

Subject Description Form

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| Subject Code | ELC1011 |
| Subject Title | Practical English for University Studies |
| Credit Value | 3 |
| Level | 1 |
| Pre-requisite / Co-requisite/ Exclusion | Nil |
| Objectives | This subject aims to develop and enhance students' general proficiency and communication skills in English. A strong focus will be given to enhancing competence and confidence in writing, grammar, vocabulary, pronunciation and fluency. |
| Intended Subject Learning Outcomes | <p>Upon successful completion of the subject, students will be able to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. organise and write accurate and coherent short texts 2. improve language accuracy and the ability to proofread for common errors in written texts 3. use appropriate verbal and non-verbal skills to enhance fluency and accuracy in spoken communication such as short presentations <p>To achieve the above outcomes, students are expected to use language and text structure appropriate to the context, select information critically, and present their views logically and coherently.</p> |
| Subject Synopsis/ Indicative Syllabus | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Written communication Enhancing the use of accurate and appropriate grammatical structures and vocabulary for various communicative purposes; improving the ability to organise written texts logically; and improving cohesion and coherence in writing. 2. Spoken communication Developing verbal and non-verbal interaction strategies appropriate to the context and level of formality. 3. Reading and listening Understanding the content and structure of information delivered in written and spoken texts; developing effective reading and listening strategies. 4. Language development Improving and extending relevant features of grammar, vocabulary, pronunciation and fluency. |
| Teaching/Learning Methodology | <p>The study method is primarily seminar-based. Following a blended delivery approach, activities include teacher input as well as in- and out-of-class individual and group work involving drafting of texts, information search, mini-presentations and discussions. Students will make use of elearning resources and web-based work to improve their grammar and vocabulary, and other language skills.</p> <p>Learning materials developed by the English Language Centre are used throughout the course. Students will be referred to learning resources on the Internet and in the ELC's Centre for Independent Language Learning. Additional reference materials will be recommended as required.</p> |

| Assessment Methods in Alignment with Intended Learning Outcomes | <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th rowspan="2">Specific assessment methods/tasks</th> <th rowspan="2">% weighting</th> <th colspan="3">Intended subject learning outcomes to be assessed (Please tick as appropriate)</th> </tr> <tr> <th>1</th> <th>2</th> <th>3</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>1. In-class paragraph writing</td> <td>25%</td> <td>✓</td> <td>✓</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>2. Essay writing</td> <td>40%</td> <td>✓</td> <td>✓</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>3. Documentary presentation</td> <td>35%</td> <td>✓</td> <td>✓</td> <td>✓</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total</td> <td>100 %</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table> | Specific assessment methods/tasks | % weighting | Intended subject learning outcomes to be assessed (Please tick as appropriate) | | | 1 | 2 | 3 | 1. In-class paragraph writing | 25% | ✓ | ✓ | | 2. Essay writing | 40% | ✓ | ✓ | | 3. Documentary presentation | 35% | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | Total | 100 % | | | |
|--|---|-----------------------------------|------------------|--|--|--|---|---|---|-------------------------------|-----|---|---|--|------------------|-----|---|---|--|-----------------------------|-----|---|---|---|-------|-------|--|--|--|
| | Specific assessment methods/tasks | | | % weighting | Intended subject learning outcomes to be assessed (Please tick as appropriate) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | | 1 | 2 | | 3 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | 1. In-class paragraph writing | 25% | ✓ | ✓ | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | 2. Essay writing | 40% | ✓ | ✓ | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | 3. Documentary presentation | 35% | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Total | 100 % | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| <p>Explanation of the appropriateness of the assessment methods in assessing the intended learning outcomes:</p> <p>The paragraph writing test, which assess students' grammar, vocabulary and paragraph organization skills, necessitate achievement of LOs (1) and (2).</p> <p>The essay writing assessment evaluates students' ability write a longer text in accurate and appropriate grammatical structures (ref. Los (1) and (2)).</p> <p>The documentary presentation assesses students' ability to speak accurately, appropriately and confidently. Students will research a topic, organise information from a variety of sources, and deliver the information as a digital documentary and mini-presentation (ref. LOs (1), (2) and (3)).</p> <p>In addition to these assessments, students are required to complete further language training through web-based language work. The additional language training offered in online tasks is aligned with all the three LOs and corresponds to their learning in class.</p> | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Student Study Effort Expected | Class contact: | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | • Seminar | 39 Hours | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | Other student study effort: | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | • Self-study/preparation | 78 Hours | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | Total student study effort | | 117 Hours | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Reading List and References | <p>Course material Learning materials developed by the English Language Centre</p> <p>Recommended references</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Boyle, J. & Boyle, L. (1998). <i>Common Spoken English Errors in Hong Kong</i>. Hong Kong: Longman. Brannan, B. (2003). <i>A writer's workshop: Crafting paragraphs, building essays (3rd ed.)</i>. Boston: McGraw-Hill. Hancock, M. (2003). <i>English pronunciation in use</i>. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press. Nettle, M. and Hopkins, D. (2003). <i>Developing grammar in context: Intermediate</i>. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press. Redman, S. (2003). <i>English vocabulary in use: Pre-intermediate and intermediate</i>. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press. Powell, M. (2011). <i>Presenting in English. How to get successful presentations</i>. USA. Heinle & Heinle Publishers. | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Last Updated | July 2017 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Prepared by | English Language Centre | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |