International English at the University of Southampton

Research and teaching in English language is a very strong part of Modern Languages at Southampton and we have well-established postgraduate and undergraduate language programmes. Our English-language research activity is diverse and we host both the Centre for Linguistics, Language Education and Acquisition Research, and the Centre for Global Englishes.

We offer courses for international students wishing to study in English and for international teachers wishing to deliver their courses in English. We have been creating and delivering bespoke courses for international students and academics for a number of years and have taught students and academics from all over the world. We are also experts in designing and delivering online courses and resource sets. This newsletter includes information on English language research , course descriptions and registration details, as well as resources for teachers and students.

We hope you enjoy it!

Research in English language

The university of Southampton hosts two language research centres: the Centre for Linguistics, Language Education and Acquisition Research, and the Centre for Global Englishes. Here is a short introduction to what they do. In the next issues of this newsletter, we will talk to the directors of both centres to find out more about tehir current research.

Centre for Linguistics, Language Education and Acquisition Research (CLLEAR)

CLLEAR is the main focus for research and advanced teaching in applied linguistics at the University of Southampton.

CLLEAR is a group of researchers and PhD students whose research falls under the large umbrella of applied and general linguistics. Currently, they focus on three main areas:

- Language Learning and Teaching
- Linguistic Theory
- Second Language Acquisition

www.southampton.ac.uk/calr

Centre for Global Englishes (CGE)

CGE produces and disseminates research on the linguistic and sociocultural dimensions of global uses and users of English (Global Englishes), and on English as a Lingua Franca in particular.

The centre also provides a forum for knowledge-sharing and collaboration with other interested researchers and centres around the world.

www.southampton.ac.uk/cge

English as a Medium of Instruction

The University of Southampton is fully aware of the needs of the International Academic who is required to function through the medium of English wherever in the world he or she may be delivering courses or conducting research. Consequently we have developed courses which we have delivered in Southampton or in-country for a number of overseas universities who are supporting their academics as they enhance both language proficiency and their confidence in functioning through English.

English Medium Instruction (EMI) courses are tailored to meet the specific needs of the institution and individuals concerned, but typically consist of:

- Developing skills and confidence to deliver in the seminar room and at conferences;
- Deepening awareness of formal and informal language: for example, at a conference, delivering a paper as opposed to socialising;
- Improving participants' ability to exchange views on topics of professional interest and engage in debate;
- Enhancing writing skills for publication;
- Supporting the needs of the ever-widening audience of international students.

Special workshops are devoted to pronunciation, raising the international academic's online profile, and the use of technology both inside and outside the classroom. In addition, a variety of teaching styles and approaches are incorporated into the courses, thus providing the opportunity to discuss methodology and exchange ideas around delivering course content.

Courses are delivered by experienced members of the University's English Language Team working in the field of English as a medium of instruction. The expertise of the team is wide-ranging across the fields of English language teaching and Applied linguistics. The team
delivering the EMI course is composed of highly skilled academics with wide and varied experience of teaching English and teacher training, and is led by Mary Page who developed the EMI course and has delivered it for several years.

Our standard EMI course is delivered in Southampton throughout the year. It can also be tailored to the needs of the academics in your institution. Find out more about our standard EMI course on our website or contact us to discuss a tailored version of the course.

Register for the course

Location:	University of Southampton, Avenue campus, Highfield, Southampton, SO17 1BF
Dates:	13-17 January 2014 | 20-24 January 2014 | 31 March - 4 April 2014
	7-11 April 2014 | 2-6 June 2014 | 9-13 June 2014 | 16-20 June 2014 | 23-27 June 2014
Course fee:	£795 (incl. pre/post-course activities, a minimum of 25 hours class time, the opportunity at the end of each day for private study and 1:1 tutorials and wi-fi access for each participant.)
Minimum entry reqs:	good intermediate level of English (eg CEFR B2 or equivalent)
Web:	**www.llas.ac.uk/events**
Email:	llas@soton.ac.uk

What our participants said

"Thank you all for a very well organised course! The teaching has been excellent!"

"It was an honour to participate in this course. The staff is very friendly, professional and motivating. I would highly recommend other colleagues to attend this course!"

"The staff members are very nice, very friendly and committed. It has been an enjoyable experience."

The 'Languages at Southampton' Blog

Our 'Languages at Southampton' blog is now one year old! We started with the aim of connecting more with our students, staff and a wider community of followers on language matters, news and events.

We've attracted a diverse range of followers (also on @Modernlangs Twitter) but it seems that they all share a passion for languages – which may be study-related, professional or general. It also serves those needing a 'one stop' portal to language resources, tools and links. Our ML blog is updated regularly with local, national and international news items. Typical posts include news of open lectures from CLLEAR (Centre for Linguistics, Language Education and Acquisition Research), language conference updates and weekly offerings from the Italian language film club during term time (improve your Italian by reading the reviews!). Our vigilant blogger is constantly on the lookout for interesting news from the serious to the quirky, hitting the headlines on the national or international language stage. Visit the Languages at Southampton blog here: www.languagesatsouthampton.soton.ac.uk

Licenced teaching and learning resources

The English for Academic Purposes (EAP) Toolkit is a comprehensive set of online learning resources providing over 80 hours of activity-based learning for international students whose first language is not English.

Content ranges through academic writing, reading and critical thinking, listening and note-taking, communication skills, learning skills, and grammar and vocabulary development for academic purposes. The toolkit can be licenced by UK and international institutions for use as a self-access student resource and/or integration with taught pre-sessional and in-sessional EAP /Study Skills programmes. Developed by EAP practitioners in UK higher education, the toolkit offers a sound pedagogical approach and is very competitively priced. For more information and to see interactive examples, visit the website at www.elanguages.ac.uk/eap_toolkit.php or contact elang1@soton.ac.uk

Free teaching and learning resources

For HE institutions looking for new ways to support the transition of their international students before arrival, the Prepare for Success website offers a free and timely resource.

Commissioned by UKCISA with funding from the Prime Minister's Initiative for International Education (PMI) and developed by eLanguages, Prepare for Success delivers self-paced, multi-media learning resources helping international students prepare for UK academic culture and the kind of academic skills they will need for effective study. In addition, the resource provides scope for language improvement for non-native speaker users. The website resources are widely used by UK receiving institutions as well as students across the world. A link or downloadable logo can be embedded in an institutional webpage for international students, sent to them by email, or the resources can be integrated with a taught induction programme. Students and educators can access these free resources at www.prepareforsuccess.org.uk

A new interactive learning tool has been launched this summer by the eLanguages unit in Modern Languages.

Developed with support from the University of Southampton's Student Centredness Fund, the Digital Literacies Toolkit comprises a set of free learning resources which help students explore the use of a range of Web 2.0 applications for study-related purposes and learn about good practice in the use of social software and the internet. Topics include 'what is digital literacy', 'managing your online presence', 'using other people's content responsibly' and 'digitally enhancing your job prospects'. Students and educators can access or link to these resources at www.elanguages.ac.uk/digital_literacies.php