

Yokohama National University
English for Applied Economics
Intensive Course
5 – 30 August, 2019

Course Outline

This is an 80-hour, four-week course for students of Economics. The students will work in a closed group on a range of activities designed to develop their English for Economics studies, extend their academic vocabulary and skills in reading about, listening to, writing about and discussing these subjects, while at the same time improving their communicative competence and seminar skills. There are three main strands in the course.

Note: Friday 16 August is a holiday for the group.

Academic Reading and Writing Skills for Economics

These sessions will be focused on writing and reading in an academic context, specifically in Economics and related topics. Each session will concentrate on a particular aspect of academic writing and reading, examining samples of academic texts and working on interactive tasks which focus on features of academic discourse. Students will prepare written assignments over the course of the four weeks, putting into practice what they have studied in these sessions. The writing sessions will be linked to the reading sessions and look at areas such as description, problem /solution and discursive essay writing, interpreting graphs. The writing sessions will include re-drafting, peer feedback and students will also be encouraged to keep a reflective journal of their learning and experiences in Edinburgh. Reading skills sessions will include: the Scottish Economy, MINT countries, Fairtrade, and current topical news items.

Communication and Seminar Skills

These sessions aim to build speaking and listening skills, with a focus on cross cultural communication, fluency development, and confidence in using English. Examples of tasks: short practice tasks to develop confidence, discussions to develop fluency; meeting skills activity to encourage participation, presentation tasks and extended role-plays. There will also be a focus on academic seminar skills with language input and practice in participating in an academic seminar. Examples of language input and practice: language of opinion, clarification, and asking questions. These sessions will lead to student-led seminars. During the course, students will have at least 2 short individual tutorials with the class teacher to discuss progress.

Academic Research Projects

Students will work in pairs to carry out a research project on a topic related to economics or culture. This will involve background research, questionnaire design, and interviews with members of the public. Teachers will guide the students through the process, advising on suitable sources of information and research subjects. Mentors will help with ideas and advice on data collection and delivery of the results. The research projects will be presented in the final week of the course, following input and practice on presentation language and skills in a formal academic setting.

Mentors

A mentor is an English-speaking university undergraduate who works with the students to provide opportunities for the participants to use their English in interaction with English-language speakers of a similar age. Mentors are present for about 15 hours a week in the classroom and attending some social programme events. Having access to mentors helps participants to boost their confidence in speaking and listening, and to get advice and information on aspects of British life and culture, student life in Edinburgh, places to go in the evenings and at weekends, and so on.

Feedback

Students will receive feedback on their language throughout the four weeks. An individual report will be prepared for each student at the end of the course and forwarded to their university. Students will also receive a certificate of attendance.

Week 1	Session A 9.00-10.45	C O F F E E	Session B 11.15-1.00	L U N C H	Session C 14:00 – 15:00
Mon 5/8	Welcome & Course Introduction		Placement Testing		City Tour
Tues	Introduction to Academic Reading & Writing in Economics		Speaking Skills: Formality, Politeness & Social Behaviour		Communication Skills: Pronunciation Development
Wed	Academic Reading and Writing in Economics		Introduction to the UK: Speaking Strategies		Free
Thurs	Academic Reading & Writing in Economics		Academic Seminar Skills Giving Opinions and clarification		Research Project 1 Introduction
Fri	Academic Reading & Writing in Economics		Weekly Review		Free

Week 2	Session A 9.00-10.45	C O F F E E	Session B 11.15-1.00	L U N C H	Session C 14:00 – 15:00
Mon 12/8	Academic Reading & Writing in Economics		The World of Work 1 Vocabulary and Listening Skills		Research Project 2 Survey Preparation & Active listening
Tues	Academic Reading & Writing in Economics		The World of Work 2 Speaking Skills: Role Play		Research Project 3 A good presentation Confidence building
Wed	Museums Visits Preparation		Museums Visits		Free
Thurs	Academic Reading & Writing in Economics		Poster preparation and rehearsals		Poster presentations
Fri	Free		Free		Free

Week 3	Session A 9.00-10.45	C O F F E E	Session B 11.15-1.00	L U N C H	Session C 14:00 – 15:00
Mon 19/8	Academic Reading & Writing in Economics/Tutorials		Academic Seminar Skills Agreeing and disagreeing Museum fbk		Research Project 4 Writing an abstract Presenting data
Tues	Academic Reading & Writing in Economics		Dragon's Den Listening and Speaking		Research Project 5 Scottish Parliament 15.30 – 16.30
Wed	Academic reading and Writing in Economics		Dragon's Den Presentations		Free
Thurs	Academic Reading & Writing in Economics		Politics in the UK today The Scottish Parliament		Research Project 6 Delivery and sounding natural
Fri	Academic Reading & Writing in Economics		Weekly Review		Free

Week 4	Session A 9.00-10.45	C O F F E E	Session B 11.15-1.00	L U N C H	Session C 14:00 – 15:00
Mon 26/8	Academic Reading and Writing in Economics		Overseas Development Project 1: Language Preparation		Research Project 7 Delivery techniques and dealing with questions
Tues	Academic Reading and Writing in Economics		Overseas Development Project 2: Extended Speaking		Research Project 8 Rehearsals and Guidance
Wed	Academic Seminar Skills Student-led Seminar		Academic Seminar Skills Student-led Seminar Reflections and feedback		Free
Thurs	Academic Reading and Writing in Economics		Research Project 9 Final Presentations		Research Project 10 Final Presentations 14:00-16:00
Fri	Presentations Feedback Review Activities		Evaluations and Farewell		Free