ESLA2001 -
Academic Language Skills for International Student
Course Outline

Course Coordinator: Associate Professor Peter Peterson
McMullin Building, Room MC126
Phone: 4921 5158
Email: Peter.Peterson@newcastle.edu.au

Lecturer: Susan Griffiths
The Language Centre, Room LC3:28
Phone: 4921 7176
Email: Susan.Griffiths@newcastle.edu.au

School Administration: School of Language and Media
McMullin Building, Room MC127
Phone: 4921 5360 / 4921 5172
Email: Language-Media@newcastle.edu.au

Semester 1 - 2005
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 Two lecture hours and one tutorial hour per week
Semester 1 and 2

Learning Materials/Texts
D. Bate and P. Sharpe, Writer’s Handbook for University Students (Thomson, 2001)

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.
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
Five written assignments on selected academic topics (300 words each) = 40%

One oral seminar presentation (10 minutes) = 10%

Three-hour written final examination = 50%

Written assignments
Assess improvement in listening skills through writing about themes from videotapes shown; improvement in reading skills through the need to become familiar with the topic to be written about; improvement in written expression proficiency through practice in writing about a specific theme using properly structured and grammatically correct argument.

Oral seminar presentation
Assesses improvement in ability to speak clearly and fluently to an audience about a particular academic topic: improvement in reading skills through the need to become familiar with the topic to be spoken about.

Written final examination
Assesses improvement in written expression proficiency through the need to write about specific themes using properly structured and grammatically correct argument.
Assumed Knowledge

International and exchange students should have a sound knowledge of basic written and spoken English as an adequate foundation for developing proficiency in the academic uses of the language.

Callaghan Campus Timetable
ESLA 2001
ACADEMIC LANGUAGE SKILLS FOR INTERNATIONAL STUDENT
Enquiries: School of Language and Media
Semester 1 – 2005

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<tr>
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<th>Day</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Location</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lecture</td>
<td>Wed</td>
<td>09:00 - 10:00</td>
<td>MCG28C</td>
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<tr>
<td>ESLA 1901</td>
<td>Wed</td>
<td>10:00 - 11:00</td>
<td>MCG28C</td>
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<tr>
<td>or</td>
<td>Wed</td>
<td>11:00 - 12:00</td>
<td>MCLG42</td>
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<tr>
<td>and Lecture</td>
<td>Fri</td>
<td>09:00 - 10:00</td>
<td>MCG28C</td>
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<tr>
<td>and Tutorial</td>
<td>Wed</td>
<td>10:00 - 11:00</td>
<td>MCG28C</td>
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Plagiarism

University policy prohibits students plagiarising any material under any circumstances. A student plagiarises if he or she presents the thoughts or works of another as one's own. Without limiting the generality of this definition, it may include:

- copying or paraphrasing material from any source without due acknowledgment;
- using another's ideas without due acknowledgment;
- working with others without permission and presenting the resulting work as though it was completed independently.

Plagiarism is not only related to written works, but also to material such as data, images, music, formulae, websites and computer programs.

Aiding another student to plagiarise is also a violation of the Plagiarism Policy and may invoke a penalty.

For further information on the University policy on plagiarism, please refer to the Policy on Student Academic Integrity at the following link -

The University has established a software plagiarism detection system called Turnitin. When you submit assessment items please be aware that for the purpose of 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 plagiarism checking service (which may then retain a copy of the item on its database for the purpose of future plagiarism checking);
- Submit the assessment item to other forms of plagiarism checking
Written Assessment Items

Students may be required to provide written assessment items in electronic form as well as hard copy.

Extension of Time for Assessment Items, Deferred Assessment and Special Consideration for Assessment Items or Formal Written Examinations

Students are required to submit assessment items by the due date, as advised in the Course Outline, unless the Course Coordinator approves an extension of time for submission of the item. University policy is that an assessment item submitted after the due date, without an approved extension, will be penalised.

Any student:
1. who is applying for an extension of time for submission of an assessment item on the basis of medical, compassionate, hardship/trauma or unavoidable commitment; or
2. 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; must report the circumstances, with supporting documentation, to the appropriate officer on the prescribed form.

Please go to the Policy and the on-line form for further information, particularly for information on the options available to you, at:

http://www.newcastle.edu.au/policy/academic/adm_prog/special_consid.htm

Changing your Enrolment

The last dates to withdraw without financial or academic penalty (called the HECS Census Dates) are:

- For semester 1 courses: 31 March 2005
- For semester 2 courses: 31 August 2005
- For Trimester 1 courses: 18 February 2005
- For Trimester 2 courses: 10 June 2005

Students may withdraw from a course without academic penalty on or before the last day of semester and prior to the commencement of the formal exam period. Any withdrawal from a course after the last day of semester will result in a fail grade.

Students cannot enrol in a new course after the second week of semester/trimester, except under exceptional circumstances. Any application to add a course after the second week of semester/trimester must be on the appropriate form, and should be discussed with the School Office.

To change your enrolment online, please refer to

http://www.newcastle.edu.au/study/enrolment/change-enrol.html

Contact Details

School of Language & Media
Office, Room MC1271 1st Floor McMullin Building
Phone: 02 4921 5175, 4921 5172, 4921 5360, 4921 5155
Email: Language-Media@newcastle.edu.au
Faculty Student Service Offices
Faculty of Science and Information Technology
Room V19 (Mathematics Building) Phone: 0249 215 562

The Faculty of Education and Arts
Room: GP1-22 (General Purpose Building) Phone: 0249 215 314

The Faculty of Engineering and Built Environment
Room: EF101 (EF Building) Phone: 0249 216 065

Architecture and Built Environment
Room: A106 (Architecture Building) Phone: 0249 215 782

The Faculty of Health
Level 1 (Bowman Building) Phone: 0249 215 682

The Faculty of Business and Law
Room: SRS130 (Social Sciences Building) Phone: 0249 215 983

The Dean of Students
Dr Jennifer Archer
Phone 492 16723; Fax: 492 16895;
Jennifer.Archer@newcastle.edu.au
Dean-of-Students@newcastle.edu.au

Various services are offered by the University Student Support Unit:

Alteration of this Course Outline
No change to this course outline will be permitted after the end of the second week of the term except in exceptional circumstances and with Head of School approval. Students will be notified in advance of any approved changes to this outline.

Web Address for Rules Governing Undergraduate Academic Awards

Web Address for Rules Governing Postgraduate Academic Awards
STUDENTS WITH A DISABILITY OR CHRONIC ILLNESS

The 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 please contact the Disability Liaison Officer on 49 21 5766, or via 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 related to confidentiality and documentation please visit the Student Support Service (Disability) website at:

www.newcastle.edu.au/services/disability