

How are **Work-Integrated Education (WIE)**  
**intended learning outcomes** aligned with  
**BALSP/BAESP programme intended learning**  
**outcomes** in Department of English?

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**3+3+4 Symposium**  
**Enhancing and Assessing Students' Learning Outcomes for the**  
**New 4-Year Curriculum**

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# OBA-funded project

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- \* **Excellence in work-integrated education: evaluation evidence of achievement of learning outcomes**

# Alignment of ILOs

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- \* PolyU institutional ILOs
- \* Academic programme ILOs
- \* Subject ILOs

# Learning outcomes for PolyU graduates at undergraduate level (1)

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## 1 Competent professionals

- \* Professional competence
- \* Teamwork and leadership
- \* Global outlook
- \* Entrepreneurship
- \* Lifelong learning

# Learning outcomes for PolyU graduates at undergraduate level (2)

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## 2 Creative problem solvers

- \* Problem solving
- \* Critical thinking
- \* Creative thinking

# Learning outcomes for PolyU graduates at undergraduate level (3)

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## 3 Effective communicators

- \* Communication and interpersonal skills
- \* Biliteracy and trilingualism

# Learning outcomes for PolyU graduates at undergraduate level (4)

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## 4 Educated global citizens

- \* Social and national responsibility
- \* Interest in local and international affairs
- \* Cultural appreciation
- \* Global outlook

# BA in Language Studies for the Profession: Programme ILOs

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- \* Category A: Professional/academic knowledge and skills
- \* Category B: Attributes for all-roundedness



# Category A

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- (1) Highly valued for their **biliteracy and trilingualism** in English and Chinese
- (2) A firm grounding in language studies which can be **critically and creatively** applied in a variety of professional contexts
- (3) An awareness and understanding of intercultural communication in multilingual settings that enhance their **global outlook and cultural appreciation**
- (4) Developed further understanding of **professional communication through WIE**

# Category B

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(5) Work independently and as part of a team

(6) Lifelong learning

(7) Social and national responsibility

(8) Information technology

(9) Future leaders and entrepreneurship

# *ENGL223 WIE learning outcomes*

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## *Category A Professional/academic knowledge and skills*

- \* demonstrate a richer understanding of **the effective use of linguistic skills for communication** and of the development of **inter-personal/business relationships in the workplace**;
- \* appreciate **the use of language by leaders/supervisors** in achieving their goals in professional contexts;
- \* **apply with confidence language knowledge and skills** to professional workplace settings.

# *ENGL223 WIE learning outcomes*

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## *Category B      Attributes for all-roundedness*

- \* demonstrate greater confidence in **creative and critical thinking** and in making **independent judgements**;
- \* display awareness of and appreciate **cultures**, both human and corporate, **within the professional setting**;
- \* identify goals for their **personal and professional development** in the future.

# Work-integrated Education (WIE) OBA-funded project

## Data for this presentation

### 1. Post-WIE focus-group discussion (5 students)

- \* *About 80 students have been interviewed post-WIE: data being transcribed and analysed*

### 2. 72 students' post-WIE reports + reflections

- \* Wmatrix (Paul Rayson)
- \* ConcGram (Chris Greaves)

## BALSP Programme Outcomes

### *(a) Biliteracy & trilingualism in English and Chinese*

- \* Improved interpersonal skills from serving customers
- \* Handling writing tasks: improved bi-literate skills
- \* Working abroad: Improved English proficiency
- \* Working in places filled with the local, expat and Mandarin-speaking people offered chance to practice trilingual skills for communication

# BALSP Programme Outcomes

## *(a) Biliteracy & trilingualism in English and Chinese*

- \* Those who were assigned to an administrative job positions had their writing skills improved.
- \* Those who were placed in a customer-oriented jobs had their oral skills improved
- \* 60% (3/5) of the interviewees thought that they had improvements in their bi-literate skills
- \* 75% (3/4) of those whose placements were in Hong Kong had shown improvements in their trilingual skills
- \* The only interviewee (100%) who worked abroad in her WIE admitted to have gained better trilingual skills.

# BALSP Programme Outcomes

## *(c) Intercultural communication & global outlook*

- \* Learned that the work pace abroad is slow
- \* Learned special working practices abroad  
*e.g. people have a 2-hr lunch break in India. (Her WIE employer subcontracted IT support to an Indian firm)*
- \* Adjusted themselves to suit either local/foreign companies' work ethics



# BALSP Programme Outcomes

## *(c) Intercultural communication & global outlook*

- \* All of the interviewees (5/5) agreed that they were aware of the human or corporate culture of the organization they worked in
  - \* especially those who worked abroad or worked in foreign-funded company

## BALSP Programme Outcomes

### *(d) Professional communication in the modern workplace*

- \* Became more sensitive to “supervisory language”, e.g. different levels of formality in different situations: formal at meetings, causal and informal when talking to students
- \* Learned how to communicate with customers of different age and gender
- \* Learned to tailor their work for different superiors with different management styles
- \* Realized the importance of discipline in the workplace

## BALSP Programme Outcomes

### *(d) Professional communication in the modern workplace*

- \* All of the interviewees (5/5) agreed that they had developed better communication skills in the workplace, especially when dealing with superiors
- \* They have cultivated better work attitudes and discipline
- \* They became more convinced of the difference between study and work

# BALSP Programme Outcomes

## *(e) Independent judgment & teamwork in the workplace*

- \* Learned to take initiative at work
- \* Learned how to solve work problems creatively with their colleagues
- \* Felt gratified when they could solve problems without superior guidance

# BALSP Programme Outcomes

## *(e) Independent judgment & teamwork in the workplace*

- \* All (5/5) agreed that they had developed independent judgment and team spirit from the workplace
- \* 40% (2/5) had solved work problems without the help from their superior, e.g. how to control people flow in the mall/bank

# BALSP Programme Outcomes

## *Value-added knowledge from WIE*

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- \* Organizational awareness
- \* Commercial awareness
- \* Global awareness

# BALSP Programme Outcomes

## *Value-added knowledge from WIE*

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- \* All admitted to have gained organization awareness
- \* All admitted to have gained commercial awareness
- \* All admitted to have gained global awareness

## How did WIE contribute to students' current jobs

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- \* Better interpersonal skills
- \* Better workplace language
- \* Improved self-confidence
- \* Shed light on students' career choice



# Suggestions by the students

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- \* Longer job placement duration
- \* Placement on hourly instead of weekly basis
- \* Screen employers to assure quality of placement
- \* Integrate in BALSP subjects knowledge about workplace hands-on experience and strategies to handle real workplace situations

# UCREL (University Centre for Computer Corpus Research on Language)

The UCREL semantic analysis system is a framework for undertaking the automatic semantic analysis of text.

<http://ucrel.lancs.ac.uk/wmatrix/>

# UCREL Semantic Analysis System (USAS)

The semantic tagset used by USAS was originally loosely based on Tom McArthur's Longman Lexicon of Contemporary English (McArthur, 1981). It has a multi-tier structure with **21 major discourse fields** which can be further subdivided.

<b>A</b> general and abstract terms	<b>B</b> the body and the individual	<b>C</b> arts and crafts	<b>E</b> emotion
<b>F</b> food and farming	<b>G</b> government and public	<b>H</b> architecture, housing and the home	<b>I</b> money and commerce in industry
<b>K</b> entertainment, sports and games	<b>L</b> life and living things	<b>M</b> movement, location, travel and transport	<b>N</b> numbers and measurement
<b>O</b> substances, materials, objects and equipment	<b>P</b> education	<b>Q</b> language and communication	<b>S</b> social actions, states and processes
<b>T</b> Time	<b>W</b> world and environment	<b>X</b> psychological actions, states and processes	<b>Y</b> science and technology
<b>Z</b> names and grammar			

# UCREL Semantic Analysis System (USAS)

The 21 major discourse fields can be subdivided, and with the possibility of further fine-grained subdivision in certain cases.

(part of the full tagset on the right)

<b>A GENERAL &amp; ABSTRACT TERMS</b>	
A1	General
A1.1.1	General actions, making etc.
A1.1.2	Damaging and destroying
A1.2	Suitability
A1.3	Caution
A1.4	Chance, luck
A1.5	Use
A1.5.1	Using
A1.5.2	Usefulness
A1.6	Physical/mental
A1.7	Constraint
A1.8	Inclusion/Exclusion
A1.9	Avoiding
A2	Affect
A2.1	Affect: Modify, change
A2.2	Affect: Cause/Connected
A3	Being
A4	Classification
A4.1	Generally kinds, groups, examples
A4.2	Particular/general; detail
A5	Evaluation
A5.1	Evaluation: Good/bad
A5.2	Evaluation: True/false
A5.3	Evaluation: Accuracy
A5.4	Evaluation: Authenticity
A6	Comparing

# ENGL students

The WIE reports were collected from 72 BA students of the Department of English who completed their WIE in 2009 summer.

		<b>No. of students</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
<b>Programme</b>	LSP	49	68%
	ESP	23	32%

<b>Gender</b>	Male	11	15%
	Female	61	85%

<b>Year of Study</b>	Year 1	23	32%
	Year 2	49	68%

<b>Countries / Cities for WIE</b>	Hong Kong	5	7%
	Beijing	10	14%
	Shanghai	3	4%
	USA	2	3%
	Australia	34	47%
	UK	18	25%

# Corpus of ENGL WIE reports

<b>Sub-corpora</b>	<b>No. of words</b>
1. Introduction	2,150
2. Expectation for the job placement	19,151
3. Brief description of the company	15,369
4. Description of job responsibilities	28,892
5. Post-placement self-evaluation	81,573
6. Personal development plan	16,118
7. Conclusion	927
Corpus of ENGL WIE reports (Total no. of words)	164,180

# ILO A1: Demonstrate a richer understanding of the effective use of linguistic skills for communication and of the development of inter-personal / business relationships in the workplace

	Semantic Fields	Frequency	Percentage	Examples
1	Grammatical bin	3,830	29.91%	the, to, and, in, of, a, with
2	Pronouns etc.	1,737	13.56%	my, me, it, we, that
3	Speech etc: Communicative	379	2.96%	communication, communicate, speak, talk
4	Being	356	2.78%	is, was, are, be, were, am
5	Language, speech and grammar	293	2.29%	language, trilingual, words, linguistic, languages
6	Work and employment: Generally	208	1.62%	workplace, work, working, worked, staff, job
7	Personal names	196	1.53%	English, Hong Kong, franca, Wang
8	Education in general	193	1.51%	students, teachers, class, student
9	Definite (+modals)	171	1.34%	could, can, would, may, clear, definitely
10	Speech acts	164	1.28%	asked, instructions, ask, questions, apply
11	General actions, making etc.	159	1.24%	do, practice, made, make, doing, tasks
12	Geographical names	153	1.19%	Cantonese, Chinese, Australian, Australia, foreigners
13	Getting and giving; possession	150	1.17%	have, had, gained, give, got
14	Degree:Boosters	146	1.14%	very, more, really, so, much
15	Using	133	1.04%	use, used, using, function



## ILO A2: Appreciate the use of language by leaders / supervisors in achieving their goals in professional contexts

	Semantic Fields	Frequency	Percentage	Examples
1	Grammatical bin	2,791	28.83%	the, to, and, of, in, a
2	Pronouns etc.	1,343	13.87%	I, they, my, me, their, it
3	Being	307	3.17%	is, was, are, be, were
4	Language, speech and grammar	231	2.39%	language, words, word, languages, accents, slang
5	Speech etc: Communicative	214	2.21%	speak, speaking, said, talk, talking
6	Definite (+modals)	178	1.84%	would, can, could, may, clear, clearly
7	Power, organising	166	1.71%	supervisors, supervisor, leaders, manager, boss, order
8	Using	159	1.64%	use, used, using, uses, make use of
9	General actions, making etc.	157	1.62%	do, tasks, task, make, made
10	Speech acts	147	1.52%	ask, asked, instructions, explain, questions, discussion
11	Work and employment: Generally	143	1.48%	working, work, job, workplace, staff
12	Degree: Boosters	126	1.30%	very, more, really, so, very much
13	Education in general	118	1.22%	students, school, teachers, university, taught
14	Getting and giving; possession	103	1.06%	have, had, giving, achieve, achieving
15	Comparing: Similar/different	92	0.95%	different, other, another, others, instead of

# ILO A3: Apply with confidence language knowledge and skills to professional workplace settings

	Semantic Fields	Frequency	Percentage	Examples
1	Grammatical bin	3,131	27.95%	the, to, and, in, a, of
2	Pronouns etc.	1,640	14.64%	I, my, it, me, that, they
3	Being	368	3.28%	is, was, be, are, am
4	Work and employment: Generally	272	2.43%	work, working, workplace, job, staff
5	General actions, making etc.	229	2.04%	do, make, task, tasks, doing
6	Definite (+modals)	169	1.51%	can, could, would, may, sure
7	Speech etc: Communicative	149	1.33%	speaking, communicate, told, talk, speak
8	Thought, belief	146	1.30%	think, attitude, believe, feel, attitudes
9	Speech acts	146	1.30%	ask, asked, questions, apply, asking
10	Degree: Boosters	145	1.29%	very, more, really, much, so
11	Getting and giving; possession	144	1.29%	have, get, had, take, keep
12	Education in general	140	1.25%	students, school, class, taught, university
13	Negative	130	1.16%	not, nothing, no, n't, non, neither
14	Obligation and necessity	123	1.10%	have to, should, needed, need, had to, essential
15	Language, speech and grammar	118	1.05%	language, words, reading, grammar

# ILO B1: demonstrate greater confidence in creative and critical thinking and in making independent judgements

	Semantic Fields	Frequency	Percentage	Examples
1	Grammatical bin	2,830	29.36%	the, to, and, in, a
2	Pronouns etc.	1,313	13.62%	I, my, me, we, it
3	Thought, belief	300	3.11%	thinking, creative, think, judgements, thought
4	General actions, making etc.	280	2.90%	make, do, tasks, making
5	Being	254	2.63%	was, is, be, were, are
6	Speech acts	183	1.90%	critical, asked, report, instructions
7	Obligation and necessity	159	1.65%	had to, should, have to, needed, need, duties
8	Education in general	144	1.49%	students, class, school, student, train
9	Definite (+modals)	126	1.31%	would, could, can, may, might
10	Degree: Boosters	125	1.30%	more, very, really, much, critically
11	Work and employment: Generally	115	1.19%	work, job, working, worked, staff
12	Getting and giving; possession	112	1.16%	have, had, give, given, gave
13	Negative	112	1.16%	not, no, neither, nor
14	Location and Direction	85	0.88%	this, face, internship, out, front, facing, back
15	Groups and affiliation	84	0.87%	independent, by myself, on my own, independently

# ILO B2: Display awareness of and appreciate cultures, both human and corporate, within the professional setting

	Semantic Fields	Frequency	Percentage	Examples
1	Grammatical bin	3,619	28.47%	the, and, to, in, a
2	Pronouns etc.	1,600	12.59%	I, they, their, it, that
3	Being	449	3.53%	is, are, was, be, were
4	Work and employment: Generally	363	2.86%	work, working, staff, workplace, job
5	Degree: Boosters	245	1.93%	very, really, more, so, much
6	Education in general	223	1.75%	students, school, teachers, teaching, university
7	Geographical names	205	1.61%	Australia, Australian, UK, Hong Kong, China
8	Getting and giving; possession	194	1.53%	have, had, get, take, has
9	Definite (+modals)	179	1.41%	can, would, may, could, definitely
10	General actions, making etc.	161	1.27%	do, make, made, busy, tasks, activities
11	Comparing: Similar/different	148	1.16%	different, others, other, differences, another
12	Arts and crafts	139	1.09%	culture, cultures, photos, cultural, design
13	People	137	1.08%	people, human, children, host, guests
14	Liking	132	1.04%	appreciate, enjoy, like, appreciated, love
15	Personal names	131	1.03%	Hong Kong, English, Jo, Albert, Tsing Hua

## ILO B3: Identify goals for their personal and professional development in the future

	Semantic Fields	Frequency	Percentage	Examples
1	Grammatical bin	2,459	28.86%	the, to, in, and, a, of
2	Pronouns etc.	1,189	13.96%	I, my, me, that, it, myself
3	Being	282	3.31%	is, be, am, are, being
4	Work and employment: Generally	231	2.71%	working, work, job, career, jobs, workplace
5	Definite (+modals)	144	1.69%	can, would, could, clear, sure, may
6	General actions, making etc.	134	1.57%	do, make, task, tasks, doing, makes, prepare
7	Getting and giving; possession	134	1.57%	have, had, having, keep, got, gain
8	Time: General: Future	132	1.55%	future, will, going to, one day, next time
9	Degree: Boosters	128	1.50%	more, very, really, so, a lot
10	Education in general	125	1.47%	teacher, teaching, school, students, graduation
11	Location and Direction	107	1.26%	this, internship, courses, in, position, here, overseas
12	Thought, belief	106	1.24%	think, believe, feel, attitude, thinking, creative
13	Comparing: Similar/different	86	1.01%	different, others, other, another, difference
14	Obligation and necessity	85	1.00%	should, have to, need, essential, duties, must
15	Wanting; planning; choosing	84	0.99%	want, programme, wanted, required, target

# Summary of semantic fields

## ILO in category A

	ILO-A1	ILO-A2	ILO-A3
1	Grammatical bin	Grammatical bin	Grammatical bin
2	Pronouns etc.	Pronouns etc.	Pronouns etc.
3	Speech etc: Communicative	Being	Being
4	Being	Language, speech and grammar	Work and employment: Generally
5	Language, speech and grammar	Speech etc: Communicative	General actions, making etc.
6	Work and employment: Generally	Definite (+modals)	Definite (+modals)
7	Personal names	Power, organising	Speech etc: Communicative
8	Education in general	Using	Thought, belief
9	Definite (+modals)	General actions, making etc.	Speech acts
10	Speech acts	Speech acts	Degree: Boosters
11	General actions, making etc.	Work and employment: Generally	Getting and giving; possession
12	Geographical names	Degree: Boosters	Education in general
13	Getting and giving; possession	Education in general	Negative
14	Degree: Boosters	Getting and giving; possession	Obligation and necessity
15	Using	Comparing: Similar/different	Language, speech and grammar

# Summary of semantic fields

## ILO in category B

	ILO-B1	ILO-B2	ILO-B3
1	Grammatical bin	Grammatical bin	Grammatical bin
2	Pronouns etc.	Pronouns etc.	Pronouns etc.
3	Thought, belief	Being	Being
4	General actions, making etc.	Work and employment: Generally	Work and employment: Generally
5	Being	Degree: Boosters	Definite (+modals)
6	Speech acts	Education in general	General actions, making etc.
7	Obligation and necessity	Geographical names	Getting and giving; possession
8	Education in general	Getting and giving; possession	Time: General: Future
9	Definite (+modals)	Definite (+modals)	Degree: Boosters
10	Degree: Boosters	General actions, making etc.	Education in general
11	Work and employment: Generally	Comparing: Similar/different	Location and Direction
12	Getting and giving; possession	Arts and crafts	Thought, belief
13	Negative	People	Comparing: Similar/different
14	Location and Direction	Liking	Obligation and necessity
15	Groups and affiliation	Personal names	Wanting; planning; choosing

1 ones and this facilitated my work. The use of language by supervisors I discovered in my workplace is  
2 working environment is sustained. The use of language by my supervisors was always polite. They were  
3 usually with a certain rhyme. The use of language by the supervisors is not difficult to  
4 in professional contexts. Another use of language used by the supervisors that I appreciate is that  
5 workplace, I have noticed that the use of language by the leaders supervisors is very polite and  
6 or us to do any things. Through the use of language, I found that the supervisors in Australia are  
7 ould add the word “Please”. I appreciate the language use by my supervisors because I can feel the  
8 chieving goals in professional contexts. The language use of my supervisors is very clear, not only for  
9 supervisors at the school may mind their use of language more in order to be a good role model for the



# Most frequent 2-word concgrams

Rank	A1		A2		A3	
	Origin	Word 2	Origin	Word 2	Origin	Word 2
1	English	my	language	use	my	me
2	colleagues	my	my	me	my	work
3	my	skills	my	supervisors	colleagues	my

Rank	B1		B2		B3	
	Origin	Word 2	Origin	Word 2	Origin	Word 2
1	critical	thinking	Hong	Kong	future	my
2	my	me	Hong	people	career	my
3	creative	thinking	Kong	people	my	me

# Most frequent 3-word concgrams

	A1		A2		A3	
Rank	Double origin	Word 3	Double origin	Word 3	Double origin	Word 3
1	inter-personal / business	inter	my / supervisors	use	my / me	more
2	personal / business	inter	language / use	my	work / when	working
3	inter-personal / use	inter	language / use	supervisors	work / well	when

	B1		B2		B3	
Rank	Double origin	Word 3	Double origin	Word 3	Double origin	Word 3
1	critical / creative	thinking	very / working	work	my / more	me
2	my / me	thinking	Hong / Kong	people	my / me	work
3	independent / judgements	my	Hong / Kong	working	career / future	my

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*Thank you!*