UNIVERSITY OF NORTH ALABAMA

**Academic English Program Online (AEP Online)**

**Why UNA AEP?**

Having excellent English language skills is essential for international students to be successful when studying at US universities. The Academic English Program (AEP) Online at the University of North Alabama (UNA) offers premium English language training to international students for them to build their English communication confidence and strengthen their English language competence.

Students who go through UNA’s AEP program are **more prepared for the academic rigor** expected of them **at the university level**. They not only learn the basic concepts of English, but they also **learn the expectations for formal writing and speaking**, **proper formatting for research papers**, what to expect from an **American classroom**, and how to communicate comfortably with instructors **in a sheltered and supportive environment**. Commercial language test preparation programs may help with the basic structure of English, but they lack the attention and focus on student success at the university level. **The AEP program teaches English within the meaningful and invaluable context of future academic success**.

English language learners at UNA, on campus or virtually online, become part of a **small supportive learning community**.   Language learning is not just a set of knowledge or an area of proficiency, it is about **making meaning in context**, and that happens through meaningful communication with real live people. UNA AEP Program provides more opportunities to communicate with native English speakers which include their instructors and their American peer volunteers.

**AEP Online Class Time and Format:**

The AEP online courses are modeled after our on-campus intensive English language courses taught by the same experienced instructors. Students will have daily lessons and assignments throughout each course. All instruction materials, such as video lessons, PowerPoints, PDF books, are embedded into each course. In other words, students are able to login each day and access their lessons, assignments, and quizzes asynchronously. All of UNA AEP Online courses offer synchronous Zoom office hours each week. This is a time where students can schedule a private meeting and video chat in real time with their instructor. Some courses do require a few synchronous class meetings throughout the 8-week term. AEP Online allows students the flexibility to work from any location at any time. However, each course does have specific due dates for assignments, so students must work daily to complete this intensive English program.

**Key Benefits:**

* Effective and fun learning experience
* Affordable online course fee
* Waiver of English requirement for academic study at UNA