The English Language Center (ELC) offers three courses specifically designed to help international students more successfully integrate into campus life while also fine-tuning their language skills. These are regular, on-campus classes designed for matriculated students and students at their final level of their English studies at the ELC. These courses earn regular DU undergraduate credit that will count toward graduation.

As part of the Common Curriculum at DU, most students must complete a foreign language requirement. Based on their assessment scores, students must complete 4, 8, or 12 language credits in order to fulfill the requirement. Similarly, non-native English speaking international students who are directly admitted to the University will take the English Language Proficiency Assessment (ELPA) during orientation in order to place them in their Common Curriculum language requirement. This language requirement will help both improve their level of English, and also teach what it means to be part of an American institution of higher learning.

Students who are identified through the ELPA as needing no further English language training will be required to enroll in one 4-credit class focusing on US culture. Students who are identified as needing additional training in either writing or speaking will be required to take 8 credits: a 4-credit course in the skill where additional assistance is needed, as well as the aforementioned culture course. Students who are identified as needing both writing and speaking will be required to take 12 credits: the writing, speaking, and culture courses. Students who have been conditionally admitted to the University will take all three courses as their final level in the English Language Center.