



**THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO**

**ENGLISH LANGUAGE  
INSTITUTE**

## **Media English: Learning Slang, Idioms, and Cultural Expressions**

### **Course Description:**

Media English: Learning Slang, Idioms, and Cultural Expressions focuses on improving English language skills by studying how English is used in context across a variety of media sources like graphic novels, movies, and T.V. shows. Since characters in these types of media use everyday spoken style English that has features like, slang, idioms, phrasal verbs, and specific cultural contexts, the class will read a graphic novel (provided), watch a movie, and episodes from popular T.V. series while studying the English used and how to apply these spoken features to one's own English. The class will also look at scripts from movies and T.V. shows to study how intonation and tone play a role in conveying meaning through spoken language.

### **Student Learning Outcomes:**

At the end of the course, students will be able to:

- Understand how to apply the spoken English used in various media and genres to their own language skills.
- Identify the differences in spoken English vs. written English.
- Identify and assess one's usage in the following areas:
  - a. slang
  - b. idioms
  - c. phrasal verbs
  - d. American cultural contexts
- Explain how intonation and tone play a role in expressing meaning.

### **Required Materials:**

Laptop or smartphone to access online Canvas course