspress.yale.edu/bridges/) [7]
- [New Haven Free Public Library](http://nhfpl.org) [8]
- [Gateway Community College](http://www.gatewayct.edu/) [9]
- [Adult Education](http://www.nhaec.org/) [10]

Source URL: [https://oiss.yale.edu/programs-events/english-conversation-groups](https://oiss.yale.edu/programs-events/english-conversation-groups)

Links:
[1] https://communications.yale.edu/covid-19-information