

ENGLISH LANGUAGE TEACHING

In-Sessional General English and English for Academic Purposes

Series 3: Course Descriptions 2025-2026

Please note that there is **no difference** in course content between online and on campus in-sessional courses.

Postgraduate Writing

This 5- or 10-week course is aimed at postgraduate students, and focuses on the development of skills associated with writing academic essays and research papers. In particular, the course introduces useful strategies to help students to overcome 'writers' block', to read selectively and with a purpose, to write thesis statements and extended definitions. The course will also help postgraduates to identify the academic voice of others in their reading, and to develop their own academic voice for their writing. In addition, they will be given practice in developing questionnaires using both qualitative and quantitative data collection methods. **Please note that this course has the same content as Series 1 and 2.**

Academic Grammar and Correction

This 5- or 10-week course aims to raise students' awareness of their characteristic language errors. It encourages routines for revising written work to help detect and deal with these errors through grammar exercises and editing practice. It will focus on major problem areas based on an initial needs analysis. **Please note that this course has the same content as Series 1 and 2.**

Writing up Research

This 5- or 10-week course is aimed at postgraduate students who are at, or near, the stage of writing up their own research papers. The course materials include sample research papers, accompanied by tasks that will help students to focus on the organisational pattern of papers, and the content of specific sections. Students will also have the opportunity to discuss and critique the work of specialist researchers.

Pronunciation and Clear Speaking

This 5- or 10-week course aims to help students speak more clearly and effectively in their academic courses as well as in other contexts. By the end of the course, students should have a better understanding of discrete aspects of English pronunciation, such as segmentals and suprasegmentals, and rhythm and chunking in spoken delivery.

Listening, Speaking, and Pronunciation

This 5- or 10-week course will help students gain a greater understanding of the difficulties of listening to and pronouncing spoken English. It will also give general practice in listening, speaking, and pronunciation.

Advanced General English

Based on advanced level (including authentic) materials, this 5- or 10-week course provides opportunities for overall general language development in the four skills of listening, speaking, reading and writing, as well as an understanding of British/Scottish society and culture. *This course is intended for students with a minimum score of IELTS 7.0 overall or equivalent.*

Consultations

In addition to these courses, if In-sessional students have any problems with their English (pronunciation, presentation skills, structure of writing assignments, etc.) and would like some advice, they can arrange an online consultation with an experienced tutor. This service is intended for students who are already proficient writers in English. If students' writing skills and/or grammar are weak, then they should enrol in one of the many different types of academic writing classes that the ELT offers throughout the year. Each student may sign up for a total of 2 x 20-minute consultations per week FREE of charge irrespective of how many In-Sessional courses they are taking. If you are interested in making an appointment for a consultation, please email elt@strath.ac.uk at least 24 hours in advance of the timetabled consultation session.

Please note that this is not a proof-reading service.