ESLA1901 - Academic Language Skills for International Student
Course Outline

Course Coordinator: Russell Hancock  
Semester: Semester 1 - 2010  
Unit Weighting: 10  
Teaching Methods: Lecture, Tutorial

Brief Course Description
Designed for international students who are native speakers of languages other than English. The course focuses on the further development of students' academic English skills in writing, speaking, listening and reading. Lectures, tutorials and some videos are presented on an appropriate range of topics and will help students to develop a high language proficiency that will be of benefit to them at all levels of their University studies. During both lectures and tutorials, students will be encouraged to participate actively in order to practise their increasing spoken-language skills. Problem based learning, discussions and individual talks presented in class will help students efficiently to absorb the material that is being taught.

Contact Hours
Lecture for 2 Hours per Week for the Full Term  
Tutorial for 2 Hours per Week for 13 Weeks  
Tutorial includes an additional learning support hour.

Learning Materials/Texts

Course Objectives
The course aims at assisting international and exchange students in developing further their English language skills in an academic environment. The course is concerned with the development of a number of particular aspects of academic English. Completion of this course will improve the proficiency of students in the following skills, with the degree and direction of improvement depending upon the varied individual proficiencies from which the students begin:

1. Writing skills, including academic essay writing, answering questions in an examination, taking notes from lectures and reading materials, structuring a piece of academic writing, arranging information in an understandable sequence, the correct use of quotations and referencing, and general skills of expression involving correct use of grammar and syntax.

Course Outline Issued and Correct as at: Week 1, Semester 1 - 2010

CTS Download Date: 12.2.10
2. Listening skills, including listening to lectures and talks and understanding the content of selected programs shown on videotapes.
3. Reading skills, including researching documentation, reading strategies: scanning and skimming.
4. Speaking skills, including speaking in an academic setting, encouraging rhetorical consciousness, answering questions and discussing topics confidently.

**Course Content**
The course is concerned with the development of a number of particular aspects of academic English. Its content is designed to improve the proficiency of students in the following skills: 1. Writing skills, including academic essay writing, answering questions in an examination, taking notes from lectures and reading materials, structuring a piece of academic writing, arranging information in an understandable sequence, the correct use of quotations and referencing, and general skills of expression involving correct use of grammar and syntax. 2. Listening skills, including listening to lectures and talks and understanding the content of selected programs shown on videotapes. 3. Reading skills, including researching documentation, reading strategies: scanning and skimming. 4. Speaking skills, including speaking in an academic setting, encouraging rhetorical consciousness, answering questions and discussing topics confidently.

**Assessment Items**

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<tr>
<th>Assessment Items</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Essays / Written Assignments</td>
<td>5 minor assignments 50% (10% each)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Essays / Written Assignments</td>
<td>Essay – Book Review (1000 words) 30%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other: (please specify)</td>
<td>One oral seminar presentation and participation in fellow students seminar presentations 20%</td>
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**Assumed Knowledge**
No assumed knowledge.

**Callaghan Campus Timetable**

**ESLA1901**

**LANGUAGE SKILLS INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS**
Enquiries: School of Humanities and Social Science
Semester 1 - 2010

| Lecture and Lecture | Monday 13:00 - 14:00 | [GP322] |
| and Tutorial | Thursday 15:00 - 16:00 | [V01] |
| or | Monday 14:00 - 15:00 | [MCLG42] |
| and Tutorial | Thursday 16:00 - 17:00 | [V01] |

Commencing Week 2

Learning Support Hour - Commencing Wk 2

**IMPORTANT UNIVERSITY INFORMATION**

**ACADEMIC INTEGRITY**

Academic integrity, honesty, and a respect for knowledge, truth and ethical practices are fundamental to the business of the University. These principles are at the core of all academic endeavour in teaching, learning and research. Dishonest practices contravene academic values, compromise the integrity of research and devalue the quality of learning. To preserve the quality of learning for the individual and others, the University may impose severe sanctions on activities that undermine academic integrity. There are two major categories of academic dishonesty:

**Academic fraud** is a form of academic dishonesty that involves making a false representation to gain an unjust advantage. Without limiting the generality of this definition, it can include:

a) falsification of data;

b) using a substitute person to undertake, in full or part, an examination or other assessment item;
c) reusing one’s own work, or part thereof, that has been submitted previously and counted towards another course (without permission);

d) making contact or colluding with another person, contrary to instructions, during an examination or other assessment item;

e) bringing material or device(s) into an examination or other assessment item other than such as may be specified for that assessment item; and

f) making use of computer software or other material and device(s) during an examination or other assessment item other than such as may be specified for that assessment item.

g) contract cheating or having another writer compete for tender to produce an essay or assignment and then submitting the work as one's own.

Plagiarism is the presentation of the thoughts or works of another as one’s own. University policy prohibits students plagiarising any material under any circumstances. Without limiting the generality of this definition, it may include:

a) copying or paraphrasing material from any source without due acknowledgment;

b) using another person's ideas without due acknowledgment;

c) collusion or working with others without permission, and presenting the resulting work as though it were completed independently.

Turnitin is an electronic text matching system. During assessing any assessment item the University may:

- Reproduce this assessment item and provide a copy to another member of the University; and/or

- Communicate a copy of this assessment item to a text matching service (which may then retain a copy of the item on its database for the purpose of future checking).

- Submit the assessment item to other forms of plagiarism checking

RE-MARKS AND MODERATIONS

Students can access the University's policy at: http://www.newcastle.edu.au/policylibrary/000769.html

MARKS AND GRADES RELEASED DURING TERM

All marks and grades released during term are indicative only until formally approved by the Head of School.

SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCES AFFECTING ASSESSMENT ITEMS

Extension of Time for Assessment Items, Deferred Assessment and Special Consideration for Assessment Items or Formal Written Examinations items must be submitted by the due date in the Course Outline unless the Course Coordinator approves an extension. Unapproved late submissions will be penalised in line with the University policy specified in Late Penalty above.

Requests for Extensions of Time must be lodged no later than the due date of the item. This applies to students:

- applying for an extension of time for submission of an assessment item on the basis of medical, compassionate, hardship/trauma or unavoidable commitment; or

- whose attendance at or performance in an assessment item or formal written examination has been or will be affected by medical, compassionate, hardship/trauma or unavoidable commitment.

Students must report the circumstances, with supporting documentation, as outlined in the Special Circumstances Affecting Assessment Items Procedure at: http://www.newcastle.edu.au/policylibrary/000641.html

Note: different procedures apply for minor and major assessment tasks.
Students should be aware of the following important deadlines:

- Special Consideration Requests must be lodged no later than 3 working days after the due date of submission or examination.
- Rescheduling Exam requests must be received no later than 10 working days prior the first date of the examination period.

*Late applications may not be accepted.* Students who cannot meet the above deadlines due to extenuating circumstances should speak firstly to their Program Officer or their Program Executive if studying in Singapore.

**STUDENTS WITH A DISABILITY OR CHRONIC ILLNESS**

University is committed to providing a range of support services for students with a disability or chronic illness. If you have a disability or chronic illness which you feel may impact on your studies please feel free to discuss your support needs with your lecturer or course coordinator.

Disability Support may also be provided by the Student Support Service (Disability). Students must be registered to receive this type of support. To register contact the Disability Liaison Officer on 02 4921 5766, email at: student-disability@newcastle.edu.au . As some forms of support can take a few weeks to implement it is extremely important that you discuss your needs with your lecturer, course coordinator or Student Support Service staff at the beginning of each semester. For more information on confidentiality and documentation visit the Student Support Service (Disability) website: www.newcastle.edu.au/services/disability.

**CHANGING YOUR ENROLMENT**

Students enrolled after the census dates listed in the link below are liable for the full cost of their student contribution or fees for that term.

http://www.newcastle.edu.au/study/fees/censusdates.html

Students may withdraw from a course without academic penalty on or before the last day of term. Any withdrawal from a course after the last day of term will result in a fail grade.

**Students cannot enrol in a new course after the second week of term,** except under exceptional circumstances. Any application to add a course after the second week of term must be on the appropriate form, and should be discussed with staff in the Student Hubs or with your Program Executive at PSB if you are a Singapore student.

To check or change your enrolment online go to myHub: https://myhub.newcastle.edu.au

**STUDENT INFORMATION & CONTACTS**

Various services are offered by the Student Support Unit:
www.newcastle.edu.au/service/studentsupport/

The Student Hubs are a one-stop shop for the delivery of student related services and are the first point of contact for students studying in Australia. Student Hubs are located at:

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<tr>
<th>Callaghan Campus</th>
<th>Port Macquarie students</th>
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<tr>
<td>Shortland Hub: Level 3, Shortland Building</td>
<td>contact your program officer or <a href="mailto:EnquiryCentre@newcastle.edu.au">EnquiryCentre@newcastle.edu.au</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Hunter Hub: Level 2, Student Services Centre</td>
<td>Phone 4921 5000</td>
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<tr>
<th>City Precinct</th>
<th>Singapore students</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>City Hub &amp; Information Common, University House</td>
<td>contact your PSB Program Executive</td>
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| Central Coast Campus (Ourimbah) | |
|---------------------------------| |
| Student Hub: Opposite the Main Cafeteria | |

**OTHER CONTACT INFORMATION**
Faculty Websites
- www.newcastle.edu.au/faculty/business-law/
- www.newcastle.edu.au/faculty/education-arts/
- www.newcastle.edu.au/faculty/engineering/
- www.newcastle.edu.au/faculty/health/
- www.newcastle.edu.au/faculty/science-it/

Rules Governing Undergraduate Academic Awards
www.newcastle.edu.au/policylibrary/000311.html

Rules Governing Postgraduate Academic Awards

Rules Governing Professional Doctorate Awards
www.newcastle.edu.au/policylibrary/000580.html

General enquiries
Callaghan, City and Port Macquarie
Phone: 02 4921 5000
Email: EnquiryCentre@newcastle.edu.au

Ourimbah
Phone: 02 4348 4030
Email: EnquiryCentre@newcastle.edu.au

The Dean of Students
Deputy Dean of Students (Ourimbah)
Phone: 02 4921 5806;
Fax: 02 4921 7151
Email: resolutionprecinct@newcastle.edu.au

This course outline will not be altered after the second week of the term except under extenuating circumstances with Head of School approval. Students will be notified in advance of the change.