Resources to Support Students Who are Non-native English Speakers

Language Diversity

UNO has increasing numbers of international students and domestic students whose first language may not be English. This contributes to the diversity in our classrooms and can also add to the complexity of teaching.

If you're wondering how to support linguistically diverse students, one of the most impactful things you can do is to refer them to the resources listed below.

1. UNO’s Language Lab (ASH 150)

The Language Lab is an academic and linguistic support service. Students can make an appointment where they will receive one-on-one support with:
- Practicing academic discussions and informal conversations.
- Developing vocabulary and reading strategies.
- Improving listening and grammar skills.

2. UNO’s Speech Center (ASH 185)

Speech Center consultants can provide an in-class workshop on presentations, reducing anxiety, or using PowerPoint. Faculty can also schedule a consultation to help craft assignments that provide clear expectations and assessment criteria. The Speech Center can support students by:
- Helping them understand assignment expectations.
- Discussing differences in cultural norms related to student presentations.
- Assisting in planning and practicing the delivery of an oral presentation.

3. UNO’s Writing Center (ASH 150)

Suggest students schedule an in-person or online consultation with a Writing Center consultant who can help students by:
- Clarifying unfamiliar language or jargon in assignment directions.
- Reading a draft aloud and discussing how it may be improved.
- Assisting with academic citations (APA, MLA, Chicago, etc.).

4. Yuja Panorama (Canvas)

This powerful accessibility tool is already integrated into UNO Canvas courses. Students can use the tool to help them with:
- Converting documents into alternative formats such as podcasts and gradient or immersive readers.
- Translating documents or text on a page to multiple languages.
- Personalizing their learning experiences to meet individual needs and preferences.