

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.

Time commitment to study

As well as scheduled contact hours for lectures, tutorial and seminars a considerable additional time commitment is needed to complete the academic requirements of each subject.

A subject-specific time commitment to study will be provided by your lecturer or tutor at the beginning of semester to help you schedule your workload and successfully manage your time during the semester. In addition, general estimates of the total time commitment required to study a 12.5-point single semester subject in the Faculty of Arts can be found on page 1.

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.9). Students from other faculties should check for skills subject limitations at their Faculty Office.

English as a second language (ESL) subjects

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

- 175-107 Science Communication (ESL) (p.1)
- 175-120 Academic English 1 (p.2)
- 175-121 Academic English 2 (p.2)
- 175-125 Academic English: Economics and Commerce (p.1)
- 175-126 Academic English: Engineering (p.1)
- 175-127 Academic English: Information Technology (p.1)

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

Students may enrol in ESL subjects before sitting a placement test. However, final placement will depend on results of the DELA diagnostic test or an interview with ESL staff. Students who are native speakers of English, or who have a comparable level of competency, are not eligible to enrol.

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.

For more information

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ESL subjects

First-year subjects

175-107 Science Communication (ESL)

Availability: 1st year

Credit points: 12.5

Coordinator: Dr Joanna Tapper

Prerequisites: Non-native speakers of English may enrol without sitting for a placement test but may be recommended to other subjects during the first two weeks of the semester depending on their English language proficiency. Native or near-native speakers of English are not eligible to enrol.

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

Description: This subject is designed for undergraduate students from a non-English speaking background studying for a degree in Science. The subject uses themes in science to develop academic English language. In this subject, students will develop the ability to take effective notes in lectures, interpret assignment and exam questions correctly, read science texts efficiently, and write assignments fluently and accurately.

Assessment: A written report of 1250 words 30% (due at the end of semester); six assessment tasks completed in class and totalling 1250 words in speaking, reading and writing 30% (5% each task, due throughout the semester); three 1-hour integrated listening, reading and writing tasks totalling 1500 words (10%, 10% and 20% respectively) to be completed in class in weeks 6, 8 and 11.

Prescribed texts: Students will be required to purchase a subject reader.

175-125 Academic English: 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

Coordinator: Dr Neomy Storch

Prerequisites: Non-native speakers of English may enrol without sitting for a placement test but may be recommended to other subjects during the first two weeks of the semester depending on their English language proficiency. Native or near-native speakers of English are not eligible to enrol.

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

Description: This subject involves the study of economics and commerce content-based English for academic purposes. Students should develop their academic language through a study of Australia's economy and its major economic institutions. Students will develop 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: An 800 word assignment 20% (due mid-semester) and a 1000 word assignment 25% (due at the end of semester), three integrated tasks completed in class totalling 1500 words 30% (due throughout the semester), continuous oral and written tasks completed in class 20% (equivalent to 700 words) and class exercises 5%.

Prescribed texts: A subject reader will be available for purchase from the University Bookshop.

175-126 Academic English: 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 year

Credit points: 12.5

Prerequisites: Non-native speakers of English may enrol without sitting for a placement test but may be recommended to other subjects during the first two weeks of the semester depending on their English language proficiency. Native or near-native speakers of English are not eligible to enrol.

Semester: Not Offered

Description: Students will develop their competence in spoken, written and electronic forms of communication. They will also develop an understanding of group dynamics, intercultural communication, critical thinking, self and peer reviewing and teamwork. Tutorials will be held in a computer laboratory to develop students' internet research skills. Lectures and tutorials will be designed around topics that relate engineering to computer technology and social change; the environment and sustainable development, professional aspects of Australian engineering projects and engineering and management.

175-127 Academic English: 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

Prerequisites: Non-native speakers of English may enrol without sitting for a placement test but may be recommended to other subjects during the first two weeks of the semester depending on their English language proficiency. Native or near-native speakers of English are not eligible to enrol.

Semester: Not Offered

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 requires students to focus on language 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 sub-

ject, 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, critically evaluate academic texts and write assignments, reports and summaries fluently, accurately and appropriately.

First, second and third-year subjects

175-120 Academic English 1

Note: Formerly available as 145-004/120. Students who have completed 145-004/120 are not eligible to enrol in this subject.

Availability: 1st, 2nd and 3rd year

Credit points: 12.5

Coordinator: Dr Neomy Storch

Prerequisites: Non-native speakers of English may enrol without sitting for a placement test but may be recommended to other subjects during the first two weeks of the semester depending on their English language proficiency. Native or near-native speakers of English are not eligible to enrol.

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

Description: This subject develops the academic English language skills required for university study. Its primary focus is on developing students' academic writing ability in English. The subject also aims to develop essay and report writing, effective reading strategies and analysis of texts, critical thinking, group discussions and examination techniques. These abilities will be developed through a study of topics relating to the history of migration to Australia and current issues in Australia's migration program.

Assessment: Three integrated listening/reading/writing assignments totalling 1300 words 40% (due in weeks 6, 9 and 12), a written assignment of 1300 words 30% (due in week 14), short written texts totalling 1400 words 25% (due in weeks 3 - 10) and class exercises 5%.

Prescribed texts: Students will be required to purchase a Subject Reader prepared by the coordinator.

175-121 Academic English 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

Coordinator: Ms Janne Morton and Dr Neomy Storch

Prerequisites: Non-native speakers of English may enrol without sitting for a placement test but may be recommended to other subjects during the first two weeks of the semester depending on their English language proficiency. Native or near-native speakers of English 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 will develop their academic skills in oral, written and electronic forms of communication through the study of current issues in Australian 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 700 word assignment 20% (due mid semester), a 1500 word assignment 35% (due at the end of the semester), an oral presentation of 800 words 25% (due at the end of the semester), and class exercises of 1000 words 20% (due throughout the semester).

Prescribed texts: A subject reader will be available for purchase from the University Bookshop.