



Meet new people and practice English.  
All levels are welcome.  
All groups led by experienced facilitators.  
FREE. No registration required.

All members of the Yale Community  
who want to improve their English through informal  
conversation are welcome to join.

Questions? Email [erin.gustafson@yale.edu](mailto:erin.gustafson@yale.edu).

## IMPROVING YOUR ENGLISH

### ENGLISH CONVERSATION GROUPS

September 8 to December 4, 2009  
January 11 to April 30, 2010

**MONDAY CONVERSATIONS** – Every  
Monday from 12:30pm to 1:30pm at the IC,  
421 Temple Street.

**TUESDAY CONVERSATIONS** – Every  
Tuesday from 12:30pm to 1:30pm at the IC,  
421 Temple Street.

**“MOMMY AND ME” GROUP** – Every  
Wednesday, from 10am to 12pm at the  
McDougal Center, 320 York Street, HGS. This  
special baby-friendly conversation group is for  
those ‘mommies’ and ‘daddies’ who wish to  
practice English conversation along with their  
babies and children. Enjoy complimentary kid-  
friendly snacks & refreshments.  
Co-sponsored by Graduate Student Life @ McDougal Center.

**WEDNESDAY CONVERSATIONS** –  
Every Wednesday from 12:30pm to 1:30pm at  
the IC, 421 Temple Street.

**THURSDAY CONVERSATIONS** – Every  
Thursday from 12:30pm to 1:30pm at the IC,  
421 Temple Street.

**FRIDAY CONVERSATIONS** – Every  
Thursday from 12:30pm to 1:30pm at the IC,  
421 Temple Street.

Find updates to the schedule on-line at:  
[www.yale.edu/oiss/programs](http://www.yale.edu/oiss/programs)

### ENGLISH CONVERSATIONS @ THE MEDICAL SCHOOL

Tuesdays, 6:30pm to 7:30pm  
Fulton Room, Room SHM L-215  
Sterling Hall of Medicine, 333 Cedar Street

This series is designed to meet the needs of our  
scholar population, particularly those in the  
Medical School area. Informal conversations  
feature a different topic each session. Light  
snacks will be provided.

#### September 15 - Small Talk Tips

*How to have a conversation with your lab  
mates.*

#### October 20 - Idioms

*The most popular turns of phrase that come up  
in conversation.*

#### November 17 - Reading a Newspaper

*How to follow current events and use them in  
conversation.*

#### December 15 - Pronunciation

*The most commonly mispronounced words and  
how to overcome being misunderstood.*

#### January 19 - Making an Introduction

*How to introduce yourself or others.*

#### February 16 - Work Relationships

*How to talk to your lab mates and your boss.*

#### March 16 - English Language Etiquette

*How to speak politely and why it is important.*

#### April 20 - Conversation Game

*Having fun while keeping a conversation going.*

# CALENDAR OF EVENTS

## 2009-2010

Last Updated 8.11.2009

## GETTING CONNECTED

### *The IC is your home away from home!*

Drop in, study, enjoy complimentary tea or coffee, play a  
game of chess, surf the Internet, access the  
Yale wireless network, and simply enjoy the welcoming  
space with your friends.

To self-subscribe to the various email listservs, send a blank email  
from your account to the addresses below.

For anyone in the Yale community:  
[YaleInternational-subscribe@yahoogroups.com](mailto:YaleInternational-subscribe@yahoogroups.com)

For Yale postdocs & scholars:  
[PostdocYale-subscribe@yahoogroups.com](mailto:PostdocYale-subscribe@yahoogroups.com)

For the spouses & partners of Yale students & scholars:  
[I\\_SPY-subscribe@yahoogroups.com](mailto:I_SPY-subscribe@yahoogroups.com)



**Office of International Students & Scholars**  
International Center for Yale Students & Scholars  
421 Temple Street, New Haven, CT 06511  
203.432.2305  
[oiss@yale.edu](mailto:oiss@yale.edu)  
[www.yale.edu/oiss](http://www.yale.edu/oiss)

The Yale community is invited to enjoy these events and programs hosted by the Office of International Students and Scholars (OISS). All programs are free and held at the International Center (IC), 421 Temple Street, unless otherwise noted. Complimentary coffee and tea are always available at the IC. Details and updates to this calendar can be found at [www.yale.edu/oiss](http://www.yale.edu/oiss).

## HAVING FUN!



**BOSTON**  
**Saturday, September 26, 8am to 8pm**  
 Spend the day exploring Boston—walk the Freedom Trail, have some chowder (pronounced chow-dah), walk around Boston Commons. Optional free guided tour of Harvard/Cambridge included. Email [parker.emerson@yale.edu](mailto:parker.emerson@yale.edu) for more information. Fee covers transportation cost only. You will be responsible for any other expenses. Space is limited!  
**Depart from IC, 421 Temple Street. Cost per person is \$35, (cash only) — pre-registration at OISS required.**

Watch for information to come out in May about the OISS summer bus trips and events!



**DISCOUNTED NY THEATRE TICKETS**  
 Broadway and Off-Broadway shows at a serious discount through OISS' TDF membership (typical savings from 40% to 70%). For more information, contact [warrena.wilkinson@yale.edu](mailto:warrena.wilkinson@yale.edu).



**WINTER OLYMPICS: VANCOUVER 2010**  
**February 12 to 28**  
 Opening ceremonies screening and other events — more details to come!

## IC CAFÉ



**Thursdays, 7pm to 9pm**  
 This social hour is an opportunity for you to enjoy good company, refreshments and lots of fun and relaxation with new and old friends at the IC!

**Welcome Social — September 24**  
 Join other newly arrived G&P students and post-docs for a fun social evening featuring a wine-tasting.

**i(ternational)Tunes — October 22**  
 This event is an opportunity to share musical traditions from across the globe and explore where they intersect. We are seeking musicians of all levels to participate in an evening of performances that will show how music is the universal language. Please contact [benjamin.shirley@yale.edu](mailto:benjamin.shirley@yale.edu) or [parker.emerson@yale.edu](mailto:parker.emerson@yale.edu) for more information.

**Pizza & Games Night — December 3**  
 End-of-semester celebration! Take a break from studying and working. Join others for some pizza and play some fun party games.

**Welcome Social — January 14**  
 Join other mid-year arrivals for a fun social evening featuring a beer-tasting. Continuing students and scholars welcome too!

**Chocolate Fest — February 11**  
 CHOCOLATE, CHOCOLATE, CHOCOLATE! Yummy treats for all during this chocolate-themed evening.

**International Women's Day Celebration — March 4**  
 IWD is March 8, but we begin the celebration early with an evening featuring performances, refreshments, and flowers for all the women in attendance.

## MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. DAY

January 18, 2010

Martin Luther King Jr. is remembered for his powerful and inspiring teachings of non-violence and social justice. All are welcome and encouraged to join in the spirit of the holiday by attending campus-wide events, which include lectures and workshops, and a day of community service.

For a complete calendar of MLK events, visit [www.yale.edu/oiss/programs/events](http://www.yale.edu/oiss/programs/events)

## TAKING CARE OF BUSINESS



**CAR OWNERSHIP**  
**Wednesday September 23, repeated on Wednesday February 10, 5:30pm**  
 License. Registration. Taxes. Parking tags.

Insurance. Review check points and the paperwork you'll need to purchase a car, both new and used. You'll be able to pose questions to a local car expert. Protect your car from harsh winter weather conditions and get tips for driving in snow and ice. Learn what to do if your car is in an accident. Ready to sell your car? Learn from the experts about detailing and mechanical tips, pricing guidelines, best advertising venues, required paperwork, transfer of title and more.

Sponsored by East Rock Auto.



**APPLYING FOR YOUR SSN**  
**Tuesday September 15 and Friday September 18, 2pm to 4pm**  
 Representatives from the local Social Security office will be on-campus to take your application. At the time of your application, you must have been in the U.S. for at least two weeks and you must be eligible (based on your visa status and income source).



**IDENTITY THEFT**  
**Wednesday October 21, 5:30pm**  
 Identity theft is one of the fastest-growing crimes in the U.S. What should you do if you become a victim? We'll cover the types of identity theft, how to protect yourself, signs of identity theft, and what to do if it happens to you.



**WINTER CARE DAY: Flu Shot Clinic, Cold Clinic and Coat Giveaway**  
**Thursday October 29, beginning at 2pm**  
 Free flu shot appointments for Yale Health Plan (YHP) members begin at 2pm. At 4pm, OISS will share tips on surviving and enjoying a New England winter. At 4:30pm, the Yale Health Plan will present a Cold Clinic with tips on how to stay healthy. Immediately following, we will open the Coat Closet where you can select gently used winter coats and other winter apparel (scarves, mittens, etc.).  
**Donations of unwanted gently-used coats and winter apparel accepted by Monday, October 26.**



**WINTERIZING YOUR HOME**  
**Wednesday, December 2, 5:30pm**  
 Make sure that your first winter in New Haven is a pleasant one. This session will offer important tips on how to keep your home warm and your heating costs down during the cold winter months. It will also cover critical safety and maintenance information.



**BIKE & ROAD SAFETY IN NEW HAVEN**  
**Wednesday, April 14, 5:30pm**  
 Getting around town safely can be tricky with so many bicyclists, pedestrians, and motorists all sharing the roads and sidewalks and often competing for space. Join Yale's Sustainable Transportation Office and the Office of Safety Education as they share helpful and important *Smart Streets* tips.



## INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION WEEK

November 16 to 20  
[www.yale.edu/iew](http://www.yale.edu/iew) [iew.state.gov](http://iew.state.gov)

Visit Yale's *International Education Week* website, [www.yale.edu/iew](http://www.yale.edu/iew), to see the many campus-wide events. The OISS will host a reception in honor of those involved with our volunteer programs and cross-cultural exchange. More details to come!

## CROSSING CULTURES



**Wednesdays, beginning at 5:30pm**

Informal conversations feature a different moderator and topic, including a survey of U.S. cultural values and norms, culture shock, etiquette, holiday traditions, and more. For more information and to pre-register, please email [oiss@yale.edu](mailto:oiss@yale.edu).

### AMERICAN LIFE

**Food Etiquette in Social Settings — September 30**  
 A hands-on workshop for learning about and mastering the social faux-pas that can occur surrounding food etiquette in social settings.

**Dating & Relationships — February 3**  
 Are the norms so different in the U.S.?

### LANGUAGE FOR LIVING

**Dangerous English — March 10**  
 All the words you should not use, and why!

**Email Etiquette Workshop with Julie Vance — October 7 @ 6:30pm**  
 A discussion on the American approach to email and how to use American email style to make your communication more effective.

### CULTURE & SOCIETY

**Cultural Transitions — October 28**  
 Discussion of general U.S. values and how to make the cultural transition to a new environment.

**LGBTQ Across Cultures — January 27**  
 Lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender issues on a U.S. campus.

## CREATING COMMUNITY

Make connections in the local community and enjoy friendship and cultural exchange. For information about, or to sign up for any of these programs, visit [www.yale.edu/oiss/programs](http://www.yale.edu/oiss/programs).



**COMMUNITY FRIENDS**  
 A program that matches international students with local "hosts" who provide an introduction to U.S. culture and to the New Haven area. Hosts and students keep in touch throughout the academic year and meet occasionally to share a meal or activity.



**ONE-ON-ONE CONVERSATIONS**  
 A program that matches international students, scholars and their spouses/ partners at Yale with volunteers from the New Haven and Yale communities for language and culture exchange.



**HOLIDAY AT HOME**  
 Each Thanksgiving, the OISS makes special arrangements for interested international students and scholars (and their families) to join a local family for the traditional holiday feast—this year, Thanksgiving falls on November 26. To participate, please **pre-register by November 13.**



**THANKSGIVING DINNER FOR G&P STUDENTS AND POSTDOCS**  
 Join fellow students, scholars, staff and their families for a Thanksgiving buffet dinner at the Hall of Graduate Studies (HGS) Dining Hall. Limited supply of tickets will be available in November—advance purchase required: \$6 adults, \$3 kids 3-13 yrs., FREE kids under 3 yrs. Tickets can be purchased from the McDougal Box Office, Room 123, HGS, 320 York Street (M-F, 2pm to 5pm) or at the OISS, International Center, 421 Temple Street (M-F). Co-sponsored by Grad Student Life at the McDougal Center, Yale Graduate School, OISS, and Yale Office of International Affairs (OIA).

## UNDERSTANDING AMERICA



These discussions over dinner begin with a talk from each of the distinguished guests, Yale faculty and others from the community, who aim to get below the surface of U.S. culture and society by tackling some of the toughest most topical issues. Don't miss the (optional) companion film, which is always screened the Thursday before the discussion. Light supper and refreshments will be served. For more details, and to pre-register, please visit the OISS calendar on-line. Co-sponsored by Graduate Student Life @ McDougal Center.

**ALL FILM SCREENINGS @ 7pm \* DISCUSSIONS @ 5:30pm**

### WOMEN IN POWER

**October 8 *The Contender* \* October 14 Discussion**

In 1920, women in America received the right to vote and in 1969, Yale College admitted its first coed class. Now forty years later, women including Hillary Clinton, Sonia Sotomayor, Indra Nooyi (CEO of PepsiCo) and Connecticut Governor M. Jodi Rell sit at the highest levels of business and government. Does this mean that women are close to breaking through what Clinton once referred to as "that highest, hardest glass ceiling"? How do gender issues play out in a university setting? What does it mean to be a powerful woman in America today?

### POLITICS & THE INDIVIDUAL

**November 5 *Milk* \* November 11 Discussion**

From political slogans on bumper stickers to descriptive labels such as liberal and conservative, one might say that Americans wear their politics on their sleeves. Labels like conservative and liberal, blue and red states have been expanded from their political context to represent individual personalities/opinions. How does the pervasive value of individualism in America shape politics?

### MULTICULTURALISM IN THE AGE OF OBAMA

**February 18 *Crash* \* February 24 Discussion**

America has long been dubbed a cultural "melting pot" and is becoming increasingly more diverse. In 2007, one in three residents belonged to a minority and that number is rising yearly. With President Obama's election in 2008, some have suggested that the U.S. is getting closer to achieving a post-racial society, yet racial tensions and disparities still exist and matters of race, ethnicity, religion and cultural differences in the U.S. remain complex.

### OBESITY, HEALTH & FOOD

**April 1 *Super Size Me* \* April 7 Discussion**

According to the CDC, 66% OF adults in the U.S. 20 year and over are overweight or obese. High obesity rates not only affect the health and lifespan of the individual, but also have implications for the society at large. What is it about U.S. lifestyle that has produced such staggering statistics? How will the organic and local foods craze, coupled with a focus on diet and exercise change the situation? What kinds of policy changes might help?

## EARTH DAY CELEBRATION

April 22, 2010

**COMMUNITY GARDENS SEMINAR**  
**Wednesday April 21 at 5:30pm**  
 Strengthen your connections to the earth and your community by getting involved in a local community gardening project. A local group will explain how to find or start a local garden collective in your neighborhood, and answer all your questions on this eco-friendly activity.

### EARTH DAY CELEBRATION

**Thursday April 22 at 7pm**  
 Celebrate spring with a sampling of local foods from nearby farms. Enjoy a live music performance to help wake up and honor the bounties of mother earth.

