

Academic Language Development

English Language Programmes

Diploma in the Humanities and Social Sciences

International Foundation Certificate
in the Humanities and Social Sciences

Pre-sessional English Language

Centre for English Language and Academic Writing

GOLDSMITHS

A black and white photograph of a modern building facade. The word "GOLDSMITHS" is prominently displayed in large, bold, sans-serif capital letters along the top edge of the building. The building's exterior is composed of a grid of dark window frames, with some windows reflecting the sky and others showing interior details. The overall tone is monochromatic and architectural.

Contents

2	Introducing the Centre for English Language and Academic Writing
4	Our Programmes and Courses
6	Diploma in the Humanities and Social Sciences
9	International Foundation Certificate in the Humanities and Social Sciences
13	Pre-sessional English Language
16	Academic Language Development
24	Staff
27	Contact us
28	Disclaimer

This booklet contains details of programmes and courses offered by the Centre for English Language and Academic Writing at Goldsmiths, University of London, and should be read in conjunction with our Undergraduate and Postgraduate Prospectus.

We can supply information in alternative formats for people with a visual impairment. Please contact Communications and Publicity, tel 020 7919 7971, e-mail ext-comms@gold.ac.uk for further details.

Introducing the Centre for English Language and Academic Writing

The Centre for English Language and Academic Writing at Goldsmiths has specialised for over 20 years in English language teaching for academic study in creative and culture-related disciplines. While most students go on to successful study at Goldsmiths, some take our courses as stand-alone programmes. We welcome all international students whose first language is not English.

We currently offer four modes of provision:

1. A Pre-Master's Diploma in the Humanities and Social Sciences
2. An International Foundation Certificate in the Humanities and Social Sciences
3. Pre-sessional courses from April-September
4. In-sessional courses for students already on their chosen degrees

How to Apply

Please download the application form available at www.gold.ac.uk/media/gold-app-form-lang-studies.pdf. Please complete and return all sections of the form, together with any additional documentation.

Make sure that you enclose:

- A reference
- English Language certificates
- Transcript or student record

Please send your form and additional documentation to: Centre for English Language and Academic Writing, Goldsmiths, University of London, New Cross, London SE14 6NW, UK.

We will send you more information on your programme, maps and travel information if you accept an offer of a place.



(1) Pre-Masters programme

Diploma in the Humanities and Social Sciences

Length: 1 year full-time

Dates: 27 September 2010-17 December 2010
17 January 2011-1 April 2011
2 May 2011-24 June 2011

Fees: £8,160 (2010-11)

Deposit: £300 when you accept our offer of a place. This deposit will not be returned but will be deducted from your tuition fee when you begin the programme.

Entrance requirements

You must have already completed an undergraduate degree in your own country before you can apply for this programme. You will normally need a minimum score of 5.5 in IELTS, or 540 in the paper-based TOEFL test, or 207 in the computer-based test (with a TWE score of 3.5), or 76 in the Internet-Based Test (with a minimum score of 19 in the written element) or equivalent. The programme consists of eight units in total. Four of them develop the key language skills, and are linked to the other four, which are content-based. In addition, from January, you will work on a researched extended essay on a topic of your own choosing.

The course units are:

1. Academic Writing and Grammar Development

You will study in detail the various aspects of essay writing such as the planning process, structuring an argument, summarising, referencing conventions and avoiding plagiarism, as well as appropriate academic style. The aim is to give you an understanding of the principles of Western academic writing rather than just a superficial knowledge of the procedures. You will also review the main areas of English grammar, with a particular focus on written English, to improve the range and accuracy of your writing.

2. Seminar Skills

This course provides training in researching, preparing and delivering an academic presentation, as well as leading and participating in seminar discussions.

3. Listening Skills

This course covers the various sub-skills of listening, with an emphasis on listening and taking notes in lectures. A wide range of listening texts is used, some of which supplement the cultural background courses.

4. Reading Skills and Textual Analysis

There is a reading skills class based on the content of the undergraduate lecture programmes you attend, and a textual analysis class related to the Cultural Background lecture programme. These classes reinforce the subject matter of the lectures and help you to develop a range of academic reading sub-skills.

5. Attending Real Lectures

You attend a series of undergraduate lectures with British students.

5a. Lecture Feedback

This class is linked to the lecture attendance and looks at ways of listening and note-taking, as well as summarising what has been understood.

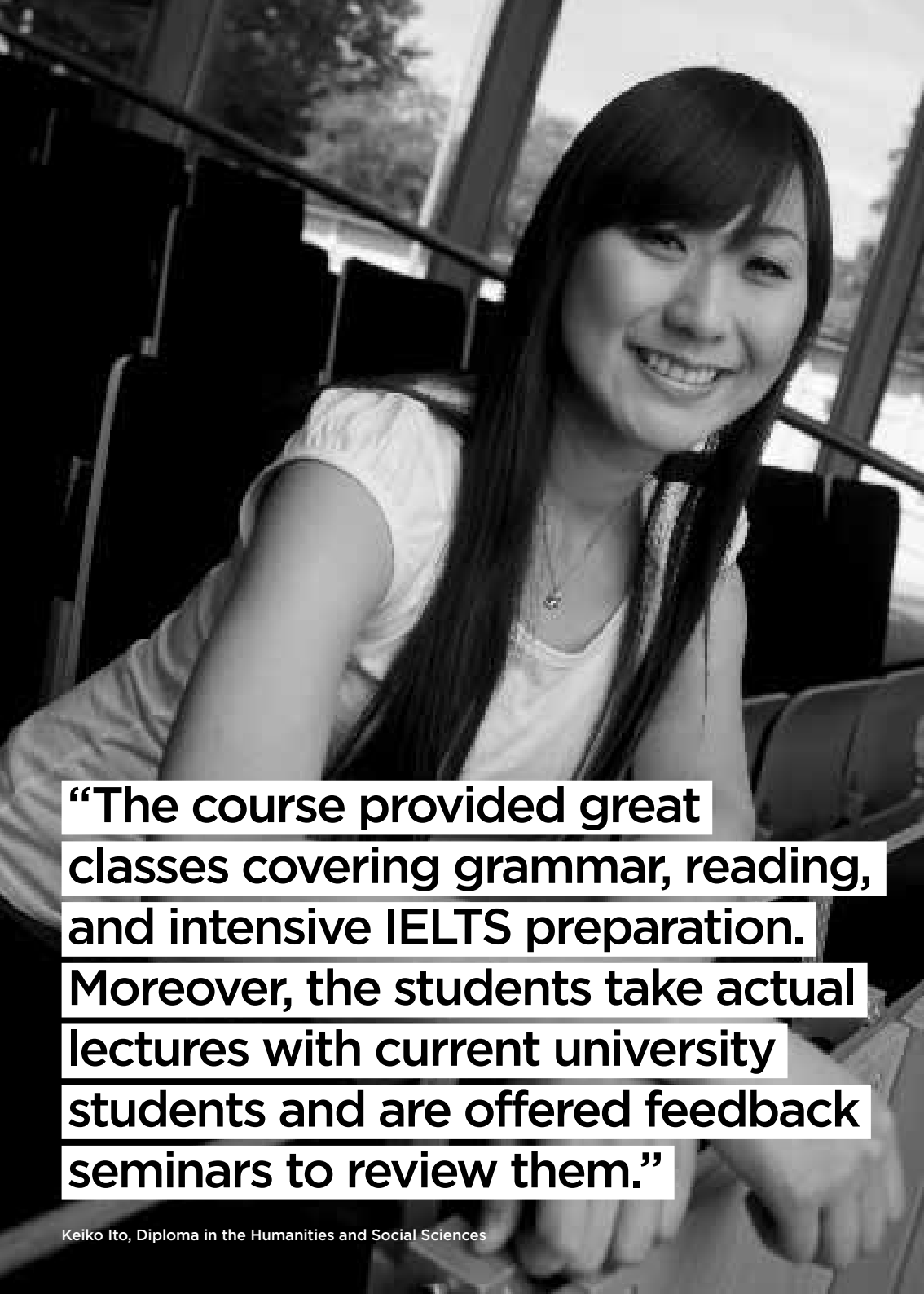
6. Cultural Background Studies

The Lecture Programme: From the Enlightenment to Postmodernity.

You attend a lecture programme that provides an overview of Western thought and cultural theory from the 17th century to the present day. The weekly lecture is preceded by a textual analysis class with a language tutor, and followed by a class in reviewing the main points and vocabulary. This challenging course provides a firm grounding in a range of ideas that you will encounter in your future studies. In the autumn and spring terms you write a researched essay related to an aspect of the course.

7. Freud and his Legacy

This course presents some of the key ideas of Freudian psychoanalysis, one of the most influential bodies of thought of the 20th century. We will also look at how these theories have been applied to the analysis of film. At the end of the course you prepare a presentation, which gives you the opportunity to research an aspect of psychoanalysis of particular relevance to your future studies.



“The course provided great classes covering grammar, reading, and intensive IELTS preparation. Moreover, the students take actual lectures with current university students and are offered feedback seminars to review them.”

8. Semiology

The aim of the course is to provide students with a review of Semiology – the study of ‘signs’ and how these signs create a ‘system of representation’ and meaning through both language and image with particular reference to such themes as gender and race and how belief systems are structured. Hence, Semiology is a key concept in any studies relating to culture and is therefore relevant to a very wide range of courses that Goldsmiths’ offer and, in terms of your English, is an opportunity to extend your vocabulary when talking about images and practise your spoken English. At the end of the course you will give a presentation based on a semiological analysis of an image of your choice.

One-to-One Tutorial Support

In addition to the above courses, we place great importance on tutorials, which give you the opportunity to plan your future studies, talk about your concerns, and resolve any difficulties you may be having with the programme or managing your independent study time.

Assessment

There are three strands to the assessment:

- Coursework relating to each of the eight units (30%)
- Researched, extended essay of 3,500-5000 words (30%)
- Examinations in writing, reading and listening, and giving a presentation (40%)

The pass mark is 50%.

Goldsmiths Masters Programmes after the Diploma

The following are examples of Masters’ Degree Programmes at Goldsmiths that Diploma students have gone on to complete:

MA in Arts Administration & Cultural Policy
MA in Media & Communications
MA in Transnational Communications & Global Media
MA in Digital Media: Technology & Cultural Form
MA in Image & Communication
MA in Brand Development
MA in Cultural Studies
MA in Culture Industries
MA in Education
MFA in Art Practice
MA in Design
MA in Photography & Urban Cultures
MA in Creative & Cultural Entrepreneurship
MMus

(2) International Foundation Certificate in the Humanities and Social Sciences

Length: 1 year full-time

Dates: 27 September 2010-17 December 2010;
17 January 2011-01 April 2011;
02 May 2011-24 June 2011.

Fees: £8,160 (2010-11)

Deposit: £300 when you accept our offer of a place. This deposit will not be returned but will be deducted from your tuition fee when you begin the programme.

Entrance requirements

You will normally need a minimum score of 5.0 in IELTS, or 520 in the paper-based TOEFL test, or 190 in the computer-based test (with a TWE score of 3.0), or 68 in the Internet-Based Test (with a minimum score of 18 in the written element) or equivalent.

This programme focuses predominantly on the development of all four English for Academic Purposes (EAP) skills. In addition there are two content-based courses that prepare you for undergraduate study in a range of degrees in the creative arts, media, and culture-related studies.

The courses are:

1. Academic Writing

This course covers various aspects of essay writing, including the process of planning and structuring an essay, developing an academic style in English, using academic sources in an argument and referencing correctly, giving you more experience of writing in an academic context.

2. Seminar Skills

This course provides training in researching, preparing and delivering an academic presentation, as well as leading and participating in seminar discussions.

3. Listening Skills

This course covers the various sub-skills of listening, with an emphasis on listening to lectures and taking notes. A wide range of listening texts are used, some of which will supplement the cultural background courses.

4. Reading Skills

There is a reading skills class based on the content of the undergraduate lecture programmes you attend. These classes reinforce the subject matter of the lectures and help develop a range of academic reading sub-skills.

5. Attending Real Lectures

You attend a series of undergraduate lectures with British students.

5a. Lecture Feedback

This class is linked to the lecture attendance and looks at ways of listening and note-taking, as well as summarising what has been understood. While the undergraduate lectures will be difficult to understand, they prepare you for what is to come. Your tutors in the feedback class will deal with the content at a level that is appropriate to you, so that you can build your skills.

6. Introduction to Semiology

This course introduces the basic concepts of Semiology, a theory that has been hugely influential in the field of cultural analysis, looking particularly at the theories of Ferdinand de Saussure and Roland Barthes. It will also increase your confidence in spoken English and expand your vocabulary of art, art history, and cultural studies. At the end of the course you will give a presentation based on a semiological analysis of an image of your choice and will write an essay related to this.

One-to-One Tutorial Support

In addition to the above courses, we place great importance on tutorials, which give you the opportunity to plan your future studies, talk about your concerns, and resolve any difficulties you may be having with the programme or managing your independent study time.

Assessment

There are two strands to the assessment

- Coursework [40%]
- Examinations in writing, reading, listening and giving a presentation [60%]

After the International Foundation Certificate

Students successfully completing the **International Foundation Certificate** have gone on to the following degree programmes at Goldsmiths:

BA Media & Communications
BA Anthropology
BA Sociology
BA English Literature
BA Drama & Theatre Arts
BA Art Practice
BA History
BSC Computing & Information Systems
BA Design
BA Education, Culture & Society



“I highly recommend the Pre-sessional English Programme. It’s been a unique opportunity to firstly improve my academic English, get to know the UK’s university system, and to meet skilled and friendly tutors.”

Davide Cazzaro, Pre-sessional English



(3) Pre-sessional English Language

Our Pre-Sessional programme runs from April to September with four entry points to allow maximum flexibility.

Phase 1 – April 2010

Length: 18 weeks full-time

(26 April 2010-10 September 2010)

Entrance requirements: a score of 5.0 (for undergraduates)/5.5 (for postgraduates) in IELTS or equivalent

Fees: £4,090

Deposit: £300 when you accept our offer of a place.

Phase 2 – May 2010

Length: 14 weeks full-time

(24 May 2010-10 September 2010)

Entrance requirements: a score of 5.5 (for undergraduates)/6.0 (for postgraduates) in IELTS or equivalent

Fees: £3,220

Deposit: £300 when you accept our offer of a place.

Phase 3 – July 2010

Length: 9 weeks full-time

(12 July 2010-10 September 2010)

Entrance requirements: a score of 6.0 (for undergraduates)/6.5 (for postgraduates) in IELTS or equivalent

Fees: £2,080

Deposit: £300 when you accept our offer of a place.

Phase 3 – August 2010

Length: 5 weeks full-time

(9 August 2010-10 September 2010)

Entrance requirements: a score of 6.0 (for undergraduates, with a minimum of 6.0 in the writing test)/6.5 (for postgraduates, with a minimum of 6.0 in the writing test) in IELTS or equivalent

Fees: £1,190

Deposit: £300 when you accept our offer of a place.

Please note: Pre-sessional deposits will not be returned but will be deducted from your tuition fee when you begin the programme.

Why choose this programme?

The Goldsmiths pre-sessional programme offers the best possible preparation for study at Goldsmiths, or indeed on any degree programme that is focused on culture, society or the arts. The course is unique in that it not only covers the key academic English language skills such as listening to lectures, note taking, guidance in academic writing and reading but does so by focussing on the kind of academic content that you are very likely to meet on your degree. In Phases 3 and 4, for instance, there is a series of lectures on key contemporary postmodern thinkers such as Foucault, Baudrillard, and Butler, whose work features on a number of different degree programmes. There is also a choice of second lecture, either Contemporary Art History or Film Studies. At the end of the pre-sessional, students write an extended academic essay, which combines theory and analysis, and provides excellent training for their future studies.

The focus on content means that you will not only learn general academic English, but also key vocabulary and concepts at the same level of complexity as on a degree programme. It is thus strongly recommended that international students attend the pre-sessional even if the language entrance requirements for your degree programme have already been obtained. Further, the pre-sessional will familiarise you with Goldsmiths and with how you are expected to behave in a British academic context e.g., speaking in seminars and interacting with academic staff.

Work on degree programmes is intensive. Therefore, it is a very good idea to take the pre-sessional programme before you start. Afterwards it is difficult to learn your subject and improve your English at the same time!

The pre-sessional is hard work, but you will also have fun, make friends and learn a lot. As one previous student commented, 'It's so much more than just a language course!' To get more of an idea of what we do, go to the Centre's VLE (<https://learn.gold.ac.uk/>) where you will find course outlines, typical lecture content and an example of a weekly timetable.

Key features of the programme:

- Two academic lectures per week in phases 3 & 4 (from July), in subjects, which are directly relevant to studying at Goldsmiths.
- Training in key academic skills such as listening to lectures and note taking, academic reading, discussing academic topics and giving academic presentations.
- Training and practice in writing academic essays, including how to compile a bibliography, reference properly and avoid plagiarism. (NB We teach you how to write academic essays in the style of Goldsmiths and the University of London, not the 250-word IELTS style of essay).
- Language development classes to improve your grammar and academic vocabulary.
- Regular tutorials with a personal tutor who will monitor your progress, and give advice on how to make improvements.
- Familiarisation with all aspects of university life and UK culture in general.
- Students with conditional offers who successfully complete the pre-session move automatically on to their chosen degree programme.

Tutorials

You meet regularly with your personal tutor to discuss and evaluate your progress. Your tutor supports your extended essay-writing project but can also advise you on practical matters concerning living in the UK.

Assessment

There is continuous assessment through regular assignments, especially listening exercises, presentations and essays. The final assessment is similar to the type you will encounter on your degree programme i.e. an extended essay relating postmodernity to an area of interest within your degree programme; a formal presentation based on your essay, and a series of summaries based on either the Contemporary Art History or Film Studies lecture series.



Academic Language Development

The Centre for English Language and Academic Writing runs a range of courses for students who are already on a degree programme at Goldsmiths, but would still like to improve their academic skills and writing style. By attending one of these courses you will gain a clearer understanding of what is expected of you as a student, and what exactly your lecturers are looking for in your work. Students who attend these courses often notice a significant improvement in their grades.

What will I study?

The classes focus on two main areas:

- Developing your English language skills so that you can write in an academic style suitable for university-level essays.
- Developing key academic skills, such as understanding essay questions and other assignments, effective research techniques, using source materials, organising your ideas and referencing your work properly to avoid accusations of plagiarism.

Which course should I choose?

We run classes for both native and non-native speakers of English, and these are aimed at all levels from undergraduate to PhD level, so whatever your language background or degree programme, there is a course which will suit your needs:

Native English-speaking students:

Undergraduate and Master's level students should take one of the 'How to...' courses. MPhil, PhD and MRes students should take our MPhil/PhD course.

Non-Native English-speaking students:

Depending on your programme of study, you should attend either an Undergraduate subject-specific course, or a Postgraduate subject-specific course. These are usually arranged by degree programme or subject area to find the most suitable course for you).

Visiting Students

Visiting Students can attend our Advanced English for Academic Purposes course.

How do I register?

If you wish to take one of these language development classes you will need to register at the Centre office, Room 204, Richard Hoggart Building.

Fees

If you are already a student on a degree programme at Goldsmiths, you do not need to pay to take one of the Centre's courses.

Courses for Native Speakers of English:

How to... a course for first year undergraduate and postgraduate students

This course is designed for students approaching the academic writing process on all of Goldsmiths' courses. The focus is on the specific difficulties faced by home or native speakers of English.

The course is called How to... and each week focuses on one aspect of the writing process. You should attend all sessions (eight in total) to build a greater knowledge of the writing process. The course runs across the autumn term only and due to popular demand, is repeated on three days of the week. To secure a free place, you should sign up for the course in the first week of term at the Language Studies Centre.

Primarily the course highlights all aspects of the writing process. It starts with a session on time management, and goes on to look at planning, constructing paragraphs (particularly introductions and conclusions), answering questions, developing a logical argument, and avoiding plagiarism. The course finishes with practical advice on editing and proofreading your own work. This is a clear and accessible course for students at the beginning of their academic careers.

This course is essential for any student who does not feel confident about what they are expected to produce in the written side of their course.

MPhil/PhD

This course focuses on developing a range of writing styles for MPhil and PhD level research. At this level in-depth, individual research can be isolating, so the aim of the course is to create a cohesive group who work together to develop their abilities and share learning skills. Presentation practice is woven into the structure of the course. This course runs for one term only, however, once the taught course has finished it is hoped that the group will continue to find meeting and supporting each other rewarding and helpful to their studies.

Courses for Non-native Speakers of English:

Credit bearing courses

(These count towards your final degree results)

English for Academic Purposes

(includes Language element of Extension degrees in Art and Music)

This course develops your language skills for use in the academic contexts of essay writing, reading, research, seminars, listening to lectures and taking notes. The course aims to consolidate grammatical competence and develop your vocabulary. During the course you are expected to prepare and deliver at least one seminar presentation on your own subject, submit a researched essay and complete regular weekly assignments.

Advanced English for Academic Purposes

(Suitable for **visiting students**, as a module on certain undergraduate degree programmes, and for non-native speaker students doing their **Master's foundation** course in the music or drama departments.)

If you already have a high level of English, this course will develop your English with a specific focus on becoming more skilled and confident in all academic situations - from taking part in a class discussion, to researching and writing an extended academic essay. Classes are twice-weekly, with one focusing on oral academic skills (listening and speaking), and the other on written academic skills (reading and writing).

Undergraduate Subject-specific courses:

BA History of Art

This five-week course provides a review of writing styles ranging from the more eclectic reviews of exhibitions to the more formal style required in assessed essays, also providing the opportunity to extend your Art History/Fine Art subject-specific vocabulary. You will also be able to discuss your essay plans and early drafts with the tutor.

BA Design

This course is designed for students at Level 1 of the BA Design programme and primarily highlights the specific language used at BA level in Design, giving advice and practice on all aspects of the writing process. A subject-specific site, Writing for Design, has been developed (by the course lecturer within the Language Studies Centre, with advice from the Department of Design) on the Goldsmiths' Virtual Learning Environment (VLE). Using students' writing models, this site showcases the specific writing that has developed around the integration of design theory and practice at Goldsmiths.

Classes use previous students' writing models as a starting point from which current students are asked to deconstruct and analyse the structures and approaches used. As well as this, you will learn the various steps of the writing process. The course also enables you to build other academic language skills, including reading and presentation. The content of the course is flexible and regularly updated to accommodate the changing debates in design and the needs of current students.

BA Art Practice

As part of this course a Language Studies Centre lecturer attends the Critical Studies class to lead a feedback session with the students focusing on: note-taking skills and extending your Art subject-specific vocabulary, while at the same time you are asked to discuss these concepts more fully. Similarly, you may also be asked to prepare a text taken from the BA Fine Art Critical Studies reader and discuss this in class. You also have the opportunity to discuss essay plans and early drafts with the tutor.

BA Art Practice (Extension Degree)

The purpose of this course is to improve your general command of English and at the same time build up your Art subject-specific vocabulary. The course is split over two classes each week with one focusing more on reading and writing and the other speaking and listening. In the reading and writing class, lessons are based around Moving Targets, which provides a comprehensive review of Contemporary Art in the UK. You read the texts most relevant to your interests and discuss the language and content in class, which you then summarise as your homework. You may also use these classes to practice your presentation skills, relating your own art practice to the ideas discussed in your Critical Studies classes.

BA Media and Communications

The primary aim of this course is to give international students support in their academic English skills, particularly focusing on academic writing. You are given weekly practice in the various steps of the essay writing process, ranging from exercises in understanding the title, to researching the assignment, organising ideas, planning and structuring paragraphs, supporting opinions, avoiding plagiarism and ensuring correct referencing and other academic conventions are followed. You will also develop other academic language skills, including understanding lectures, reading and speaking. Presentation skills may be practised too, if required.

A secondary aim of the course is to help international students learn more about the UK media context. We offer a friendly, safe environment to ask questions about media that you might feel too shy to ask elsewhere. The current tutor has experience of working for the BBC, and can help with media vocabulary and technical terms. We will also read about and debate current media issues. The content of the course is to some extent flexible, and can be adjusted according to the needs and interests of the students.

BA Social Work

This course is embedded in the first year of the BA Social Work programme aiming to bridge the gap between your previous experience of writing and what is expected at undergraduate level. The course looks at essay writing as a process, focusing on a different aspect of this process each week. This includes addressing an essay title and making a plan, writing introductions and conclusions, paragraph structure and cohesion, critical analysis, editing, referencing conventions and avoiding plagiarism. There is a strong subject-specific focus when we look at your first essay assignment, and example texts are drawn from Social Work related sources. Report writing is also covered.

Undergraduate Social Sciences

This course is primarily designed for first year undergraduates from the Departments of Sociology and Politics, giving advice and practice on all aspects of academic writing. You are given training in the various stages of the process, ranging from understanding an essay title, to researching the assignment, organising ideas coherently, planning, structuring paragraphs, supporting opinions, avoiding plagiarism and ensuring correct referencing and other academic conventions are followed. You can also develop other academic language skills, including reading, listening and speaking, and presentation skills may be practiced too, if required.

Texts from your first year reading lists are incorporated into the above language work, meaning that this class can give the opportunity to discuss any problems that you are having with a particular issue. We always encourage you to discuss any difficulties that you may be experiencing as a result of a new academic culture. Feedback from former students indicates that the course provides a non-threatening forum for asking questions you might feel reluctant to ask elsewhere.

Postgraduate Subject-specific courses:

Postgraduate Art

This course is designed for MFA Art Practice students. Primarily the course highlights the specific language used at this level. As a starting point, you are asked to deconstruct and analyse the structures and approaches used in past students' writing models. This gives a specific understanding of the writing that has developed around the integration of theory and practice at Goldsmiths. You will also learn about the various stages of the writing process.

The course also enables you to build other academic language skills, including reading, listening and speaking. Presentation skills may be practiced too, if required. The content of the course is flexible and is regularly updated to accommodate the changing debates in Art and the needs of the current students.

Postgraduate Visual Cultures

The postgraduate programmes in the Department of Visual Cultures share many common concerns, so if you are studying either the MA Contemporary Art Theory, the Postgraduate Diploma in Art History or the MA Aural and Visual Cultures you may benefit from this course. The classes tend to focus on writing skills, examining both the 'traditional' and more performative forms of English academic writing. Writing tutorials may be offered to give individual support as essay deadlines approach.

MFA Curating

This course initially focuses on review writing, which is a key element of this programme. This is supplemented by presentation practice (both in class and at art galleries), revision of formal academic writing styles for assessments and, as part of the Curating projects, advice on writing letters and e-mails to a wide range of individuals such as gallery owners, potential sponsors and artists.



MA Design Futures: Design and Language

This course is designed for MA in Design Futures students. Though it is taught through the Language Studies Centre, it is fully integrated with the full degree programme and runs throughout the three terms of the MA course. Some sessions are team-taught with Professor John Wood, the Head of Design Futures. In the autumn term, all students attend, while the spring and summer term courses are designed for all students with English as an additional or second language.

Primarily the course highlights language used in design and gives advice and practice on all aspects of the writing process. We aim to create a community of writers who discuss their work openly and learn from each other, for example, you are encouraged to contribute your ideas about language to a Wiki website where your writing is on show to a wider network (www.writing-pad.org). In class the writing process is taught through open analysis and detailed observation of your own writing models. The course also enables you to develop other academic language skills, including reading, listening and speaking. Presentation skills may be practiced too, if required. Course content is flexible and is regularly updated to accommodate the changing debates in design and the needs of current students.

Postgraduate Drama

This course is for all students on one of the Department of Drama's postgraduate programmes. The course focuses on the academic skills and language you will need to be successful, with emphasis placed on researching and writing essays. Theatre and drama-related vocabulary, useful phrases for discussing and expressing your opinions of productions, and aspects of the history and context of the UK theatre scene are also covered, all of which will help you to understand your lectures more clearly.

MA Interdisciplinary

This course is designed for students taking an MA at Goldsmiths whose department has not requested a specific class for them, or who are unable to attend other specialised sessions. Primarily the course gives advice and practice on all aspects of academic writing, providing training in the various stages of the process, ranging from understanding an essay title, to researching the assignment, organising ideas coherently, planning, structuring paragraphs, supporting opinions, avoiding plagiarism and ensuring correct referencing and other academic conventions are followed. The course also enables you to develop other academic language skills, including reading, listening and speaking. Presentation skills may be practiced too, if required.

The above language work is placed clearly in a postgraduate context with readings and questions taken from a variety of subjects based on modernist and post-modernist theory. You are also encouraged to work on your time-management skills. You will have the opportunity to discuss any difficulties that you may be experiencing as a result of a new academic culture. Feedback from former students indicates that these classes provide a non-threatening forum to ask questions you might be reluctant to ask elsewhere. The content of the course is to some extent flexible, and can be adjusted according to the needs of the students.

MA Media and Communications (Practice)

This course is designed for students taking any practice-based postgraduate course in the Department of Media and Communications. The course aims to give advice and support on any academic or general English issues you may have. Although academic essay writing plays a less important role on the practice MAs than on the theory MAs in the Department, it is still important to know how to approach written work, including understanding the title, researching, organising and providing accurate referencing. We can also help you with understanding your lectures, and improving your presentation skills.

We also have dedicated classes on how to approach examinations, in preparation for the Media Law and Ethics assessment, which international students have found particularly difficult in previous years.

On the practical media side, you will look at improving grammar for writing links and interview questions, and take part in role-plays of interviews and telephone research conversations. The classes will expand your specialist media-related vocabulary, and involve class discussions on current issues in the media, usually from a media practitioner's perspective. These classes offer a friendly, relaxed environment for international students to find out more about the media context in the UK, and to ask questions they might be reluctant to ask elsewhere. Course content is flexible, and is adjusted each year according to the needs identified by the students.

MA Media and Communications (Theory)

This course is designed for students taking a theory-based postgraduate course in the Department of Media and Communications. The main aim of the course is to give advice and practice on all aspects of academic writing, by training you in the various stages of the process, from understanding an essay title, to researching the assignment, organising ideas coherently, planning, structuring paragraphs,

supporting opinions, avoiding plagiarism and ensuring correct referencing and other academic conventions are followed. The course also enables you to develop other academic language skills, including reading, listening and speaking. Presentation skills may be practiced too, if required.

The language work is placed clearly in a media context, by analysing previous media essay questions. You will also use media-related texts to practice your reading, expand your media vocabulary, and debate current media issues. Previous classes have included debates on the new guidelines for using 'citizen journalism', and the role of the media in uncovering political corruption. These classes provide a friendly, relaxed environment for international students to find out more about the media situation in the UK, and ask questions they might be reluctant to ask elsewhere. For example, the concept of the Television Licence is unusual to international students, and explanation of this leads to a deeper understanding of the BBC, its remit and its place at the heart of British media. Course content is to some extent flexible, and can be adjusted according to the needs of the students.

MPhil/PhD

This course is open to students across Goldsmiths who are embarking on a research degree. In the first term you focus on developing your academic writing skills. You will receive regular feedback on your writing, with emphasis placed on self-correction. Course content is flexible and can be altered to meet students' requirements. Topics that may be covered include summary writing, constructing an argument, engaging with critical sources, developing cohesion, writing a literature review, writing a study plan and writing an abstract. The class also provides a space for research students to discuss any difficulties they may be experiencing with the research process. The second term focuses on presentation skills, and tutorials are offered that provide the opportunity to discuss a longer sample of your writing.



Staff

Academic Staff

Joan Turner is the Head of the Centre and a Senior Lecturer. She has an MA from the University of Edinburgh and specialist qualifications in English language teaching. Her research interests include cross-cultural pragmatics, academic literacy, especially the rhetoricisation of scientific rationality, and the contemporary global context of English. She has published a book on study skills (SAGE, 2002) and co-edited one on epistemological and cultural issues in academic writing, and written a number of articles on cross-cultural pragmatics in academic contexts (in Britain and Japan). (e-mail j.turner@gold.ac.uk)

Tim Chapman is a Lecturer in English for Academic Purposes and Writing Development. He has an MA in Applied Linguistics and TESOL from the University of Leicester and an undergraduate degree in English Literature. He has previously taught on a franchised degree programme in Shanghai, at the University of Leicester and at the British Council in Milan. As well as teaching on a range of in-session courses he co-ordinates the International Foundation Certificate in the Humanities and Social Sciences. (e-mail timothy.chapman@gold.ac.uk)

Stella Harvey is a Lecturer in English for Academic Purposes. She has a doctorate in French Literature from Birkbeck, University of London, as well as professional qualifications in English language teaching. She has extensive experience in English language teaching and specialises in teaching language through cultural background studies. She co-ordinates the full-time Diploma course for overseas students and teaches on the ELCS degree and other courses. (e-mail s.harvey@gold.ac.uk)

Julia Lockheart is Senior Lecturer at Goldsmiths, University of London, director of the Writing-PAD project and co-editor, with Professor John Wood, of the Journal of Writing in Creative Practice. Julia has studied both Fine Art and TESOL to MA level and is also qualified to teach adults with SpLDs (Dyslexia). In September 2009 she began her PhD research in the Design department at Goldsmiths, University of London, on developing tools for co-writing in design teams. She has presented and published both nationally and internationally.

Gary Riley-Jones is a Lecturer in English for Academic Purposes. He has an MPhil in Applied Linguistics from the University of Cambridge, an MA from Birkbeck, University of London, and an undergraduate degree in geological sciences. He has extensive experience in English language teaching in several countries and co-ordinates the pre-session programme for overseas students. He also teaches specific purpose language on a number of in-session courses at both undergraduate and postgraduate level. (e-mail g.riley-jones@gold.ac.uk)

Paul Stocks is a Lecturer in English for Academic Purposes. He has an MA in Teaching English as a Foreign Language from the University of Reading, and a BA in Drama. He has previously taught at the British Council in Bratislava, and the Centre for Applied Language Studies at Reading University. Besides teaching, he has worked as a researcher and producer for BBC radio. He teaches on the Diploma and Certificate programmes, and co-ordinates the in-session language support across the college. (e-mail p.stocks@gold.ac.uk)

Administrative and Secretarial Staff

Marlene Edwin is the Administrator for the Centre. She has an MA in Caribbean Literature and Creole Poetics from Goldsmiths, University of London and a Postgraduate Certificate in Professional Practice (Higher Education Administration and Management). She has responsibility for the day-to-day running of the Centre. Her research interests are in Creole Languages and Literature.
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Susan Luff is the Secretary for the Centre responsible for dealing with enquiries from students who wish to study English for Academic Purposes or who require study skills support.
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Contact us

Once you have read this booklet and the relevant sections of the Undergraduate and Postgraduate Prospectuses, if you have any specific queries about the programmes or their content, please contact:

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We offer a transformative experience, generating knowledge and stimulating self-discovery through creative, radical and intellectually rigorous thinking and practice.

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