Frequently Asked Questions

Why aren’t all courses 1 semester long?
- Shorter sessions allow students the opportunity to experience more courses.
- Many of the ELI students are au pairs. Shorter sessions make it easier for au pairs to fulfill their education requirement while staying within their visa and budget requirements.

Can I continue in a class more than 1 session?
Yes. Most ELI courses are on a 1 year cycle. This means that new material is presented for an entire year. Students are encouraged to enroll in more than 1 session of a course so that they can better master the skill(s) or material being presented.

Can I enroll in a class in any session or do I have to start in the first session of each semester (for example, Fall I, Spring I, or Summer I)?
Except when noted as a “continuation course” in the catalog, you are welcome to enroll in a class in any session. When necessary, teachers include a quick review of any material or procedures that new students may need to know.

Why doesn’t the ELI follow the same calendar as public or private schools do?
Because the ELI is a department of Manhattanville College, it follows the College calendar. This is the same as most college calendars in the US. Please check ELI class dates carefully so that you are aware of the differences between the ELI calendar and the public or private school calendars.

If my level on the placement test is 7, can I register for a lower level course (3, 4, 5 or 6)?
You may register for a lower level course, but we do not advise it. The material in courses lower than your placement level will probably be too easy for you and you will most likely be bored.

FOR AU PAIRS:

Why can’t I do “make-up” assignments for more than 3 hours of missed class time (4.5 hours for Intensive Grammar and Intensive Conversation, and 4 hours in some summer session classes) in any 1 session?
When the ELI first introduced courses to fit the US government education requirement for au pairs, a discussion was held with au pair coordinators to make sure there would be no question that requirements were being met. 3 hours (4.5 hours in Intensive Grammar and Intensive Conversation, and 4 hours in some summer session classes) was the amount of time deemed reasonable.

I need a letter from the ELI stating that I am registered, or have taken, courses there. What should I do?
“Verification Forms” are available on the bookshelves outside the ELI main office. The form has spaces for you to indicate what you would like the ELI to verify. Once you have completed the form, bring it to the ELI main office. If you would like the verification letter mailed to you, please supply a self-addressed stamped envelope. Please allow 5 business days for verification letters to be processed.