

Suggestions for St. Anthony Instructors and Non-Native English Learners rev. 1/7/21

Instructors:

- Assist students with limited English, whenever possible, through making grammatical and stylistic suggestions for drafts of written assignments, such as comprehensive papers.
- Record instructions aloud in an MP3 format then send them to/post for students, so they can repeatedly replay the file.
- Speak and write without idioms and figurative language, as much as possible.

Students:

- Read assignment instructions and textbooks aloud. Paraphrase what has been spoken/read aloud.
- Verbalize (speak aloud) your observations and conclusions in English, record them, then revise them again in written format (on paper).
- Use Google to search for and to understand unfamiliar English idioms or figurative language.
- Find versions of required textbooks written in your own language.
- Use Google to translate instructions and other text written in English into your native language.
- Think and write out papers in your native language (e.g., Italian and Spanish) then rewrite the paper into English using roots and other cognate words from related languages (e.g., Latin).
- Apply the geometric proof style to improve your ability to develop and to defend an argument in written assignments (papers, reflection papers, etc.). The step-by-step process, as with any mathematical proof, usually involves a series of logical deductions to offer a conclusion: given assumption, proposition, statement, reason, proof (direct or indirect), and a diagram to argue for a specific conclusion.¹ Some of these logical steps could be useful in writing.

St. Anthony:

- Provide non-native English (ESL/L2) learners with specific stylistic and grammar helps (e.g., style guides, websites for basic English grammar and style rules). The style guide used at St. Anthony is Kate Turabian's *A Manual for Writing Research Papers, Theses, and Dissertations* (latest edition). An online link to the guide appears [here](#).

¹ See the following websites for assistance in defining terms and understanding the style: [SparksNotes](#), [Cheng's paper](#) on writing proofs, and [Lampport's description](#) of writing proofs.