

### Course Outline

This is an 80-hour, **mornings-only**, 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.

### Learning Outcomes

By the end of the course, students should be able to:

- develop their academic language and literacy skills through reading and summarising short texts on Economics topics
- explain a range of economics topics to others
- plan and present a poster with classmates
- write a short academic essay with appropriate academic language
- prepare and carry out a survey with 10-15 interviewees
- deliver a 10-minute presentation

### 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 that 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 use authentic texts taken from sources such as the Economist and national newspapers and the sessions will also focus on effective note-taking. Topic areas will include the Scottish Economy, emerging markets, Fairtrade, and current topical news items.

### Academic Seminar Skills & Poster Conference

These sessions aim to build speaking skills, with a focus on fluency development and confidence in using English. Seminar skills will be developed through language input and practice followed by participation in an academic seminar, and will culminate in student-led seminars. The poster conference is based on the Scottish economy, and will involve research, poster preparation and participation in a poster conference with visiting staff where possible.

### Academic Research Projects

Students will work in pairs to carry out a research project on a topic related to economics. This will involve background research, questionnaire design, and interviews with members of the public if Covid conditions allow. 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.

### Guided Study

Some guided study opportunities will be available for the students in some afternoons if they would like to do group work on their posters or projects, or individually on academic writing tasks, following guidance from their teachers. *Note, there will not be a teacher present.* A classroom will be available to the students.

### 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, at social programme events, and as part of their role, will arrange some informal activities for students to join if they wish. Having access to mentors helps participants

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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**

During the course, students will have at least two short small-group tutorials with the class teacher to discuss progress. Students will receive feedback on their language throughout the four weeks. An individual report will be prepared for students at the end of the course and forwarded to their university. Students will also receive a certificate of attendance.

**Timetable**

*Note: Friday of Week 2 is a holiday for the group.*

**Week 1**

Session	9:00-9:50	10:00-10:50	11:10-12:00	12:10-13:00	14:00-15:30
<b>Mon 08/08</b>	Welcome & Course Introduction	Testing	Testing	Speaking Skills	City Tour
<b>Tues</b>	Academic Reading and Writing in Economics	Academic Reading and Writing in Economics	Academic Reading and Writing in Economics	Academic Reading and Writing in Economics	
<b>Wed</b>	Academic Reading and Writing in Economics	Academic Reading and Writing in Economics	Academic Reading and Writing in Economics	Research Project Introduction	Optional activity with mentors
<b>Thurs</b>	Academic Reading and Writing in Economics	Academic Reading and Writing in Economics	Academic Seminar Skills Giving Opinions and clarification	Academic Seminar Skills Giving Opinions and clarification	Visit to National Museum with mentors
<b>Fri</b>	Academic Reading and Writing in Economics	Academic Reading and Writing in Economics	Weekly Review, Tutorials & Visit feedback	Weekly Review, Tutorials & Visit feedback	

**Week 2**

Session	9:00-9:50	10:00-10:50	11:10-12:00	12:10-13:00	14:00-15:30
<b>Mon 15/08</b>	Academic Reading and Writing in Economics	Academic Reading and Writing in Economics	Introduction to Poster Conference	Introduction to Poster Conference	Optional activity with mentors
<b>Tues</b>	Academic Reading and Writing in Economics	Academic Reading and Writing in Economics	Research Project	Research Project	<b>14:00-16:00</b> Tutorials
<b>Wed</b>	Academic Reading and Writing in Economics	Academic Reading and Writing in Economics	Academic Reading and Writing in Economics	Research Project	Poster Preparation Guided Study
<b>Thurs</b>	Poster Conference Preparation	Poster Conference Preparation	Poster Conference Preparation	<b>Poster Conference</b>	
<b>Fri</b>	<b>Holiday</b>				

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**Week 3**

Session	9:00-9:50	10:00-10:50	11:10-12:00	12:10-13:00		14:00-15:30
<b>Mon 22/08</b>	Academic Reading and Writing in Economics	Academic Reading and Writing in Economics	Academic Seminar Skills	Academic Seminar Skills		Optional activity with mentors
<b>Tues</b>	Academic Reading and Writing in Economics	Academic Reading and Writing in Economics	Dragon's Den 1	Research Project		Research Project Preparation Guided Study
<b>Wed</b>	Academic Reading and Writing in Economics	Academic Reading and Writing in Economics	Politics in the UK today The Scottish Parliament	Politics in the UK today The Scottish Parliament		Parliament Visit with Mentors
<b>Thurs</b>	Academic Reading and Writing in Economics	Academic Reading and Writing in Economics	Dragon's Den 2	Dragon's Den 3		
<b>Fri</b>	Academic Reading and Writing in Economics	Academic Reading and Writing in Economics	Weekly Review & Project Tutorials	Weekly Review & Project Tutorials		

**Week 4**

Session	9:00-9:50	10:00-10:50	11:10-12:00	12:10-13:00		14:00-15:30
<b>Mon 29/08</b>	Academic Reading and Writing in Economics	Academic Reading and Writing in Economics	Academic Reading and Writing in Economics	Academic Reading and Writing in Economics		Optional activity with mentors
<b>Tues</b>	Academic Seminar Skills	Academic Seminar Skills	Academic Seminar Skills	Academic Seminar Skills		<b>14:00-16:00</b> Tutorials
<b>Wed</b>	Academic Reading and Writing in Economics	Academic Reading and Writing in Economics	Research Project	Research Project		Research Project Guided Study
<b>Thurs</b>	Research Project Final Presentations	Research Project Final Presentations	Research Project Final Presentations	Research Project Final Presentations		
<b>Fri</b>	Presentations Feedback	Review Activities	Evaluations	Farewell		

*Barbara Campbell*  
*21/01/2022*