



GSI at Stony Brook Language Proficiency Requirements

International students must demonstrate proficiency in the English language before they can register for credit courses at Stony Brook University. Students can submit a test score to satisfy this requirement or take a placement exam offered by GSI.

Students who are attending schools where English is the medium of instruction do not need to take a placement exam.

The intensive English program (Option 4) will be the only choice for students who choose to take the GSI placement exam and score 29 or below.

If you do not have any of the recommended standardized exam scores (see table below) at the time of application, you can schedule a placement exam via SKYPE offered by GSI. Based on the results, you will receive a recommendation on which GSI option is best for you. **The highest score is 50.**

GSI Options	Standardized Exams (minimum)	GSI Placement Exam via Skype
Option 1: 3-week Certificate program (non-credit)	No prior scores required. Students should have intermediate level proficiency. We recommend a Skype interview at the time of application.	Students who do not have standardized test scores may request a Skype interview before arrival to determine which GSI option is best for them.
Option 2: 6 Credits	iBT: 80 IELTS: 6.5 PTE: 53 CET: 6	OR 38 or higher
Option 3: 3 Credits + EAS	iBT: 70 IELTS: 5.5 PTE: 50 CET: 4	OR 30 or higher
Option 4: Full time Intensive English (non-credit)	No prior scores required.	The IEC has four levels. Students will take a placement exam upon arrival.

GSI Language Proficiency Assessment Description

This is an online, face-to-face interview administered through SKYPE that will test both oral and written skills. It will last approximately 20 minutes and will consist of several oral questions plus a short written response. The questions are general and are designed to inform the interviewer(s) of the examinee's communication skills and ability to take credit courses at Stony Brook University.

Schedule Your Interview

All interviews will be held on Eastern Standard Time/ US Local Time. Interview **MUST** be scheduled at least 48 hours in advance. All interviews must be completed by June 1, 2017.

GSI Language Proficiency Assessment

- On the day of your Skype interview, please be sure that your microphone and speakers are set properly. Please also ensure you have a strong/good internet connection and are alone in a quiet place.
- The interviewer will call/Skype you within 5 minutes of your interview start time.
- The interview will begin with "identification verification" questions (which will not be rated). Please have the following information ready *prior to the start* of your interview.
 - Photo Identification in English such as a passport, etc
- The interview will proceed with 2 "warm-up" questions (which will not be rated).
- The interview will continue with questions and written prompts which will be rated.
- You will receive your results via email within 2 business days.

Skype Interview Scoring

The highest possible score is 50 (25 points for Oral Skills and 25 points for Written Skills).

The following are the assessment criteria for each skill area:

Oral Skills	Written Skills
1. Comprehension	1. Appropriate response to topic
2. Fluency	2. Clear and cohesive ideas
3. Pronunciation	3. Use of complex structures
4. Grammar	4. Grammar
5. Effective communication	5. Vocabulary