

## English as a Second Language

English as a second language subjects address the needs of students seeking to consolidate their English language and communication skills. Study in this area is strategically oriented to the refinement of student skills within an academic environment. In particular, emphasis is placed on effective writing and research techniques and improved fluency and organisation of written and oral presentations.

Several credit subjects on offer are available for students of most faculties although students should consult with a Faculty course adviser to confirm that ESL subjects can be credited towards their degree.

### Skills subject limitations

ESL subjects, along with Communication Skills subjects, computer skills subjects and subjects that focus on workplace skills, are termed 'skills-based subjects'. Students enrolled in an arts degree may credit a maximum of three skills-based subjects towards their course. See *Skills subjects limitations* (p.7). Students from other faculties should check for skills subject limitations at their Faculty Office.

### English as a second language (ESL) subjects

The Department of Linguistics and Applied Linguistics offers the following English as a second language subjects:

- 175-120 Advanced ESL 1 (p.1)
- 175-121 Advanced ESL 2 (p.1)
- 175-122 Exploring Style and Meaning in Language (p.2)
- 175-123 Introduction to Built Environment Study (p.2)
- 175-124 Spoken Interaction (p.2)
- 175-125 Advanced ESL: Economics and Commerce (p.1)
- 175-126 Effective Communication for Engineering (p.2)
- 175-127 Advanced ESL Information Technology (p.1)
- 175-134 Project Based Communication Skills (p.1)

These subjects are designed to assist students from non-English speaking backgrounds to improve their English skills.

All applicants will be required to sit a test to determine their level of language proficiency before they are able to enrol in these subjects. Students who are native speakers of English, or who have a comparable level of competency, will not be eligible to enrol, except in 175-134 Project Based Communication Skills (p.1).

International students should sit the DELA which is run during the week before the start of Semester 1 and the week before the start of Semester 2. Local students should contact the Department about sitting for an ESL placement test.

### For more information

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### ESL subjects

#### First-year subjects

##### 175-125 Advanced ESL: Economics and Commerce

**Note:** Formerly available as 145-008/125. Students who have completed 145-008/125 are not eligible to enrol in this subject.

**Availability:** 1st year

**Credit points:** 12.5

**HECS-band:** 1

**Coordinator:** Neomy Storch

**Prerequisites:** All applicants will be required to sit for a selection test to determine their language proficiency before they are able to enrol in this subject. Students who are native speakers of English or whose language proficiency is near-native are not eligible to enrol.

**Contact:** A 1-hour lecture and three hours of tutorials per week (*Semester 1, repeat 2*).

**Description:** This subject involves the study of economics and commerce content-based English for academic purposes. Students should develop their

academic skills through a study of Australia's economy and its major economic institutions. The skills focused on include the ability to speak appropriately in academic settings, communicate confidently as part of a team, read economics and commerce texts critically, take effective notes in economics/commerce lectures, and write reports and assignments fluently and accurately.

**Assessment:** Three integrated listening/reading/writing assignments, two written assignments, additional written tasks and tutorial participation totalling 4000 words.

**Prescribed texts:** A subject reader will be available.

##### 175-127 Advanced ESL Information Technology

**Note:** Formerly available as 145-011/127. Students who have completed 145-011/127 are not eligible to enrol in this subject.

**Availability:** 1st year

**Credit points:** 12.5

**HECS-band:** 1

**Coordinator:** Geoff Millar

**Prerequisites:** All applicants will be required to sit a test to determine their language proficiency before they are able to enrol in this subject. Students who are native speakers of English or whose language proficiency is near-native are not eligible to enrol.

**Contact:** A 1-hour lecture, a 1-hour language class and a 2-hour language class per week (*Semester 1*).

**Description:** This subject focuses on the development of content-based English for academic purposes through a study of systems analysis and design methods. The subject asks students to focus on language skills and tasks which are integral to their academic studies and which will also prepare them for the professional setting. The discipline-specific content will be delivered by academic staff with expertise in information systems and computer science. Topics will include methods for gathering information about problem situations, and methods for feeding back information. Through participation in this subject, students should develop their ability to speak appropriately in academic settings, deliver presentations confidently using electronic tools, communicate well in a team, take notes in lectures and read academic texts effectively and write assignments, reports and summaries fluently, accurately and appropriately.

**Assessment:** Oral presentations totalling 10 minutes, two integrated listening, reading and writing assignments totalling 800 words, a written assignment of 1000 words, a folio of written work totalling 1000 words, and tutorial participation. In order to successfully complete this subject, students are required to submit all written assignments, and to attend 80% of all classes.

**Prescribed texts:** A subject reader will be available.

#### First, second and third-year subjects

##### 175-120 Advanced ESL 1

**Note:** Formerly available as 145-004/120. Students who have completed 145-004/120 are not eligible to enrol in this subject. Strict enrolment deadlines apply to subjects taught during the Summer Semester. Any enrolment in, or withdrawal from, this subject for the Summer Semester must be made in line with HECS census dates, see page 8.

**Availability:** 1st, 2nd and 3rd year

**Credit points:** 12.5

**HECS-band:** 1

**Coordinator:** Celia Thompson

**Prerequisites:** All applicants will be required to sit for a selection test to determine their level of language proficiency before they are able to enrol in this subject. Students who are native speakers of English or whose language proficiency is near-native are not eligible to enrol.

**Contact:** A 1-hour lecture and three hours of tutorials per week (*Semester 1, repeat 2*).

**Description:** This subject focuses on the English language and academic skills required for university study using materials from contemporary Australian themes. It aims to develop the following skills: academic writing, effective note-taking, reading strategies and analysis of texts, critical thinking, speaking appropriately in academic settings, examination techniques and group work skills.

**Assessment:** Three integrated listening/reading/writing assignments totalling 1300 words, a written assignment of 1300 words and short written texts totalling 1400 words.

**Prescribed texts:** A subject reader will be available.

##### 175-121 Advanced ESL 2

**Note:** Formerly available as 145-005/121. Students who have completed 145-005/121 are not eligible to enrol in this subject.

**Availability:** 1st, 2nd and 3rd year

**Credit points:** 12.5

**HECS-band:** 1

**Coordinator:** Celia Thompson

**Prerequisites:** Satisfactory completion of 145-004 Advanced English as a Second Language 1, or an acceptable level of language proficiency as determined by a test. Students who are native speakers of English or whose language proficiency is near-native are not eligible to enrol.

**Contact:** A 1-hour lecture and three hours of tutorials per week (*Semester 1, repeat 2*).

**Description:** In this subject students should develop their academic skills in oral, written and electronic forms of communication through the study of current issues in Australian politics, economics and society. The skills focused on include the ability to research topics through physical and electronic resources, to critically analyse a range of academic texts, and to synthesise material from a range of sources to produce oral presentations and written papers that are fluent, well-organised and effectively expressed.

**Assessment:** A major project including an oral presentation equivalent to 800 words and a written paper of 1200 words, an integrated listening/reading/writing task equivalent to 500 words, other class assessment tasks equivalent to 1500 words, and tutorial participation. In order to successfully complete this subject, students are required to submit all written assignments, and to attend 80% of all classes.

**Prescribed texts:** A subject reader will be available.

### 175-122 Exploring Style and Meaning in Language

**Note:** Formerly available as 145-006/122. Students who have completed 145-006/122 are not eligible to enrol in this subject.

**Availability:** 1st, 2nd and 3rd year

**Credit points:** 12.5

**HECS-band:** 1

**Prerequisites:** All applicants will be required to sit for a selection test to determine their level of language proficiency before they are able to enrol in this subject. Students who are native speakers of English or whose language proficiency is near-native are not eligible to enrol.

**Semester:** Not Offered

**Description:** The subject focuses on developing participants' language and literacy skills by increasing their awareness of how different language choices affect the meaning of texts. Students will be involved in the analysis and writing of a range of literary and non-literary text types, including narratives from fiction and non-fiction; poems; advertisements; cartoons; letters; newspaper texts; academic texts and essays. The subject emphasises a 'discovery' approach to learning, the use of interactive class activities and the exchange of ideas and responses through discussion. Students should develop a better understanding of the relationship between language form and meaning, a stronger knowledge of text cohesion, grammar and vocabulary, and greater confidence and ability to use language in spoken and written communication. The subject should also develop their reading skills, particularly their ability to read between the lines, and their ability to think independently, critically and creatively. Finally, on completion of this subject, students should have a deeper understanding of Australian culture and society

### 175-123 Introduction to Built Environment Study

**Note:** Formerly available as 702-140. Students who have completed 702-140 are not eligible to enrol in this subject.

**Availability:** 1st year

**Credit points:** 12.5

**HECS-band:** 2

**Coordinator:** Janne Morton

**Prerequisites:** This subject is available to BPD/BUPD students. All applicants will be required to sit for a selection test to determine their level of language proficiency. Students who are native speakers of English or whose language proficiency is near-native are not eligible to enrol.

**Contact:** 4 hours per week: a 1-hour lecture, a 1-hour tutorial and a 2-hour tutorial (*Semester 1, repeat 2*).

**Description:** This subject is an introduction to the language forms and communication styles that characterise the disciplines of architecture, urban planning, landscape architecture and property and construction. It teaches two specific sets of strategies and skills: 1. to engage with, critically assess and communicate ideas in the discipline; 2. To efficiently access information in lectures, tutorials, studios, libraries and through the internet. These strategies and skills will be developed through introductory studies in the fields of architectural history/theory, design, urban planning, property and construction, and construction technology. On completion of this subject students should have gained: 1. enhanced skills in academic writing eg. essays and technical reports; 2. enhanced skills in oral presentations and group discussions in studio and tutorial contexts; 3. strategies for listening, comprehension and note-taking in lectures in the BPD/BUPD courses, including the linking of material presented in graphical and verbal forms.

**Assessment:** 4000 words, comprising essays and assignments totalling 2000 words (individual); oral presentations up to ten minutes in length; report and presentation (group work, equivalent of 500 words); participation, including

tutorial participation and continuous writing tasks up to 500 words; and a test (equivalent of 500 words).

**Prescribed texts:** A reading pack will be available through the Bookroom.

### 175-124 Spoken Interaction

**Note:** Formerly available as 145-007/124. Students who have completed 145-007/124 are not eligible to enrol in this subject.

**Availability:** 1st, 2nd and 3rd year

**Credit points:** 12.5

**HECS-band:** 1

**Coordinator:** Celia Thompson

**Prerequisites:** All applicants will be required to attend an informal oral interview to determine their level of language proficiency before they are able to enrol in this subject. Students who are native speakers of English or whose language proficiency is near-native are not eligible to enrol.

**Contact:** A 1-hour lecture and three hours of tutorials per week (*Semester 1, repeat 2*).

**Description:** This subject should develop students' ability to speak English with greater confidence, fluency and intelligibility in a range of situations. The curriculum focuses on tasks designed to improve participants' spoken performance in academic and informal settings. Knowledge of the phonological system in English (rhythm, stress and intonation particularly) will be developed. Seminar, discussion, and oral presentation skills will be practised while verbal and non-verbal features of spoken interaction and their role in conveying meaning will be highlighted.

**Assessment:** Short combined written/oral assignments totalling 1200 words, an 800-word oral presentation and a 2000-word oral interview task.

**Prescribed texts:** Subject materials will be available from the Department.

### 175-126 Effective Communication for Engineering

**Note:** Formerly available as 145-009/126. Students who have completed 145-009/126 are not eligible to enrol in this subject.

**Availability:** 1st, 2nd and 3rd year

**Credit points:** 12.5

**HECS-band:** 1

**Coordinator:** Celia Thompson

**Prerequisites:** This subject is available to all first-year engineering students. It is particularly suitable for international and local students from diverse language backgrounds. Students must contact the subject coordinator before enrolling in the subject.

**Contact:** A 1-hour lecture, a 1-hour tutorial and a 2-hour computer lab practical per week (*Semester 2*).

**Description:** Students will develop their competence in spoken, written and electronic forms of communication; they will develop an understanding of basic communication theory, group dynamics, critical thinking, the role of peer reviewing and teamwork. Tutorials will be held in a multimedia learning environment in order to develop students' knowledge of on-line technologies and electronic communication aids. Lectures and tutorials will be designed around topics that relate Engineering to broader social contexts such as the environment and sustainable development, the impact of computer technology on society and engineering and management issues. Particular attention will be paid to the structure and grammatical accuracy of students' oral presentations and written assignments.

**Assessment:** A combination of group and individual assessment will be used. Written work totalling 4000 words comprising a group written project of 800 words, a 2000-word report, a ten-minute oral presentation (equivalent to 800 words) using multimedia and a further 400 words written in class.

**Prescribed texts:** A subject reader will be available.

### 175-134 Project Based Communication Skills

See full subject details on page 1.