

The Hong Kong Polytechnic University

Subject Description Form

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 communicative competence and confidence in text structure, grammar, vocabulary, pronunciation and fluency.
Intended Learning Outcomes	<p>Upon successful completion of the subject, students will be able to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. produce short written texts in a university context using appropriate structures, vocabulary and tone b. analyse and select information from a range of text types in order to present content and views in a university context c. apply multimodal communication strategies (e.g. spoken, written, visual and aural) to present information and views for an academic audience <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.

	<p>5. Multimodal communication Developing the application of multimodal communication strategies; using a range of media and modes to present information and opinions.</p>																															
<p>Teaching/Learning Methodology</p>	<p>The study method is a combination of seminar, self-access work and online learning. 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. Students' personal integrity in the fast-changing technological landscape is also nurtured.</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>																															
<p>Assessment Methods in Alignment with Intended Learning Outcomes</p>	<table border="1" data-bbox="517 801 1473 1312"> <thead> <tr> <th data-bbox="517 801 927 1003" rowspan="2">Specific assessment methods/tasks</th> <th data-bbox="927 801 1107 1003" rowspan="2">% weighting</th> <th colspan="3" data-bbox="1107 801 1473 936">Intended subject learning outcomes to be assessed (Please tick as appropriate)</th> </tr> <tr> <th data-bbox="1107 936 1227 1003">a</th> <th data-bbox="1227 936 1347 1003">b</th> <th data-bbox="1347 936 1473 1003">c</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="517 1003 927 1070">1. Extended Outline</td> <td data-bbox="927 1003 1107 1070">5%</td> <td data-bbox="1107 1003 1227 1070">✓</td> <td data-bbox="1227 1003 1347 1070">✓</td> <td data-bbox="1347 1003 1473 1070">✓</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="517 1070 927 1137">2. Multimodal Essay</td> <td data-bbox="927 1070 1107 1137">30%</td> <td data-bbox="1107 1070 1227 1137">✓</td> <td data-bbox="1227 1070 1347 1137">✓</td> <td data-bbox="1347 1070 1473 1137">✓</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="517 1137 927 1240">3. Group Digital Documentary + Q&A</td> <td data-bbox="927 1137 1107 1240">65%</td> <td data-bbox="1107 1137 1227 1240">✓</td> <td data-bbox="1227 1137 1347 1240">✓</td> <td data-bbox="1347 1137 1473 1240">✓</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="517 1240 927 1312">Total</td> <td data-bbox="927 1240 1107 1312">100 %</td> <td colspan="3" data-bbox="1107 1240 1473 1312"></td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <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 organisation skills, necessitates achievement of LOs (a) and (b).</p> <p>The multimodal essay writing assessment evaluates students' ability to write a longer text using accurate and appropriate structures and vocabulary, leading to improved learning outcomes (ref. LOs (a), (b) and (c)).</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 (a), (b) and (c)).</p> <p>To complete further language training outside classes, students are required to participate in other face-to-face initiatives in the ELC's Centre for Independent Language Learning. There is also language training offered in online tasks which is aligned with all the three LOs and corresponds to their learning in class.</p>				Specific assessment methods/tasks	% weighting	Intended subject learning outcomes to be assessed (Please tick as appropriate)			a	b	c	1. Extended Outline	5%	✓	✓	✓	2. Multimodal Essay	30%	✓	✓	✓	3. Group Digital Documentary + Q&A	65%	✓	✓	✓	Total	100 %			
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<p>Student Study Effort Expected</p>	Class contact:																															
	▪ Seminar		39 Hrs.																													

	Other student study effort:	
	▪ Self-study/preparation	78 Hrs.
	Total student study effort	117 Hrs.

Reading List and References	<p><i>Course material</i> Learning materials developed by the English Language Centre</p> <p><i>Recommended references</i> 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.</p>
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