**Directed Study Elective SP 2015**

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**Course Objectives:**

By the end of the course, students will have reached self-established and described goals in the areas of listening, speaking, reading, writing, cultural understanding, and/or academic achievement.

**These goals may include:**

Language-related

* Improved speaking/writing fluency/accuracy
* Larger active/passive vocabulary
* Higher comprehension of un-adapted readings

Culture/academia-related

* A deeper understanding of American society/culture/values
* Insights into the American classroom culture
* Increased knowledge of a content field

***You may not use your directed study elective time to study for standardized tests.***

**Procedure:**

* Establish a plan of study/activity which includes concrete goals and procedures
* Study/attend/work 5 hours per week
* Email your teacher a brief report before each weekly meeting
* Meet with your teacher 30 minutes per week, prepared with questions/commentary on your experience in the previous week.
* Present to your classmates during week 7-8
* Write a final report due week 11

**We will have one group meeting week 7-8 for your presentations**

**Some options:**

Sit in on a class at Boston University

<https://www.bu.edu/link/bin/uiscgi_studentlink/1285015732?ModuleName=univschs.pl>

Attend lectures or workshops at local universities:

<http://www.bu.edu/calendar/>

<http://news.harvard.edu/gazette/section/calendar/gazette-calendar/#/?i=21>

<http://events.mit.edu/index.html>

Watch talks, lectures, or course sessions on line:

<http://www.ted.com/>

<http://mitworld.mit.edu/browse>

<http://ocw.mit.edu/courses/audio-video-courses/>

<http://www.bu.edu/buniverse/>

<http://www.youtube.com/education?category=University>

iTunes U

Volunteer in the BU or Boston community:

<http://bu.collegiatelink.net/Community?action=getMyHome>

<http://www.bu.edu/csc/>

[HEARTH -Ending elder homeless](http://www.hearth-home.org/)

[Volunteer Services - Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center](http://www.bidmc.org/AboutBIDMC/VolunteerServices.aspx)

[http://www.brighamandwomens.org/About\_BWH/volunteerprograms.aspx](http://www.brighamandwomens.org/volunteer/General%20Volunteers.aspx)

[http://supportunitedway.org/volunteer](http://volunteer.truist.com/boston/org/opp/226686.html?opp_id=226686&return_url=%252fvolunteer%252fsearch%255fresults%255fcallback%253fjson%255fp%253d1%2526target%253d%2526%255f%255fform%255fsubmitted%255f%255f%253d%25255fvolunteer%25255fsearch%25255f2%25255faspx%25255f2%2526%255f%255fform%255fsubmitted%255f%255f%253d%25255fvolunteer%25255fsearch%25255f2%25255faspx%25255f3%2526%255f%255fform%255fsubmitted%255f%255f%253d%25255fvolunteer%25255fsearch%25255f2%25255faspx%25255f1%2526%255f%255finit%255frequest%255f%255f%253d%25255fvolunteer%25255fsearch%25255f2%25255faspx%25255f2%2526%255f%255finit%255frequest%255f%255f%253d%25255fvolunteer%25255fsearch%25255f2%25255faspx%25255f3%2526%255f%255finit%255frequest%255f%255f%253d%25255fvolunteer%25255fsearch%25255f2%25255faspx%25255f1%2526keyword%253d%2526us%255fstate%253d%2526city%253d%2526zip%253d02215%2526radius%253d10%2526one%255ftime%255fp%253d%2526page%255fnumber%253d2%2526ts%253d-58666175886431)

[Little Brothers Friends of the Elderly](http://boston.littlebrothers.org/volunteer.html)

[Volunteer » FriendshipWorks](http://www.fw4elders.org/volunteer/)

[Horizons for Homeless Children: A Charity Navigator 4-Star Agency](http://www.horizonsforhomelesschildren.org/How_To_Help_Volunteer.asp)

[Become a Volunteer at Room to Grow](http://www.roomtogrow.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=72&Itemid=54)

[People Making a Difference ®](http://www.pmd.org/t2.phtml?p=home)

<http://bostonlivingcenter.org/volunteer_opportunities_at_the_Boston_Living_center.html>

Read independently and write summaries/critiques of your reading

**Meetings:**

You will meet with your teacher every week for about 30 minutes.

Your teacher will post the schedule on the blog.

There will be no meetings during lunch hour

You and your teacher will arrange a time that is convenient for both of you. It will remain the same day/time throughout the semester.

**What’s next?**

**Based on your availability, you will be placed in groups and meet with one of the teachers leading this class (Jamie Beaton, Pam Steeves, Chris Antonellis)**

**Answer the following questions in an email to Chris Antonellis:** [**cantonel@bu.edu**](mailto:cantonel@bu.edu) . **This email is due by the end of the day Friday, January 30**.

1. Describe a Directed Study project. How will you spend 5 hours/week? Be specific. Use activities in the list at the beginning of this document, or describe others.

2. What goals do you want to reach by doing this work? Use the goals listed at the beginning of this syllabus in your answer.

3. Do you need help finding an activity or materials? If so, what do you need?

4. Every week you will send your teacher an email before you come to your meeting.  In it, explain how you spent your required 5 hours. In addition, explain one thing that you learned, and ask one question about your work.

5. Be prepared to lead the conversation at our weekly meeting: ask questions or talk about concerns or reactions to your experience.

**Attendance policy**

***If you miss a weekly meeting, you will be counted for one hour’s absence***

***If you do not write a weekly report, you will be counted for one hour’s absence***

***If you do not provide adequate evidence of 5 hours’ work, you will be counted for that amount of time as absent.***