Institute Overview

The Institute of American Language and Culture (IALC) offers English as a Second Language (ESL) courses to non-native English speakers in all skill areas: writing, grammar, reading, speaking, listening, and vocabulary. Content-based courses, seminars, and intercultural skills are offered to students at advanced levels of proficiency.

The Community ESL program provides free adult literacy classes to residents of New York. The Community ESL program does not meet the requirements for student visas.

The full-time ESL program fulfills the United States Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS) requirements for student visas. Acceptance to the Institute does not imply admission to any Fordham degree program.

The Via Fordham Program provides promising international students a different path into an undergraduate college at Fordham University. Admission to Via Fordham is selective. Students interested in Via Fordham must apply for undergraduate admission using the Common Application.

If an international student cannot supply a TOEFL or IELTS score at the time of application to a Fordham undergraduate program, he or she may take the Fordham English Language Test (FELT). Students who spend at least two semesters taking courses at the IALC and reach the highest level of proficiency may not be required to take the TOEFL or IELTS test, but if they are admitted to the University, they must take IALC writing courses until determined to be no longer necessary.

For more information
Visit the Institute of American Language and Culture's web page.

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