

English for Academic Purposes in Agriculturally Related Topics

COURSE OUTLINE

Course description

This course aims to introduce students to the academic skills they need during their studies at university. The course concentrates mainly on academic writing, but also aims at the development of academic listening and speaking skills in English.

Course objectives

After completion of this course students should be able to:

- analyze academic writing (purpose, content, pattern of development, and stylistic features)
- approach a writing task as a process of planning, outlining, drafting, revising, and editing
- synthesize information from several sources into their own writing
- paraphrase and summarize effectively
- read and comprehend authentic academic texts relating to agricultural topics;
- develop academic listening strategies (note-taking, identification of main ideas and specific details)
- acquire and use new academic vocabulary
- use language structures in scientific and academic situations
- give short presentations

TOPICS & SKILLS

Introduction to Academic Writing

- The stages of writing an academic essay
- Writing definitions
- Exemplification / Classification
- Building a coherent paragraph
 - Description: Process & Procedure
 - Dealing with Comparison & Contrast
- Paraphrasing / Summarising
- Interpretation of Data
 - Describing graphs
- Surveys, Questionnaires

Academic Reading

- Skimming & scanning, detailed reading

Academic Listening

- Note taking
- Diagram completion

Presentation Skills

- Key features of an effective presentation
- Describing a Process

Language in Use

- Key grammar points
- Multiple-choice cloze texts & vocabulary practice
- Linking Devices/ Use of Connectives

ACTIVITIES AND MATERIALS

- Authentic reading texts
- Listening to authentic material (lectures, interviews, documentaries)
- Written & spoken assignments