**Structured Independent Language Study Program (SILS)**

**What is SILS?**

SILS is a non-credit program designed to give motivated and dedicated students the chance to study languages that are not currently taught at Emory. Students independently study a new language primarily through self-instruction, yet are assisted with a native-speaking language partner, a program of study developed by a specialist, ongoing support from SILS, as well as a final evaluation/exam to assess progress.

Throughout the course of the semester SILS students are expected to study their target language 60 minutes each day, attend practice sessions with a native speaker twice a week, independently complete all assignments that are specified on their developed program of study, submit a Weekly Progress Report to the SILS director, and (at the end of the semester) take a final evaluation.

**How can SILS be used as a study abroad resource?**

The Structured Independent Language Study Program is a great resource for new and returning study abroad students. For students planning on going abroad, SILS is a way to familiarize oneself with a foreign language before studying in a particular country. Having a basic knowledge of a language beforehand will make for a quicker immersion as well as let you start off with a solid foundation before furthering your studies.

Returning students can use this resource as a means to continue perfecting a language they studied while previously abroad, if that language is not offered at Emory.

**What are the eligibility requirements?**\*The following criteria are required to take part in SILS:

1. The target language should be a living spoken or signed language that is not offered at any level at Emory
2. Language need not have a unique writing system and need not be recognized as a ‘standard’ or ‘prestige’ language where natively used
3. Student must be a full-time undergraduate, graduate or professional student at Emory
4. Student must be in good academic standing and have faculty approval to participate
5. Student should be confident in their ability to carry-out a semester-long course of independent study

**How does one apply?**Interested students should visit the SILS website (cet.emory.edu/eclc/sils.cfm) for more detailed information and to download the application.

Students with specific questions should email SILS at: sils@learnlink.emory.edu