Course Description:
The main purpose of this practical course is to equip the non-native student of English with the necessary language skills for academic interaction. It is designed to help students develop their abilities in writing, reading, listening, and speaking in a university environment. Accordingly, the method of teaching and learning will be mostly based on large and small group discussions, oral presentations, listening comprehension activities, and writing tasks. Whilst this course does not deal specifically with the questions which occur in public examinations such as IELTS and TOEIC, many of the skills taught in this course have a direct application to preparing for these exams.

Learning outcomes:
- Read academic texts quickly and effectively
- Write paragraphs and short academic essays
- Comprehend and identify main ideas, supporting details, facts and opinions
- Give oral presentations on topics of personal and academic interest
- Interact with a degree of fluency and participate in discussions

Materials/Text:
The following materials will be used:
- Handouts and worksheets supplied by the instructor
- Relevant web-based materials and activities

Requirements:
There are no requirements for this course.

Schedule:
* The following syllabus and schedule are indicative. The balance of the components, and the weighting accorded to each will be based on the specific needs of the participants.

Week 1: Reading Skills
- Overall introduction
- Language development (grammatical structures; vocabulary)
- Reading academic texts,
- Skimming or reading for general ideas;
- Scanning or reading for specific information;
- Deducing meaning, understanding relationships in the text; distinguishing the main ideas.

Week 2: Writing Skills
- The writing process (prewriting, drafting, revising, and editing)
- Writing from sentence to paragraph; punctuation and spelling; finding ideas; linking ideas; searching for relevant information; using books and periodicals;
- Describing, classifying; comparing and contrasting.
- Developing an argument

Week 3: Listening Skills
- Taking effective notes;
- listening for main ideas;
- listening for details and specific information;
- Understanding intonation, stress, rhythm.

Week 4: Speaking Skills
- Spoken and written communication
- Speaking in seminars and giving oral presentations
- Preparing and delivering a presentation; giving the information in detail
- Describing graphs and figures;
- Stating a point of view
- Turn-taking in discussions
- Agreeing and disagreeing

Assignments:
During the course, students will be expected to produce a series of assignments:
• short writing assignments,
• small in-class or take-home activities.
• Oral presentations

Evaluation:
• Class attendance 20%
• In-class participation and presentation 20%
• Short writing assignments and exercises 30%
• Final report 30%

Further information and a full schedule will be provided on the first day of the course.