



Undergraduate Students

Undergraduate students admitted to NEC with scores below 61 will be strongly advised to enroll in a summer intensive English program prior to matriculating at the Conservatory.

Undergraduate students who have not reach a documented TOEFL score of 61 or higher by the time of registration for their first semester may be placed in Fundamentals of ESL program (FESL). At or near the very end of FESL, student will be given the NEC's English proficiency exam and will be placed in the appropriate ESL level.

Undergraduate students admitted with scores of 61 or higher will be placed in ESL study according to the following:

- Undergraduate students admitted to NEC with TOEFL scores between **61-69** will begin with ESL I
- Undergraduate students admitted to NEC with TOEFL scores between **70-75** will begin with ESL II
- Undergraduate students admitted to NEC with TOEFL scores between **76-81** will begin with ESL III
- Undergraduate students admitted to NEC with TOEFL scores between **82-87** will begin with ESL IV
- Undergraduate students admitted to NEC with TOEFL scores of **88 or higher** are exempt from ESL requirements.

English Requirement for Undergraduate Courses and Academic Departments

Before taking any undergraduate Music History or Music Education course, a student whose native language is not English must submit: 1) a TOEFL score of 76 or higher, 2) a passing grade in ESL II or 3) a passing grade on the NEC Test of English Proficiency.

Before taking any Liberal Arts courses, a student whose native language is not English must submit: 1) a TOEFL score of 88 or higher, or 2) a passing grade in ESL IV or 3) a passing grade on the NEC Test of English Proficiency.

For more information, visit the [course catalog](#).



Graduate Students

Graduate students admitted to NEC with scores below 76 will be strongly advised to enroll in a summer intensive English program prior to matriculating at the Conservatory. Undergraduate students who have not reach a documented TOEFL score of 76 or higher by the time of registration for their first semester may be placed in Fundamentals of ESL program (FESL), which meets 4 hours per week. At or near the very end of FESL, student will be given the TOEFL at NEC and will be placed in the appropriate level of ESL.

Graduate students admitted with scores of 76 or higher will be placed in ESL study according to the following:

- Graduate students admitted to NEC with TOEFL scores between **76-81** will be placed in ESL III
- Graduate students admitted to NEC with TOEFL scores between **82-87** will be placed in ESL IV
- Graduate students admitted to NEC with TOEFL scores of **88 or higher** are exempt from ESL requirements.

English Requirement for Graduate Courses and Academic Departments

Before taking any graduate Musicology course, a student whose native language is not English must submit: 1) a TOEFL score of 88 or higher, or 2) a passing grade in ESL IV or 3) a passing grade on the NEC Test of English Proficiency.

For more information, visit the [course catalog](#).