Course specification
This version produced 14 May 2008.
The current and official versions of the course specifications are available on the web at
Please consult the web for updates that may occur during the year.

Description: English - Level 3 International Communication (IC) 15 Weeks

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>Cat-nbr</th>
<th>Class</th>
<th>Term</th>
<th>Mode</th>
<th>Units</th>
<th>Campus</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ENS</td>
<td>7406</td>
<td>63144</td>
<td>1, 2007</td>
<td>ONC</td>
<td>3.00</td>
<td>Toowoomba</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Academic group: INTOF
Academic org: INT002
Student contribution band: 1
ASCED code: 091501

STAFFING
Moderator: George Morrison

OTHER REQUISITES
Pre-requisites: English proficiency between IELTS 5.0 and IELTS 5.5 or accepted equivalents, LEVEL 3 on the USQ placement test or successful completion of English Level 2.

RATIONALE
English is an important language internationally in the spheres of business, tourism and cross cultural communication. Non-native speakers of English benefit personally and in their careers from developing English language skills. This Upper-Intermediate course aims to develop English language skills and communication strategies in reading, writing, listening and speaking to a level where students who are not preparing for university can apply their language skills to more extensive and varied language of a non-academic nature. This course may be undertaken before, after or as an alternative to the pathway course, English - Level 3, as it focuses on an alternative sphere of language use.

SYNOPSIS
In this course, reading, writing and listening and speaking have been organised around a variety of themes covering a wider sphere of language than those encountered at Intermediate level. These themes are from non-academic settings such as business, travelling, cross-cultural exchange and the conduct of daily life. Students perform a variety of tasks which require them to adapt their language for different purposes. Grammatical structures and genres encountered in these settings are analysed and practised. The course consists of approximately 20 hours per week of face to face teaching and learning in the four macroskills 'Listening and Speaking' and 'Reading and Writing'. An additional five hours of self access provides students with the opportunity to select activities to work towards the students' own goals as outlined in their individual study plans. Teachers facilitate this process. The course focuses on development of: 1) language proficiency in the four macroskills, and 2) effective use of strategies to enhance language learning and maximise communication competence. Listening provides opportunities for students to know when and how skills such as listening for specific information, listening for gist and listening for main ideas and
supporting details can be applied to maximise comprehension. Speaking is designed to prepare students for speaking in both formal and informal situations and to equip them with strategic and functional language competencies such as checking understanding, expressing an opinion, making suggestions and complaints. Reading uses current issues from newspapers and other written mediums and focuses on the process of purposeful and strategic engagement with authentic reading material. Writing works through a process of identifying purpose, selection of suitable genres, brainstorming, organizing ideas, writing drafts and revising these. Self-access at the Upper-Intermediate level aims at further developing students' ability to work independently on individual language development to remedy problem areas and meet individual needs.

OBJECTIVES

On completion of this course students will be able to:

1. carry out all basic social activities for communication (Group Project, Progress Test & Test of Communication)
2. get the gist of straightforward radio news and follow discussions and oral reports or argument presented at a moderately slow rate of delivery. (Progress Test & Test of Communication)
3. use oral English in more sustained and complex interactions (Progress Test & Test of Communication)
4. use complex sentence forms and modifiers in both speaking and writing (Progress Test & Test of Communication)
5. use a range of connectives and cohesive features (Progress Test & Test of Communication)
6. read a range of common texts though not necessarily with a complete understanding (Progress Test & Test of Communication)
7. read straightforward newspaper and magazine articles on common topics with a high degree of comprehension (Progress Test & Test of Communication)
8. select language with reasonable sensitivity to appropriateness to setting and intended purpose (Progress Test & Test of Communication)
9. make use of strategies such as checking, clarifying and rephrasing to maintain accurate communication (Progress Test & Test of Communication)
10. present evidence and descriptions in writing with a certain amount of clarity and coherence (Individual Portfolio, Progress Test & Test of Communication)
11. compare, evaluate, give opinions, and critically analyse both orally and in writing (all assessment)
## TOPICS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Weighting (%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Listening and speaking</strong></td>
<td>40.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.1. Using the functions of questioning, checking understanding, expressing an opinion, agreeing and disagreeing, giving advice, making suggestions, complaints and persuading</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>1.2. Listening to a variety of passages or short news broadcasts for specific details</td>
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<tr>
<td>1.3. Understanding the main points of short talks</td>
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<tr>
<td>1.4. Developing pronunciation including intonation, use of stress and rhythm to show politeness, attitude and intention.</td>
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<tr>
<td>1.5. Using formal language for formal business and work settings, such as meetings and interviews</td>
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<tr>
<td>1.6. Preparing and giving a formal presentation</td>
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<tr>
<td>1.7. Developing logical and coherent discussion on a topic</td>
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<tr>
<td>1.8. Carrying on an extended conversation on topics of interest such as leisure, family issues, the environment</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Reading</strong></td>
<td>30.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.1. Scanning a variety of text types (including charts) for specific information</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>2.2. Making sense of vocabulary using context, prefixes, suffixes</td>
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<tr>
<td>2.3. Skimming and previewing texts</td>
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<tr>
<td>2.4. Identifying structure in a variety of text genres</td>
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<tr>
<td>2.5. Understanding attitude, purpose, distinguishing fact and opinion in pieces of writing</td>
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<tr>
<td>2.6. Reading extensively on a topic of interest</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Writing</strong></td>
<td>30.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>3.1. Analysing genres and practising style, tone and degree of formality for writing various types of letters, reports and a CV</td>
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<tr>
<td>3.2. Writing longer pieces by grouping and sequencing information</td>
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<tr>
<td>3.3. Writing relationships and functions found in letters, creative writing, reviews and reports and a CV: cause and effect, argument, compare/contrast, supported opinion and developed description</td>
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<tr>
<td>3.4. Using notes from readings to write reports</td>
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TEXT and MATERIALS required to be PURCHASED or ACCESSED

ALL textbooks and materials are available for purchase from USQ BOOKSHOP (unless otherwise stated). Orders may be placed via secure internet, free fax 1800642453, phone 07 46312742 (within Australia), or mail. Overseas students should fax +61 7 46311743, or phone +61 7 46312742. For costs, further details, and internet ordering, use the 'Textbook Search' facility at http://bookshop.usq.edu.au click 'Semester', then enter your 'Course Code' (no spaces).


REFERENCE MATERIALS

Reference materials are materials that, if accessed by students, may improve their knowledge and understanding of the material in the course and enrich their learning experience.


STUDENT WORKLOAD REQUIREMENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ACTIVITY</th>
<th>HOURS</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Face to Face Teaching - Learning</td>
<td>288.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Private Study</td>
<td>225.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Supervised Individual Self Study (Self Access)</td>
<td>75.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Test</td>
<td>12.00</td>
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</table>

ASSESSMENT DETAILS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Marks out of</th>
<th>Wtg(%)</th>
<th>Due date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>GROUP PROJECTS 1, 2 &amp; 3</td>
<td>45.00</td>
<td>15.00</td>
<td>22 Jun 2007 (see note 1)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>INDIVIDUAL PORTFOLIOS 1, 2 &amp; 3</td>
<td>30.00</td>
<td>10.00</td>
<td>22 Jun 2007</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PROG TEST OF 4 MACROSKILLS 1&amp;2</td>
<td>100.00</td>
<td>25.00</td>
<td>22 Jun 2007 (see note 2)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COMPLETE TEST OF COMMUNICATION</td>
<td>100.00</td>
<td>50.00</td>
<td>22 Jun 2007 (see note 3)</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

NOTES

1. Group projects and individual projects will be due in the 5th, 10th and 15th weeks.
2. Progress tests will be conducted in weeks 5 and 10.
3. The Course Completion "Test of Communication" will be conducted in the 15th week and will cover the 4 macroskills, Reading, Writing, Listening and Speaking.

IMPORTANT ASSESSMENT INFORMATION

1. Attendance requirements:
   It is the students' responsibility to attend and participate appropriately in all classes and activities scheduled for them, and to study all material provided to them or required to be accessed by them to maximise their chance of meeting the objectives of the course and to be informed of course-related activities and administration.

2. Requirements for students to complete each assessment item satisfactorily:
   Combined total grade of assignments achieved is at least 50%.

3. Penalties for late submission of required work:
   N/A

4. Requirements for student to be awarded a passing grade in the course:
   To be assured of receiving a passing grade, students must achieve a score of at least 50% on the final test, "Test of Communication".

5. Method used to combine assessment results to attain final grade:
   All students who are qualified for a passing grade and complete their term of studies will be given a grade of P. Students who have studied 15 weeks, but are not qualified for a passing grade as in Assessment 4 will be given an F.

6. Examination information:
   In a Closed Examination, candidates are allowed to bring only writing instruments into the examination.

7. Examination period when Deferred/Supplementary examinations will be held:
   N/A

8. University Regulations:
   Students should read USQ Regulations 5.1 Definitions, 5.6. Assessment and 5.10 Academic Misconduct for further information and to avoid actions which might contravene University Regulations. These regulations can be found at the URL http://www.usq.edu.au/corporateservices/calendar/part5.htm or in the current USQ Handbook.