ENGLISH LANGUAGE TEACHING

In-Sessional General English and English for Academic Purposes

Course Descriptions 2026-2027

Spoken Fluency and Discussion

This 5- or 10-week course aims to help students develop oral communication skills that are needed for academic study. In particular, it will aim to improve students' ability to contribute to seminar discussions more fluently as well as follow the contributions made by others. It will also aim to develop students' ability to give short oral presentations.

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.

Vocabulary Development

This 5- or 10-week course aims to help students to learn, remember, and use vocabulary more effectively through a range of exercises. Students will study a variety of useful language such as collocations, phrasal verbs, etc.

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.*

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.

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.

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 a 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.**