



Center for English Language & Orientation  
Programs

CELOP

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# Student Handbook

Spring 2021

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# CELOP Mission Statement

The Boston University Center for English Language & Orientation Programs (CELOP) empowers international students and professionals to succeed in their academic and professional lives through innovative, high-quality teaching of English language and cultural competence.

CELOP's distinguished, vastly experienced faculty and staff place the needs of students first, reflecting a highly collaborative, service-oriented approach that values encouragement and mutual respect. Faculty and staff often define best practices among Intensive English Programs. That is why with over 45 years of proven success in student satisfaction and outcomes, the Center remains a model for the advancement of professional standards and quality instruction in the U.S. and around the world.

CELOP is a vibrant, international learning community emblematic of the globally renowned Boston University brand. The Center is dedicated to upholding Boston University's long-standing commitment to international education and to the promotion of global understanding and goodwill.

## Complaints Against Accredited Programs and Institutions

Accredited programs and institutions are expected to continue to meet the CEA Standards during the term of accreditation. A student, faculty or staff member, as well as others outside the program or institution who may have knowledge of an alleged failure by an accredited program or institution to maintain the standards may file a complaint with CEA. Such a complaint must be filed in writing with the name, address and telephone number of the complainant on a separate page, and shall identify the specific standard(s) allegedly violated as well as a description of how the program or institution has failed to comply with it.

Complaints may be filed at any time.

CEA will investigate complaints according to the procedures outlined in the [CEA Policies and Procedures](#).

# 1 Important Dates ~ Spring 2021

<b>JANUARY</b>	
January 22	Check in (all students) - Last day to pay tuition bill - Last day for program change requests
January 25	Core classes begin
January 25	Elective classes begin
<b>FEBRUARY</b>	
February 5	Last day to submit medical insurance waiver
February 15	<b>President's Day</b> (Holiday) - No classes. CELOP closed.
<b>MARCH</b>	
March 5	End of Term 1
March 8	Term 2 Begins
March 18	<b>BU Wellness Day.</b> No Classes
March 31	<b>BU Wellness Day.</b> No Classes
<b>APRIL</b>	
April 16	Last day of classes

\* Due to the pandemic, changes to these dates may be necessary during the semester and will be communicated as soon as possible.

# 2

## Core and Elective Classes

### *Frequently Asked Questions*

#### **What are “core” classes?**

All regular full-time CELOP students are assigned to **two** core classes. Core classes:

- are 6 weeks long. 15 or 20 hour students attending a 12-week semester will take 2 core courses in the 1st half, and then 2 core courses in the 2nd half of the semester.
- are divided by skills: Reading & Writing and Speaking & Listening.
- meet every morning, Monday through Friday, from approximately 8:00 to 12:00 on Monday, Wednesday, Friday, and 10:30 to 12:00 on Tuesday, Thursday (although each skill class may not meet “in person” every day).

#### **What are “elective classes” (or “electives”)?**

- specialized courses that full-time students take in addition to their morning core classes.
- Intensive 20 students take one elective class.
- Provide additional instruction in a specific content area while practicing skills.
- Each elective runs for five hours a week, on Tuesday, Thursday from 8:00 to 10:30.

NOTE: Elective class topics will change from semester to semester.

When you check in at CELOP, you will receive more detailed information about available elective classes, then make your choices.

# 3 Levels and Class Placement

## *Frequently Asked Questions*

### **How many levels are there at CELOP?**

Starting in Summer 2020, there are 4 levels, called 'pools', at CELOP, from beginning to advanced, for all classes:

- 1 beginning
- 2 intermediate
- 3 high intermediate
- 4 advanced

These pools apply to both core classes and elective classes.

### **How does CELOP place students?**

- New students take an online placement test before they arrive. (If you did not take the test before you arrived, you will take it at check-in.) The test evaluates all four skills – reading, listening, speaking, and writing. Students are then placed in core classes based on their results on the online test.
- Continuing students also take the placement test. They are placed in core classes based on their successful completion of their previous classes plus their results on the online test. See section 13 (Assessment & Advancement) for more information.
- Students may be in different pools for the two core classes.
- For all students, elective class pool depends on their core class pools.

### **I was in a Pool 3 class last semester; this semester I am in Pool 3 again. Does this mean my English has not improved?**

- No. Many students will take more than one semester to advance to the next pool. It is a big step to progress from 'intermediate' to 'high intermediate' to 'advanced'.

### **Can I change my core class?**

- If you are concerned about your core placement, speak with your teacher during the first three days of class.
- Any change of core class must be made by teacher recommendation only.
- Any change of core class must be made by the third day of class.

### **Can I change my elective class?**

- By Friday of the first week of your program, you may request a change to your elective class. You will be moved to a new class if there is space available.

# 4 CELOP Levels of Instruction

## **Pool 1 – Beginning**

Students who have successfully completed Pool 1 can understand simple, everyday speech and conversations when the language is simplified, delivered slowly, and clearly articulated. They can interact in short social exchanges, talking about personal and general social matters using basic phrases and sentences. They can understand simple, adapted written texts, and write a short, simple passage, connecting ideas from sentence to sentence.

## **Pool 2 – Intermediate**

Students who have successfully completed Pool 2 can understand social conversations and academic discussions, presentations and narration when the language is adapted and clearly articulated, and delivered at slow to moderate speed. They can interact in conversations and discussions, and narrate a story or experience. They can understand adapted written texts up to several pages in length, and write a short, simple paragraph.

## **Pool 3 – High Intermediate**

Students who have successfully completed Pool 3 can understand social conversations, academic/professional discussions, presentations and narrations of moderate complexity, when the language is delivered at moderate speed. They can interact in conversations and discussions, explaining and supporting personal views, giving clear, detailed descriptions and explanations. They can understand written texts of medium length and moderate complexity in a limited range of styles. They can write a clear, adequately developed essay.

## **Pool 4 – Advanced**

Students who have successfully completed Pool 4 can understand complex social conversations, academic/professional conversations, and narration in a variety of settings when the language is delivered at a natural pace. They can interact skillfully in conversations and discussions, explaining and supporting personal views, giving clear, detailed descriptions, explanations, and analyses, and responding appropriately to and building on others' contributions. They can speak competently on a variety of concrete and abstract topics with a considerable degree of complexity. They can understand with ease lengthy, complex texts written in a wide range of styles, and they can write a clear, well-organized, and fully developed essay.

# 5 Performance & Attendance

## *Frequently Asked Questions*

### **How much homework will I have to do?**

- In general, you should expect about 1 hour of homework for each core and elective class meeting. This means the Intensive 20 program has about 7 hours of homework per week.

### **How many classes do I have to attend?**

- You are expected to attend 100% of your classes. Occasionally you may not be able to attend because of illness, religious observance, or another serious reason. If you miss more than **15%** of your classes for any reason, you will not meet the CELOP attendance requirement. See section 9 (CELOP Attendance Requirements) for more information.

### **If I must be absent, what should I do?**

- If you know in advance that you need to miss class, contact your teacher to explain why you need to be absent. If you are sick or have an emergency, contact your teacher by e-mail as soon as possible. You will still be marked absent and will still need to make up missed work, but your teacher needs to know why you are absent.

### **Can I get an excused absence?**

- In most cases, if you are not in class, you will be marked absent. An exception is made if a student requests to make up work in order to be able to observe a religious holiday (see Policy on Religious Observance, section 9). If you have an exceptional reason for needing to miss class for an extended period of time, please speak with both your teacher and the Academic Programs Manager as soon as you become aware of the issue.

### **Will I get a transcript or evaluation from CELOP?**

- Your teacher will give you a final evaluation at the end of each course. Because CELOP is a non-credit program, we do not give official transcripts, with grades and credits.

# 6 US Classroom Culture

## Understanding the US Classroom

In many countries, classroom activity is focused on the teacher. Most of the learning takes place through lectures and the instructor is considered the expert source of knowledge who should clarify and interpret all texts. In these settings, the classroom is a very formal place in which teachers are addressed by their title and silence is the most common way to demonstrate respect. Student participation is rarely encouraged.

In US classrooms, the approach is student centered. While teachers may sometimes lecture, classroom discussions are often led by students. The atmosphere is relatively informal and teachers often encourage students to address them by their first name. Students are encouraged to ask questions and express their own opinions and this participation often plays a significant role in the evaluation process.

Finally, in many countries, evaluation is based almost exclusively on exam scores. In the US classroom however, student evaluation will include other criteria such as completion of homework, class participation, attendance, writing assignments, personal reflections and group projects.

## Interacting with Faculty and Classmates

**Communication:** US communication styles tend to be quite direct. A conversation is often viewed as a quest for knowledge. As a result, it is expected that if a student does not understand something, he or she should ask a question or notify the teacher as soon as possible that help or clarification is needed. Your teachers will often make themselves available before or after class in addition to maintaining regular office hours during which you can visit them and ask questions.

**Classroom Etiquette:** Students and faculty often dress casually for class and it is not unusual for faculty to walk around the classroom while talking or to sit on the edge of a desk. Comfortable dress and relaxed posture should not, however, be seen as a sign of lenient expectations or standards of performance. Some examples of expected behavior include:

- Arrive at class on time.
- Stay awake. Sleeping is not acceptable in an American classroom.
- Do not use your cell phone unless given permission by your instructor.
- Ask questions and participate!
- Be respectful toward your fellow classmates.

# 7 If I have a question...

If you have a question about your ...	You can contact ...
Core class	Your core class teacher*
Elective class	Your elective class teacher*
Elective class choice	Standard Program Coordinator - jbeaton@bu.edu
Program Changes	Admissions (front desk) or Academic Program Manager, Room 220
General Attendance	Academic Program Manager, Room 220
Missing a class	Your teacher
Teacher or another student in your class	Your teacher*
Boston University Housing	Your Resident Assistant (RA) in your dormitory**
Roommate(s)	Your Resident Assistant (RA) in your dormitory**
Dining Plan	Admissions (front desk) or Student Life Coordinator
Health / feeling sick	Student Health Services 881 Commonwealth Avenue, Left Door
Mood / feeling stressed or upset	Student Health Services Behavioral Medicine 881 Commonwealth Avenue, Left Door
Tuition or Medical Insurance	Admissions, Front Desk
Immigration Status / I-20	Foreign Student Advisor, office 244
Application to college or university	Advising Team at celopad@bu.edu
Withdrawing (leaving your program early)	Admissions (front desk)
Computer / Laptop, BU Login, Wi-Fi	Technology support, office 253

\*If you have already talked with your teacher and need to speak to someone else, you can contact the Standard Program Coordinator at jbeaton@bu.edu.

\*\* If you have already talked with your RA and need to speak to someone else, you can see either Admissions or the Student Life Coordinator, office 219.

If you have a serious complaint against a CELOP/BU student or employee, you may request a meeting with the Associate Director or the Managing Director.

# 8

## 12-Week Programs

	INTENSIVE 20	PART- TIME 15	PART- TIME 5	ENGLISH PLUS CREDIT
<b>Program Code</b>	EN020	EN081	EN083	EN060
<b>Hours per Week</b>	20	15	5	15
<b>Courses</b>	Core AND 1 Elective	Core Only	1 Elective	Core + One BU course

Electives meet on Tuesday and Thursday.  
There are no afternoon classes.

## Weekly Class Schedule

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Reading & Writing 8:00 – 10:00	Elective Class 8:00 – 10:30	Reading & Writing 8:00 – 10:00	Elective Class 8:00 – 10:30	Reading & Writing 8:00 – 10:00
Speaking & Listening 10:00 – 12:00	Reading & Writing 10:30 – 12:00	Speaking & Listening 10:00 – 12:00	Reading & Writing 10:30 – 12:00	Speaking & Listening 10:00 – 12:00

# 9

## Student Attendance Requirements

CELOP, Boston University's Center for English Language and Orientation Programs, requires all students to follow our Student Attendance Policy.

### Overview:

- Attendance is counted by hours.
- Attendance in all courses is combined for total program attendance.
- Attendance is reported weekly and warnings will be given beginning in week two.
- Most absences, regardless of reason, will be counted. You should always let your instructors know the reason for your absence. Boston University makes an exception for observance of religious holidays – see Policy on Religious Observance below.\*
- Late arrival to class also counts as absence – see Lateness Policy on the next page.
- If you miss 15% or more of the total program hours, you will **not** receive a certificate.
- If you do not meet the attendance requirement, you will receive verbal and written warnings.

### Warnings if your total attendance is under 85%:

- 1<sup>st</sup> time – Warning Email
- 2<sup>nd</sup> time – Verbal Warning / Placed on Watch List
- 3<sup>rd</sup> time – Written Warning / Placed on Probation
- Continued lack of improvement will result in a Notice of Expulsion

If you receive a warning, you need to show significant improvement in attendance and raise your overall program attendance percentage over 85% as soon as possible. Students who are under 85% at the end of their program and wish to continue at CELOP, may be considered on probationary status dependent on the approval of CELOP administration with the support of faculty. If you are on probation, you must regularly check in with the Academic Programs Manager.

If you receive the Final Written Warning (Notice of Expulsion) you can appeal the decision with a written request and documentation to support a change in the decision. If you do not appeal or your appeal is denied, you will be expelled. CELOP reserves the right to expel or suspend a student for poor attendance and lack of academic progress at any time. If you are expelled for poor attendance or lack of academic progress, your enrollment will be cancelled without refund. CELOP may also terminate your I-20 for Unauthorized Drop Below a Full Course of Study.

\* Policy on Religious Observance: Massachusetts law and Boston University policy require faculty and staff to accommodate students who are absent due to religious observance. This means that we must provide you with a reasonable opportunity to make up a test, or study requirement missed because of the religious observance, if such accommodation does not create an unreasonable burden. Boston University's Policy on Religious Observance gives students the right to miss class and make up the work for religious reasons. Students are required to inform instructors, in writing, of conflicts with the course schedule and requirements due to their religious observance as early as possible in the semester, and no later than one week before the conflict, so that accommodations can be made.

# 10 Student Lateness Policy

(Part of CELOP Student Attendance Requirements)

You are expected to be on time to all your CELOP classes, including after the break. If you are late, you miss information which you need to take full advantage of your class. We know that sometimes there are unavoidable delays, and that everyone is a little late sometimes (including teachers). This policy is intended to encourage you to get to class on time every day, and—if you must occasionally be late—to arrive as early as possible.

## Lateness = Absence

- If you arrive late to class, you will be marked late. Three times late = 1 hour absent.
- If you arrive more than 10 minutes late, you will be marked late and ALSO be marked absent for the total minutes you have missed

### EXAMPLE:

Student A: 10 minutes late  
7 minutes late  
8 minutes late

Three times late = 1 hour absent

**TOTAL = 1 hour absent**

Student B: 20 minutes late  
40 minutes late  
30 minutes late

Three times late = 1 hour

20+40+30 minutes = 1.5 hours

**TOTAL = 2.5 hours absent**

## Late Arrival Etiquette

- If you do have to arrive late to class, please just enter the room quietly and take a seat
- If you arrive during an activity such as an audio or videotape or an oral presentation, your teacher may ask you to wait outside the room until the activity is over. (You will not be marked absent while you wait.)

## Repeated Lateness

- If you are repeatedly late, your teacher may put you on probation for lateness
- If you are on probation for lateness and you continue to arrive late, you can be asked to wait until after the class. You will be marked absent while you wait.

# 11 Final Exam Policy

All CELOP Core courses (Reading & Writing and Speaking & Listening) are required to hold Final Exams within the final three meetings of each course.

CELOP Elective courses may hold midterm or final exams at the discretion of the course instructor. Absence from an elective course final and subsequent exam make-up is at the discretion of the instructor.

## **Absence from a Core Final Exam**

If a student is unable to take a final exam at the officially scheduled time, they must contact the Associate Director for Academic Programs as soon as possible, preferably in advance of the final exam or within one business day from when the final exam is given. In consultation with the instructor teaching the class, the Associate Director for Academic Programs may excuse the absence from the exam and allow a make-up exam to be given if the student has experienced a sudden incapacitating illness or other emergency. The Associate Director may ask for documentation from the student to support the excuse. The Associate Director will **not** excuse absences from a final exam because of travel plans, interviews, participation in a family event, competition, or other personal reasons.

If the absence is excused, the instructor will work with the student to arrange a time to retake the exam. However, if the student is unable to take the exam during the final week of the course or if the instructor is not able to turn in a grade when grades are due, then the instructor will issue an "I" instead of a final grade. The "I" indicates that the student was absent from the final exam. The student will have until the end of the week following the end of the course to complete the final exam.

If the student does not contact the Associate Director after missing a final exam, or the Associate Director does not excuse the student's absence from the final exam, then zero points are given for the exam and the final grade for the course will be calculated using a zero for the final exam score.

**Being excused for missing a final exam presumes that the student is in good standing in the class and that the student has been attending and completing work as assigned.** If the student has excessive absences or a failing grade in the class going into the final exam, the instructor will submit an F instead of an I.

# 12 Academic Conduct Code

*At a university in the United States, there are certain academic policies that all students are expected to follow (an academic conduct code). CELOP's Academic Conduct Code is based on Boston University's Academic Conduct Code:*

*<http://www.bu.edu/academics/policies/academic-conduct-code/>*

## **Violations of CELOP's Academic Conduct Code include:**

- Cheating on a test by copying answers from a classmate, books, notes, or a phone.
- Plagiarism
  - Using someone else's words or work as your own.
  - Using someone else's ideas without giving them credit.
  - Changing someone else's words without giving them credit.
- Inventing facts or data.
- Telling or receiving the answers to a test in advance.
- Talking on or using your cell phone during a test.
- Allowing someone to use your work as their own.
- Using fake documents or ID.
- Turning in the same material in more than one course without permission.
- Not sitting in an assigned seat during an exam.
- Lying to teachers or to the Academic Conduct Board.

*If students violate this code, they may be dismissed from the program.*

## Suspension and Dismissal Policy

In accordance with Boston University policies, CELOP reserves the right to suspend or dismiss any student for the following reasons:

- Inappropriate behavior.
- Failure to make academic progress.
- Consistent failure to meet CELOP student responsibilities.
- For Fall 2020, students may also be dismissed from the university without a refund for being in violation of COVID-safety restrictions and guidelines.

# 13 Assessment & Advancement

## Assessment

Teachers use various forms of assessment (class participation, homework, quizzes, tests, presentations) throughout each term to evaluate students' performance. On the final course evaluations for Reading & Writing, Speaking & Listening, and the elective, teachers describe how students have made progress toward the objectives of each course.

For additional assessment, continuing students will also take the online placement test before the beginning of their next semester.

## Advancement

CELOP core courses (Reading & Writing, and Speaking & Listening) are given in two 6-week terms, 1 and 2. A student who starts courses at the beginning of a semester will take Term 1 first. A student who starts courses in the middle of a semester will take Term 2 first. In order to advance from one pool to the next in a course, a student must

- successfully complete both 6-week terms of the pool
- on the placement test, show English skills that qualify them for the next pool

Because elective course pool corresponds to a student's placement in core courses, advancement to the next pool for electives will depend on advancement in the core courses.

# 14 Academic Progress Policy

As an academically focused IEP institution that is accredited by the Commission on English Language Program Accreditation, we have made a commitment to ensure that students who take our programs are making academic progress as they transition through our levels. CELOP requires special evaluation and permission for any student who requests to take ANY CELOP level more than two times. This policy holds CELOP accountable for students advancing and prevents students from remaining in the same level for other, non-academic, reasons.

This policy also ensures that CELOP is in compliance with U.S. government regulations that state that F-1 students must maintain their F-1 visa status and make “...normal progress toward completion of his or her educational objective.” Thus, to be eligible for a SEVIS/I-20 extension and to continue to the next available full-time program, CELOP’s Foreign Student Advisor/DSO must certify that the F-1 student has continually maintained their student visa status and that the delays to complete their educational objective at CELOP are caused by compelling academic reasons.

## CELOP Policy

A student who requests to take ANY CELOP level more than two times will require special evaluation and written permission from CELOP’s Associate Director of Academic Programs before a SEVIS/I-20 extension will be approved. All of the below evaluation criteria will be considered as part of the evaluation process.

## Evaluation Criteria

### **Attendance**

Students with 3 or more 6-week terms with a U for attendance will not be granted permission.

Students on Super-probation may only be granted permission one time.

### **Coursework (Pools 1-4)**

- Students failing to advance after three semesters may be granted permission to re-apply for one additional semester. Failing to advance after four semesters indicates a lack of progress, and CELOP will dismiss the student for lack of academic progress.
  - Advancement criteria
    - 70% or greater in both sections A & B for each skill in pool 1-3
    - 75% or greater in both sections A & B for each skill in pool 4

### **Coursework (Pool 4)**

- Students who receive passing scores (75% or greater) in all Pool 4 courses, may take Pool 4 no more than three full semesters. After three semesters, a student should be academically prepared for their next step, and they cannot return unless they receive special permission based on his/her circumstances.

# 15 Applying for university admission? (undergraduate or graduate)

CELOP's Academic Advisors will be available to help students in select programs (Intensive 12 and 6 Week, Part-Time 12-Week 15 Hours, Part-Time 6-Week, and English Plus Credit) explore the most appropriate choices for their college/university studies. The academic advisor will guide students through the application process, provide resources for essay writing and testing and help students make informed decisions.

## **Step 1: Meet with CELOP Academic Advisor to discuss...**

- Your major/field of study
- Schools that you want to apply to
- When you want to start your program
- Tests required
- Official documents required (transcripts, recommendations)
- Application essay (undergraduate) or statement of purpose (graduate)

## **Step 2: Work on your application(s)**

- Register for tests and obtain official score reports
- Contact recommenders and obtain official transcripts
- Write application essay (undergraduate) or statement of purpose (graduate)

## **Step 3: Submit online applications & all required documents by the application deadlines**



# 16 Navigating CELOP

As some students return to campus this Fall, CELOP will look a little different. In an effort to create the safest environment for all, CELOP has put a number of new regulations into place. Please review these procedures carefully before your arrival at CELOP.

## Arrival at CELOP:

- Students will arrive at the St. Paul Street entrance and enter the first lobby.
- We encourage all students to use the stairwell to the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor to access CELOP.
- Before entering CELOP, be sure to have your QR badge code ready to display.
- Sanitize hands before entering the double doors on your right. There will be a sign that says “Enter” and one that says “Exit” on the double doors. Proceed toward the enter side
- A staff member will view your badge before allowing you to enter.

## While at CELOP:

- Once you are cleared to enter, move to the left and take your first right down the classroom hallways.
- All hallways are marked with arrows on the floor and signs on the walls indicating which direction you should be traveling.
- Once you enter your classroom please remove a cleaning wipe from the dispensary by the classroom entrance and wipe down your desk. Throw the cleaning wipe in the garbage located on the bottom half of the dispensary.
- While at CELOP – always wear your mask. If you want to take a sip of water, quickly pull down your mask, take a drink and then replace it.
- Restrooms will have a maximum capacity of 2 people.

## Coming and Going:

- CELOP will open to students at **7:45am**
- Students should leave CELOP no more than **15 minutes after the end of their class**.
- No student gatherings or loitering will be allowed at CELOP.
- CELOP prayer rooms will not be available this semester.

## Facial Coverings

Facial coverings and masks are an effective tool to prevent the potential spread of illnesses like COVID-19. In order to be effective, facial coverings and masks should have a snug fit and [ideally consist of two or three layers of material](#) (e.g. two-ply or three-ply). While fitted N-95 masks provide the best level of protection, these are in short supply and generally should be reserved for health care workers. Similar levels of protection can be achieved with surgical masks, three-ply masks, or two-ply masks consisting of a layer of polypropylene and cotton or two layers of cotton, and two layers of polypropylene. Gaiters, bandanas, neck fleeces, scarves and masks with exhalation valves should not be used given potentially increased risk of aerosol transmission associated with these types of facial coverings.

Make sure you wash your hands before donning a mask, place it over your nose and mouth, make sure it fits snugly so air is passing through the mask and not around the sides of the mask, and make sure you can breathe comfortably.

Be sure to have your mask ready when you arrive for class. CELOP is **not** responsible for supplying facial coverings.

# 17 CELOP Device Policy

CELOP students must have ONE of the following and bring it to class with them every day:

## Required Device Specifications

<b>Laptop Computer</b>	Windows 10 or above; Mac OSX 10.12 or above
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<b>Tablet</b>	Android, IOS, or Windows AND physical keyboard
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CELOP students must also have a headset (headphones and microphone).

The following are not acceptable devices:

- Chromebooks – too limited in the programs they can use.
- Smartphones – insufficient for research, writing, accessing course materials, or other tasks you will need to be able to do.

## Bring Your Own Device FAQ

### Why does CELOP require that students have a laptop or tablet during the COVID-19 pandemic?

University classes are using more technology resources, so it is important for students to have their own computers. All CELOP teachers are now using Blackboard and in many cases are having students use their laptops in class.

### Do other BU departments have the same requirement?

ALL departments at BU and most US universities and colleges require that students have their own laptops. Since one of our goals at CELOP is to help you prepare for further studies in the US, having a laptop and learning to use systems like Blackboard is part of that training.

### Can I buy a laptop when I arrive?

Certainly. BU has agreements with Apple and Lenovo so that students can buy their laptops through BU at a discount. You can find more information here: <http://www.bu.edu/tech/support/purchase/personal/shop/>. You also have many options for buying a laptop off-campus. Any computer you buy in the US will have an English-language keyboard with options for typing in other European languages, but there are software solutions for typing in languages that do not use the Roman alphabet.

### What if I can't bring a laptop or tablet with me?

You will need to purchase a laptop or tablet when you arrive. Because of the pandemic, CELOP has closed all computer labs, and we can no longer provide laptops or tablets for students to borrow.

### What if I can't or don't bring my own device?

It will be difficult or even impossible for you to participate in class. This will affect your ability to learn English, and it might even affect your grade.

### What software will I need?

You will need a web browser such as Google Chrome, Firefox, or Explorer. It is a good idea to install more than one browser on your computer as certain web sites work better with some browsers than with others. You will also need an office suite such as Microsoft Office or another program that will allow you to work with Word, Excel, and PowerPoint files, as these are the programs that are most often used by instructors to create course materials.

### **Can I get Microsoft Office for free from BU?**

Yes. Students who are enrolled in a BU program can download one copy of the latest version of Microsoft Office for Mac or Windows for their personal use. You have to be on campus or have a BU login and use a VPN connection to download the program.

### **Do I need any other equipment?**

You must have a pair of headphones with a microphone in order to participate in remote lectures, listen to audio, watch video, and record your voice. They don't have to be expensive. Earbuds with a built-in mic should work fine.

### **How can I access the BU network?**

BU has a campus-wide wireless network. The key to accessing the network and BU facilities and services is your BU login name, which you get when you create your BU email account. You can find more information about accessing the BU wireless network here:

<http://www.bu.edu/tech/services/infrastructure/networks/wireless/8021x/>.

### **Do I have to use my BU email account?**

Yes, your BU email account is used for all official communication from the University, as well as for getting enrolled in Blackboard, which BU uses to manage your courses. Student email accounts use BU Google Mail, and give you access to Google Apps. If you prefer to check your email using a different account, you can forward your BU mail, but you must know how to access and use your BU Google account.

### **Where can I go to get help with my laptop?**

There is a tech support office at CELOP in Room 253 where you can get help with computer questions, and the BU IT Help Center, which provides many free and low-cost services for students, is located one block from CELOP at 179 Amory Street. You can also find the answers to many questions at the BU Tech Getting Started Page for Students here: <http://www.bu.edu/tech/support/student/>.

### **Where can I print documents?**

Printing documents is not permitted at CELOP at this time. Your teachers will not ask you to print any documents for class.

### **Who do I contact if I still have questions?**

Please contact Global Programs Technology Services at [gpts@bu.edu](mailto:gpts@bu.edu). The staff here will help you to get the answers to your questions about Bring Your Own Device.

# 18 Connecting Devices to the Internet at CELOP



## WiFi

CELOP requires that all students have their own laptop or tablet.  
Use BU (802.1x)  
You will need to enter your BU username and password.  
Check [www.bu.edu/tech](http://www.bu.edu/tech) for updated troubleshooting information.

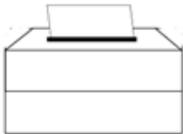
## Living on Campus?

You must have a BU email address to access the internet in the dorms.  
Your anti-virus software must be legal and updated.  
You must not use file sharing (P2P) software (BitTorrent, Pirate Bay, etc).  
BU will suspend your account if you illegally share/download music or movies.  
For more information, see the International Student's Guide to the BU Network:  
[www.bu.edu/tech/accounts/wired/international-students-guide](http://www.bu.edu/tech/accounts/wired/international-students-guide)



## Printing at CELOP

You cannot print from your laptop to CELOP printers.  
This semester, instructors will not require any physical submissions.  
There should be no need for printing.



## CELOP Computer Labs

Rooms: 255, 267A, 267B  
All CELOP computer labs will be unavailable this semester.



## Mobile Devices

Go to settings, the Wi-Fi.  
Use BU 802.1x  
Enter BU username and password to unlock the network

## Need Help?

For help with your personal computer,  
contact GPTS at [gpts@bu.edu](mailto:gpts@bu.edu) or visit room 253.  
For support after 5pm, go to the IT Help Center at 179 Amory Street  
or call them at: (617) 353-4357.



# 19 Traveling In & Out of Boston

## Getting to Boston Logan International Airport from CELOP

60 minutes via the subway (The “T”)

1. Take an inbound Green B-Line Train to Government Center.  
\*Note: you may have to get off at Park Street and switch trains.  
If so, walk to the track ahead of you and go 1 stop
2. At Government Center, go downstairs to the Blue Line.
3. Take an outbound Blue Line train headed for “Wonderland”.
4. Get off at the Airport stop and look for a blue bus outside.
5. Take the free shuttle to the airport. Be sure to listen for your terminal’s stop.



30 minutes via car

Car services such as Lyft, Uber or taxis can go directly to your terminal at the Boston Airport.

## US Airport Etiquette

In the US, security is very strict at the airport.



Remember the following rules:

- Have your passport and ticket ready for the checkpoint before security
- Take your shoes off before entering the metal detector.
- Take off any belts or hats.
- Put your keys, wallet and phone in a bin for the x-ray scan.

## Leaving the US: Important Documents & Information

Before you make travel plans abroad, including Canada and the Caribbean, you must discuss the trip with the CELOP Foreign Student Advisor. William Marion is located in office 244. He will check your immigration documents to ensure a smooth departure.

Remember to complete the following steps first:

1. Look up Visa requirement. Do you need an additional visa to visit the desired country?
2. Check your I-20 (F-1 students) or DS-2019 (J-1 Exchange Visitors). Does it have a valid travel signature to re-enter? Look carefully at the end date listed on your form. Do you need to extend the I-20/DS-2019 before leaving? (You will need to bring this original document along with your Passport and Visa when leaving the US).
3. Remember that it is always best to check with the Foreign Student Advisor, Will Marion, before you travel.



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## Leaving CELOP early? (Withdrawing from CELOP)

Start by meeting with CELOP Admissions to discuss:

- Your plans and reasons for withdrawing
- Sponsor approval (if sponsored)
- Financial obligations:

If you plan to withdraw from CELOP early, please know that you are subject to the CELOP Student Withdrawal and Refund Policy.

### WHO THIS POLICY APPLIES TO:

All students who have applied to full- or part-time CELOP programs, or a partner who has applied on behalf of students.

### OFFICIAL POLICY

CELOP students requesting a refund for all or a portion of their program must first complete an official withdrawal form. The completed form must be submitted in person or by email to CELOP Admissions at 890 Commonwealth Avenue, Boston MA or [celop@bu.edu](mailto:celop@bu.edu). Absence from class does not constitute withdrawal although it may result in the student being dropped from his/her program if SEVIS requirements are not met. The following refund schedule is observed once a completed withdrawal form has been received, with the date of receipt being the determining factor for calculating refund percentage:

Program*	Before program start	First week of classes	Second week of classes	Third week of classes
12 weeks or more	100% minus application fee	90% of tuition	75% of tuition	No refund
Fewer than 12 weeks	100% minus application fee	90% of tuition	50% of tuition	No refund

***\*Applies to all programs EXCEPT those that have a separately communicated refund policy.***

As per university policy, the refund percentage applies to tuition only. All non-refundable fees such as application and housing fees are not governed by this policy and are non-refundable.

# 21 Immigration: Full-time Students

## Visa Requirements

F1 Visa	J1 Visa
Students studying full-time (minimum 18 hours per week)	Students and scholars sponsored by a government program or private foundation
<b>I-20</b> = Certificate of Eligibility (Show to US embassy/consulate when you apply for visa and to US Customs and Border Protection each time you enter the US)	<b>DS-2019</b> = Certificate of Eligibility (Show to US embassy/consulate when you apply for visa and to US Customs and Border Protection each time you enter the US)
<b>I-94</b> (both F1 & J1 visas) The US Customs and Border Protection officer will stamp your passport with your non-immigrant status. We strongly recommend that you print your I-94 documentation from this website: <a href="https://i94.cbp.dhs.gov">https://i94.cbp.dhs.gov</a>	

## Student Obligations

F1 Visa	J1 Visa
Keep all your immigration documents in a safe place. You are responsible for them.	
Make sure your passport is valid for at least 6 months into the future.	
Study full-time, with good attendance and continued enrollment at CELOP.	
Report a change of address to CELOP within 10 days of the change.	
Do NOT work while you are studying at CELOP. (After you begin your academic degree study, you can request limited work permission by seeing your Foreign Student Advisor at your new program.)	
If you plan to travel outside the US and then return to CELOP, <b>you must have CELOP's Foreign Student Advisor sign your I-20 before you leave.</b> Also, if you plan to travel outside the US between semesters and return to CELOP, you must first be accepted at CELOP for the next semester.	If you plan to travel outside the US and then return to CELOP, <b>you must have your J-1 program sponsor sign your DS-2019 before you leave.</b> Also, if you plan to travel outside the US between semesters and return to CELOP, you must first be accepted at CELOP for the next semester.
	If you are sponsored by Boston University, you must go to the International Students and Scholars Office (ISSO) to check in.

If you have any questions about your visa, please see CELOP's Foreign Student Advisor in office 244.

For more information about your immigration regulations, please visit:

<https://www.bu.edu/celop/admissions/immigration-visas>

# 22 Immigration: Part-time Students

## Visa Requirements

<b>B1/B2 Visa</b>
Visitors who want to take a short-term, recreational class
Can take part-time classes only
Must apply for a change of status in order to study full-time (This is a long process and you might have to return home to get your F1 visa)

<b>F2 Visa</b>
Spouses or children (under the age of 21) of F1 visa holders
Can take part-time classes only
Can study part-time for the duration of the F2 visa
Must apply for a change of status in order to study full-time (This is a long process and you might have to return home to get your F1 visa)

<b>J2 Visa</b>
Spouses or children (under the age of 21) of J1 visa holders
Can take part-time or full-time classes
Can study part-time or full-time for the duration of the J2 visa

If you have any questions about your visa, please see CELOP's Foreign Student Advisor in office 244. For more information about your immigration regulations, please visit:

<https://www.bu.edu/celop/admissions/immigration-visas>

# 23 What can I do after the semester ends?

## (1) Continue at CELOP for the next semester

F1 Visa	J1 Visa
Submit your online application.	
Go to Front Desk Admissions to complete your Continuing Application Checklist.	
If your I-20 expires at the end of the semester: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>You will need to submit new financial documents.</li> <li>You must complete your application at least one week (7 days) before the end of the program so your I-20 can be extended. If your I-20 is not extended by the final day of the program, you cannot continue at CELOP.</li> </ul>	If your DS-2019 is expiring: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Contact your program sponsor at least 30 days before the expiration date and ask them to issue you a new document.</li> </ul>
See full instructions at <a href="http://www.bu.edu/celop/admissions/apply-now">www.bu.edu/celop/admissions/apply-now</a>	

## (2) Transfer to another school

F1 Visa	J1 Visa
You must transfer within 60 days of the final day of your CELOP program.	Contact your current program sponsor as stated on your DS-2019 about transferring to another program.
Email CELOP's Foreign Student Advisor for the CELOP Transfer-Out Form.	
Get a letter of acceptance and Transfer-In Form from your new school.	
Email the Foreign Student Advisor copies of the completed Transfer-Out Form and all required documents.	
Make an appointment with the Foreign Student Advisor.	

## (3) Leave the United States

F1 Visa	J1 Visa
You must leave within 60 days of the final day of your program.	You must leave within 30 days of the final day of your program.

If you will begin a degree program at Boston University, or if you have more immigration questions about your future plans, email CELOP's Foreign Student Advisor for an appointment.