

English for Specific Purposes: Academic Writing and Presentation (A005820)

Course size *(nominal values; actual values may depend on programme)*

Credits 5.0

Study time 150 h

Course offerings and teaching methods in academic year 2026-2027

A (semester 2)	English	Gent	seminar	0.0h
			independent work	0.0h

Lecturers in academic year 2026-2027

Chan, David	LW22	lecturer-in-charge
Alger, Mari	LW22	staff member
De Wilde, Vanessa	LW22	co-lecturer
Pleşca, Ana-Maria	LW22	staff member

Offered in the following programmes in 2026-2027

	crdts	offering
Bachelor of Arts in Applied Language Studies: a combination of at least two languages(main subject Dutch, English, French)	5	A
Bachelor of Arts in Applied Language Studies: a combination of at least two languages(main subject Dutch, English, German)	5	A
Bachelor of Arts in Applied Language Studies: a combination of at least two languages(main subject Dutch, English, Italian)	5	A
Bachelor of Arts in Applied Language Studies: a combination of at least two languages(main subject Dutch, English, Language Technology)	5	A
Bachelor of Arts in Applied Language Studies: a combination of at least two languages(main subject Dutch, English, Russian)	5	A
Bachelor of Arts in Applied Language Studies: a combination of at least two languages(main subject Dutch, English, Spanish)	5	A
Bachelor of Arts in Applied Language Studies: a combination of at least two languages(main subject Dutch, English, Turkish)	5	A
Exchange Programme Applied Language Studies	5	A
Linking Course Master of Arts in Multilingual Communication: a combination of at least two languages	5	A
Linking Course Master of Arts in Translation: a combination of at least two languages	5	A
Preparatory Course Master of Arts in Interpreting: a combination of at least two languages	5	A
Preparatory Course Master of Arts in Multilingual Communication: a combination of at least two languages	5	A
Preparatory Course Master of Arts in Translation: a combination of at least two languages	5	A

Teaching languages

English

Keywords

Academic writing skills, academic speaking skills, academic vocabulary, cross-course project, podcast

Position of the course

Similar to EP1 this course is composed of Speaking, Writing and Vocabulary components, but for this course the focus lies squarely on producing academic texts – both verbal (presentation, podcast) and written (academic poster, reports and sections of academic papers). An important feature of the course is the small-scale research project undertaken by students in groups, that as well as providing the opportunity to develop research and presentation skills, connects the course to other courses via linking topics of a linguistic and/or cultural nature.

Contents

WRITING: the course will take in a number of genres – summarising and reporting on data in graphs and charts, writing sections of an academic paper, in particular a results section, academic poster. The genres will allow students to further develop core essay and academic writing skills seen in EPI and II, but with a particular focus on structuring argument and the conventions of formal academic writing (referencing, register, moves in academic papers, lexical precision). The results section will be based on students' analysis of persuasion in texts (advertisements, political speeches). This may also involve assessing such an analysis generated by GAI. For the research project, attention will be paid to the informational and persuasive dimensions of creating an academic poster.

The writing component of this course assumes the responsible use of generative artificial intelligence (GAI) in preparatory and revision writing stages. During the lessons, what this means will be explained.

SPEAKING: the Speaking component builds on the discussion, argumentation and presentation skills seen in EPII. The main focus is the cross-course research project in which students present the results of their research with the aid of an academic poster and on podcasts. Class sessions are supported by online asynchronous content and exercise materials.

VOCABULARY: As in EPI, Vocabulary is mainly conceived as a self-study course. Students will continue to independently explore a broad range of vocabulary items to expand their lexical repertoire. Students will deepen their understanding of aspects concerning English lexis (collocations, synonyms, connotations, false friends, register, regional variation, word formation, idioms etc.). As part of the podcast assignment which is conducted in small groups, students will actively use the vocabulary and idioms they have acquired over the semester.

Initial competences

The final objectives of the various English study units of the first bachelor year.

Final competences

- 1 Having a command of English at C1 level of the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages for comprehension (listening and reading), oral skills (production and interaction) and writing skills, and vocabulary.2) Having a strong command of advanced English vocabulary. [B.1.2; assessed]
- 2 Having a strong language awareness in English and developing a sensitivity to the similarities, differences and interactions between cultures. [B.3.1; assessed]
- 3 Critically reflecting on their own thinking, learning, decisions and actions. [B.3.3; not assessed]
- 4 Based on acquired competences, acting correctly and tactfully in different communicative situations, based on an understanding of similarities, differences and interactions between Dutch and English culture. [B.5.2; assessed]
- 5 Adequately interpreting, analysing, assessing and correcting English written and oral communication, including messages of a specialised nature. [B.6.1, assessed]
- 6 Editing text independently in English (academic reports and papers) and assessing it critically, thereby justifying the text type appropriate to the purpose, target group and media. [B.6.2, assessed]
- 7 Expressing oneself in complex communicative situations in English (e.g. academic poster presentation) appropriate to the purpose, target group and media. [B.6.3; assessed]
- 8 Having knowledge of relevant dictionaries, reference works and electronic aids, using them adequately and efficiently, and critically evaluating them. [B.6.5, not assessed]
- 9 Being able to create an academic poster and podcast using appropriate design models and software. [assessed]

Conditions for credit contract

Access to this course unit via a credit contract is unrestricted: the student takes into consideration the conditions mentioned in 'Starting Competences'

Conditions for exam contract

This course unit cannot be taken via an exam contract

Teaching methods

Seminar, Independent work

Extra information on the teaching methods

3 groups Each group 2 slots per week

Writing skills are taught in seminars (22.50 hours for each group). Students are also required to complete a number of writing tasks at home (independent work).

Generative AI will be integrated into writing practice and students will be given advice and support in using and assessing AI prompts for writing tasks.

Speaking classes are taught in seminars (5.00 hours for each group). Students develop a broad range of active verbal language use in both formal and informal contexts. Fluency, accuracy and precision are practised alongside critical thinking and argumentation skills. Students participate in group discussions and presentations on a range of topical issues. They collaborate in preparing the cross-course project presentation. Guidance will be provided on the statistical analysis of data gathered for the project.

Vocabulary is mainly conceived as a self-study course, accompanied by two seminar slots (2.50 hours) on campus. During classes, students are introduced to the target vocabulary and are given opportunities to practise using words in context together with their peers. Students will also begin the process of preparing their podcasts in small groups. During independent study, students will systematically expand their breadth and depth of advanced English vocabulary to support speaking and writing skills.

Online non-synchronous teaching is added to on-campus class time: 7 slots for writing, 3 slots for vocabulary, 2 slots for speaking.

At various points there will also be communal sessions for writing, speaking and vocabulary.

No lecture recordings will be made.

Study material

Type: Handbook

Name: English Vocabulary in Use: Advanced

Indicative price: € 32

Optional: no

Language : English

Author : Michael McCarthy; Felicity O'Dell

ISBN : 978-1-31663-117-1

Oldest Usable Edition : 2017

Online Available : No

Available in the Library : Yes

Available through Student Association : No

Usability and Lifetime within the Course Unit : intensive

Usability and Lifetime within the Study Programme : intensive

Usability and Lifetime after the Study Programme : regularly

Type: Handbook

Name: Writing in English. Advanced English writing skills for Dutch speakers.

Indicative price: € 45

Optional: no

Language : English

Author : D. Chan, L. Jookan, P. Robberecht

ISBN : 978-9-40147-069-8

Oldest Usable Edition : 2022

Online Available : No

Available in the Library : Yes

Available through Student Association : No

Usability and Lifetime within the Course Unit : intensive

Usability and Lifetime within the Study Programme : intensive

Usability and Lifetime after the Study Programme : regularly

Type: Handouts

Name: Handouts for writing, speaking and vocabulary

Indicative price: Free or paid by faculty

Optional: no

Language : English

Available on Ufora : Yes

Online Available : Yes
Available in the Library : No
Available through Student Association : No
Usability and Lifetime within the Course Unit : regularly
Usability and Lifetime within the Study Programme : regularly
Usability and Lifetime after the Study Programme : occasionally

Type: Other

Name: Longman Dictionary of Contemporary English
Indicative price: € 48
Optional: no
Language : English
Author : NA
ISBN : 0-582-45639-8
Oldest Usable Edition : 2014
Available on Ufora : No
Online Available : Yes
Available in the Library : Yes
Available through Student Association : Yes
Usability and Lifetime within the Course Unit : intensive
Usability and Lifetime within the Study Programme : intensive
Usability and Lifetime after the Study Programme : intensive

Type: Other

Name: Academic Word List
Indicative price: Free or paid by faculty
Optional: no
Language : English
Author : Averil Coxhead
Online Available : Yes
Available in the Library : No
Available through Student Association : No
Usability and Lifetime within the Course Unit : regularly
Usability and Lifetime within the Study Programme : regularly
Usability and Lifetime after the Study Programme : occasionally

References

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Course content-related study coaching

All lecturers can be contacted during weekly office hours.

Additional writing exercises, with model solutions, are available from the electronic learning platform. Students can also take part in forum discussions on the learning platform.

Assessment moments

end-of-term and continuous assessment

Examination methods in case of periodic assessment during the first examination period

Written assessment

Examination methods in case of periodic assessment during the second examination period

Written assessment

Examination methods in case of permanent assessment

Oral assessment, Written assessment

Possibilities of retake in case of permanent assessment

examination during the second examination period is possible

Extra information on the examination methods

CONTINUOUS ASSESSMENT 50%

Results of 10/20 or more obtained for continuous assessment are transferred to the second session. Students who do not pass the continuous assessment tasks are given the opportunity to revise/retake them during the examination period.

Writing: 20%

Student writing skills are assessed on the basis of a results section assignment completed in class. Students that do not submit this task will be marked 0 for continuous assessment.

Speaking: 15%

Cross-course research project

Vocabulary: 15%

Podcast

END-OF-TERM ASSESSMENT 50%

Writing examination 35%

Vocabulary examination 15%

Calculation of the examination mark

See heading 'extra information on the examination methods'.

Facilities for Working Students

Possible exemption from educational activities requiring student attendance.

The examination can be rescheduled.