Some groups will be held online via Zoom, and some groups will be held in person. If you plan to attend our online sessions, high speed internet and the use of a laptop, desktop computer or tablet is recommended for the best experience. Parking may be available during in person groups for those who need it.

http://www.bu.edu/aphasiacenter
aphasiacenter@bu.edu
(617) 353-0197

Registration Deadline: Friday, January 5th, 2024
The Aphasia Resource Center is pleased to announce the Spring 2024 Program. This semester we offer both in person and online sessions.

**Enrollment**
You may request enrollment by completing the separate registration form. If you are new to groups, please see the section “New Referrals” below.

- Forms can be completed and sent by email to aphasiacenter@bu.edu
- You may also register by phone at (617) 353 - 0197
  - Please leave a message with your name, contact information and group selection(s).

**Requirements for Participation**
For online participation, group members must have access to Zoom with video and audio, as well as access to email.

**Deadline**
Registration request forms MUST be received by **Friday, January 5, 2024** to receive full consideration.

**Placement and Confirmation**
Group enrollment numbers will be strictly limited to preserve the quality of the treatment, and to maintain safety regulations. Requests will be reviewed to determine appropriateness of each individual for the requested group(s). Registration requests received after the deadline will be assigned on a first come, first served basis while space is available.

If you wish to enroll in more than one group, please **RANK** the groups according to your preference. Please also indicate the **TOTAL** number of groups you would like to take. Places will be assigned based on your preference.

We encourage you to request as many groups as you wish; however, registration requests are not a guarantee of enrollment. You will receive confirmation of enrollment with your group placement no later than **Monday, January 22, 2024**. If you do not receive a confirmation, please contact the center.

**New Referrals**
To help us provide the best possible care, we ask that all new referrals send a recent evaluation report from another facility along with your application.

**Faculty**
Elizabeth Hoover, PhD., CCC-SLP, BC-ANCDS  
Anne Carney, M.S., CCC-SLP  
Jerome Kaplan, M.A., CCC-SLP  
Laura Kasparian, M.S., CCC-SLP  
Elisabeth Russell, M.S., CCC-SLP

**Note about Online and In Person Groups**
Information about joining online groups with Zoom will be shared after group confirmations have been sent out.
Please note that in person groups and online groups will be held separately. For example, you may not attend a specified in person group online.

Descriptions below will indicate if the group will be held in person or online.

**Parking**
If you require parking close to the building, please indicate this on your registration form with the make and model of your car as well as your license plate number.

*Limited space is available* in our new parking area located behind the building. Instruction on how to access the lot will be sent via email prior to the start of the program. Otherwise, there is a drop off location at the front of our building at 635 Commonwealth Avenue as well as metered parking along Commonwealth Ave.
**Monday Morning Groups**

**Toastmasters**
This group will focus on communicating effectively when speaking in groups. It is modeled after Toastmasters International, whose philosophy is to learn by doing in a supportive environment. Group Members will share stories and experiences on a variety of topics and will provide feedback to each other. Specific strategies in areas such as organization, eye contact, use of notes, and visual materials will be provided. The goal is to enable the storyteller/speaker to more effectively communicate in group speaking situations.

**Meeting time:** Mondays, 10:30–11:45 am  
**Faculty:** Jerry Kaplan

**Fiction Book Club (morning)**
This group meets to discuss the content and ideas generated through reading a text. The “book” is ~300 pages in length, and is chosen by the group members from a choice of 4-5 offered texts. Group members may read the text or listen to an audio version.

**Meeting time:** Mondays, 10:30–11:45 am  
**Faculty:** Liz Hoover

**Monday Afternoon Groups**

**Total Conversation**
"Total Conversation" Group is a combination of past "Conversation" and "Total Communication" Groups. This group addresses functional communication through talking, writing, drawing, and forms of nonverbal communication such as gesture and pantomime. Music, poetry, and other forms of creative expression will also be encouraged. This Group will encourage participants with diverse types and severities of aphasia to exchange ideas and develop connections through all forms of communication.

**Meeting time:** Mondays, 1:00 – 2:15 pm  
**Faculty:** Jerry Kaplan

**Fiction Book Club**
This group meets to discuss the content and ideas generated through reading a text. The “book” is ~300 pages in length and is chosen by the group members from a choice of 4-5 offered texts. Group members may read the text or listen to an audio version.

**Meeting time:** Mondays, 1:00 – 2:15 pm  
**Faculty:** Laura Kasparian
**Wednesday Morning Groups**

**Performing Arts Group**

Do you love to sing or play an instrument? Enjoy reading poetry? Do you like to dance? Are you theatrical? Come join us as we work weekly to practice and develop our individual and group talents. Everyone has some talent. We'll help you find it. Group members will put on a show at the end of the semester for the aphasia community group.

**Meeting time:** Wednesdays, 10:30–11:45 am  
**Faculty:** Liz Hoover

**Non-Fiction Book Club**

This version of book club will meet to discuss the content and themes from a non-fiction text. The book will be selected by the group members from several current best-seller choices. Group members may read the text or listen to an audio version.

**Meeting time:** Wednesdays, 10:30–11:45 am  
**Faculty:** Elisabeth Russell

**Movies**

This group will feature both classic and contemporary movies and documentaries, including silent movies. Participants will receive links to movies and documentaries to watch at home. During each session, we will watch specific scenes and discuss the plot, characters, relationships, and other aspects of the movie. Movie suggestions from group members are encouraged.

**Meeting time:** Wednesdays, 10:30–11:45 am  
**Faculty:** Jerry Kaplan

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**Wednesday Afternoon Groups**

**Language Games**

This group will focus on different aspects of language (naming, discourse, gestures, reading and writing) through involvement in different types of age-appropriate games. Games will be chosen on a weekly basis by group consensus to facilitate group members’ communication goals. Group members will also be encouraged to suggest and teach favorite games.

**Meeting time:** Wednesdays, 1:00–2:15 pm  
**Faculty:** Elisabeth Russell
Music Appreciation

The Music Appreciation Group, formerly the Chorus Group, will gather via Zoom Video to discuss, listen to, and perform songs from a variety of genres. Group members will be encouraged to share favorite songs, music videos, perform on their own musical instruments and in group singing.

**Meeting time:** Wednesdays, 1:00 – 2:15 pm

**Faculty:** Jerry Kaplan

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Thursday Morning Groups

**Cooking Group**

Would you like to be more active in meal preparation, gain more independence in the kitchen or learn new healthy recipes? If yes, join us for an aphasia friendly “hands-on” cooking group. Group members will work with speech therapy, occupational therapy, and nutrition students to follow recipes, use adaptive cooking tools/strategies and discuss health promoting modifications. Group members will also participate in conversations about healthy eating at home and while dining out. **Please note that this group will take place in-person.**

**Meeting time:** Thursdays, 11–12:15* am

**Faculty:** Anne Carney

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**Toastmasters**

This group will focus on communicating effectively when speaking in groups. It is modeled after Toastmasters International, whose philosophy is to learn by doing in a supportive environment. Group Members will share stories and experiences on a variety of topics and will provide feedback to each other. Specific strategies in areas such as organization, eye contact, use of notes, and visual materials will be provided. The goal is to enable the storyteller/speaker to more effectively communicate in group speaking situations.

**Meeting time:** Thursdays, 11:30 –11:45 am

**Faculty:** Elisabeth Russell
Thursday Afternoon Groups

**Community Connection**

This group uses structured activities to focus conversation around central themes or ideas and will end with a community-focused activity. In each session, we will work hierarchically through the chosen theme allowing group members to build on vocabulary and increase their communicative effectiveness. In the last week, depending on the current social distancing restrictions, we will plan an event to celebrate the theme for the semester. This may include a virtual community visit, such as a virtual tour of a local museum, or some other “safe” celebration of the theme. Our aim is to keep each session meaningful and interesting, creating opportunities to share ideas, experiences and have fun.

**Meeting time:** Thursdays, 1:00 – 2:15 pm  
**Faculty:** Elisabeth Russell

**Talk of the Town!**

Many of us enjoy reading or watching the news. In this group, we will practice sharing thoughts and ideas as we discuss current events taking place locally as well as around the world. Together, we will read and/or watch news articles and discuss these current events. Each meeting, we will also focus a portion of the discussion on at least one positive news story. Participants should understand spoken or written language at a paragraph level.

**Meeting time:** Thursdays, 1:00 – 2:15 pm  
**Faculty:** Anne Carney
# Group Meeting Dates

## Monday Groups Meeting Dates

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Meeting Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>February 5 (First day of Monday groups)</td>
<td>March 25</td>
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<td>February 12</td>
<td>April 1</td>
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<tr>
<td>No class February 19: Presidents Day</td>
<td>April 8</td>
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<tr>
<td>February 26</td>
<td>No Class April 15: Patriot’s Day</td>
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<td>March 4</td>
<td>April 22</td>
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<tr>
<td>No Class March 11: Spring Break</td>
<td>April 29</td>
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<td>March 18</td>
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## Wednesday Groups Meeting Dates

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
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<tr>
<td>February 7 (First day of Wednesday groups)</td>
<td>March 20</td>
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<td>February 14</td>
<td>March 27</td>
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<td>February 21</td>
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<td>February 28</td>
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<td>March 6</td>
<td>April 17</td>
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<tr>
<td>No Class March 13: Spring Break</td>
<td>April 24</td>
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## Thursday Groups Meeting Dates

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<th>Date</th>
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<tr>
<td>February 8 (First day of Thursday groups)</td>
<td>March 21</td>
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<td>February 15</td>
<td>March 28</td>
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<td>February 22</td>
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<td>March 7</td>
<td>April 18</td>
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<td>No Class March 14: Spring Break</td>
<td>April 25</td>
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*Note: Spring Break dates are italicized.*
Now in its 34th year, the Aphasia Community Group provides education, support, socialization, and resources for those whose lives have been touched by aphasia and related disorders.

Presentations on treatment, recreation, community and family support are offered by group members and guests. In the last portion of each session, the group is divided into smaller "breakout" sessions to share ideas, feelings, and concerns.

This semester, we will resume two in-person Aphasia Community Group meetings. We will send email announcements about these online sessions with the zoom link information.

**Faculty:** Jerry Kaplan

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<th>Saturday Meeting Dates</th>
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<tr>
<td>January 20</td>
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<td>May 4</td>
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** In person

Jan 20
Feb 10
Feb 24
March 23**
April 6
April 20**
May 4