



Aphasia Resource Center



Spring Session 2026

February 2, 2026 – April 30, 2026

*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: Monday, January 5th, 2026

Registration

The **Aphasia Resource Center** is pleased to announce the Spring 2026 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. In compliance with Massachusetts law, all participants in the **weekly treatment groups** must reside and join from **within Massachusetts state lines** due to the licensure held by our ARC Faculty.

Deadline

Registration request forms **MUST** be received by **Monday, January 5, 2026**, 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 by **Tuesday, January 20, 2026**. 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

Sarah Vitale, 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 Groups

Monday Morning Groups

Toastmasters

Online

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: Jerome Kaplan

Conversation Group

In person

This group will address functional communication through talking, gesturing, drawing, and writing. Drawing upon our experiences and interests, participants will practice using effective strategies to exchange ideas and develop connections through communication. This group will also feature exercises in poetry writing, as poetry can be a very effective means of expression with aphasia.

Meeting time: Mondays, 10:30 – 11:45 am

Faculty: Sarah Vitale

Monday Afternoon Groups

StoryTelling

Online

We all have stories to share. Aphasia should not be a barrier to sharing them. The Storytelling Group is for people who want to share personal stories. You are welcome to have a "co-storyteller" assist you. Your motivation, enthusiasm, and commitment are the essentials to successful storytelling. Join us!

Meeting time: Mondays, 1:00 – 2:15 pm

Faculty: Jerome Kaplan

Total Conversation

In person

"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: Sarah Vitale

Wednesday Groups

Wednesday Morning Groups

Movies

Online

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: Elisabeth Russell

Fiction Book Club

Online

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: Wednesdays, 10:30–11:45 am

Faculty: Elizabeth Hoover

Non- Fiction Book Club

In person

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: Anne Carney

Wednesday Afternoon Groups

Music Appreciation

Online

The Music Appreciation Group will gather via Zoom Video to listen to and discuss songs from a variety of genres and time periods. Participants will be encouraged to share favorite songs or music videos and reflect on how this piece evokes different emotions and memories. Each week we will select music related to a specific concept or prompt to allow a mix of genres each session.

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

Faculty: Anne Carney

Thursday Groups

Thursday Morning Group

Community Connection

In person

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, we will plan an event to celebrate the theme for the semester. Our aim is to keep each session meaningful and interesting, creating opportunities to share ideas, experiences and have fun.

Meeting time: Thursdays, 10:30 – 11:45 am

Faculty: Anne Carney

Thursday Afternoon Groups

Language Games

In person

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: Thursdays, 1:00–2:15 pm

Faculty: Elisabeth Russell

Talk of the Town!

Online

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

OT Group

Care-partner Wellbeing Group

In person

This group for Care-partners takes inspiration from the PERMA Theory of Wellbeing. Care-partners will explore the PERMA building blocks-- positive emotion, engagement, relationships, meaning, and accomplishment, in addition to other positive psychology strategies, to support overall wellbeing while navigating the challenges of caregiving. This group will be facilitated by an Occupational Therapy doctoral student with consultation from ARC faculty.

Meeting time: Monday (or Thursday), 1:00 – 2:15 pm

Faculty: OT Faculty

Group Meeting Dates

Monday Groups Meeting Dates

February 2 (<i>First day of Monday groups</i>)	March 23
February 9	March 30
No class February 16: Presidents Day	April 6
February 23	April 13
March 2	No Class April 20: Patriots Day
No class March 9: Spring Break	April 27
March 16	

Wednesday Groups Meeting Dates

February 4 (<i>First day of Wednesday groups</i>)	March 18
February 11	March 25
February 18	April 1
February 25	April 8
March 4	April 15
No Class March 11: Spring Break	April 22

Thursday Groups Meeting Dates

February 5 (<i>First day of Thursday groups</i>)	March 19
February 12	March 26
February 19	April 2
February 26	April 9
March 5	April 16
No Class March 12: Spring Break	April 23

Aphasia Community Group

Saturday Group

Now in its 36th 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.

Faculty: Jerome Kaplan

Saturday Meeting Dates	
Jan 10, 24	Zoom 11-12:30
Feb 7, 21	Zoom 11-12:30
Mar 7, 21	Zoom 11-12:30
Apr 11, 25	Zoom 11-12:30
May 16, 30	Zoom 11-12:30















Tuesday Family Support Group

with Celina Mark

The **Family Support Group** with Celina Mark is an ongoing support group which meets online on Tuesdays at 11am. Family members of loved ones living with aphasia meet to discuss concerns offer support to each other. Those who are interested should contact Celina directly: shella.correemark@gmail.com

Aphasia Resource Center

Spring 2026

Times	Monday	Wednesday	Thursday	Saturday
10:30am-11:45 am	 <p>Toastmasters (Jerome Kaplan) Online</p>  <p>Conversation (Sarah Vitale) In Person</p>	 <p>Movies (Elisabeth Russell) Online</p>  <p>Non-Fiction Book Club (Anne) In Person</p>  <p>Fiction Book Club (Liz Hoover) Online</p>	 <p>Community Connection (Anne) In Person</p>	<p>Aphasia Community Group</p>  <p>Jan 10, 24 Feb 7, 21 Mar 7, 21 Apr 11, 25 May 16, 30</p>
11:45am-1:00 pm	 <p>Lunch Break</p>			
1:00pm-2:15 pm	 <p>Storytelling (Jerome Kaplan) Online</p>  <p>Total Conversation (Sarah Vitale) In Person</p>	 <p>Music Appreciation (Anne Carney) Online</p>	 <p>Language Games (Elisabeth Russell) In Person</p>  <p>Talk of the Town! (Anne Carney) Online</p>  <p>Care-Partner Wellbeing (OT Faculty) In Person</p>	