Academic English for PhD Students - Syllabus

Academic Writing and Academic Speaking in the International Context

(C1)

Basic information

1.   Organisation unit

Jagiellońskie Centrum Językowe

2.   Education level

Full-time PhD programme

3.   Language of instruction

English

4.   Education period

Academic year 2023/2024

1 semester (winter semester)

2 semester (summer semester)

5.   Course coordinator

Monika Stawicka, PhD

6.   Course teacher

Agata Krzysica, PhD
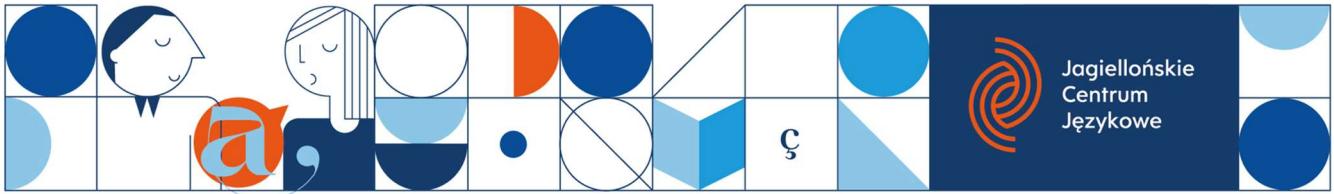
7.   Examination

Pre-examination with grade (zaliczenie) after each semester and examination in some doctoral schools after 60 hours (two semesters)

8.   Number of contact hours

60 hours, 30 hours per semester

9.   ECTS points

4

Course objectives

1. To support PhD Students in their effort to become reflective practitioners in communicating science in the international context (in writing and speaking).

2. To foster PhD students' confidence and their well-being by offering opportunities for 'hands-on' experience in creating written and spoken academic texts with ample teacher and peer feedback and with self-assessment.

## Learning outcomes

1. Knowledge

1. Student knows and understands features of effective communication in academia
2. Student knows and understands differences between academic written text and academic spoken text
3. Student knows and understands readability factors and their impact on text perception
4. Student knows and understands the rules and conventions of academic genres typical for PhD student's specialisation
5. Student knows and understands strategies for effective communication in the international academic context
6. Student knows and understands mediation rules for different academic / professional context tailored for a purpose

2. Skills

1. Student can produce well-organised, coherent text, using a variety of cohesive devices and organisational patterns.
2. Student can make effective use of linguistic modality to signal the strength of a claim, an argument or a position
3. Student can convey clear, well-structured texts on complex subjects, underlining the relevant salient issues, expanding and supporting points of view at some length with subsidiary points, reasons and relevant examples, and rounding off with an appropriate conclusion
4. Student can employ the structure and conventions of a variety of written genres, varying the tone, style and register according to audience, text type and theme.

3. Social competences

1. Student is ready to act effectively as a mediator in international communication, including communicating their ideas / professional content helping to maintain positive interaction with the interlocutors / audience by recognising,
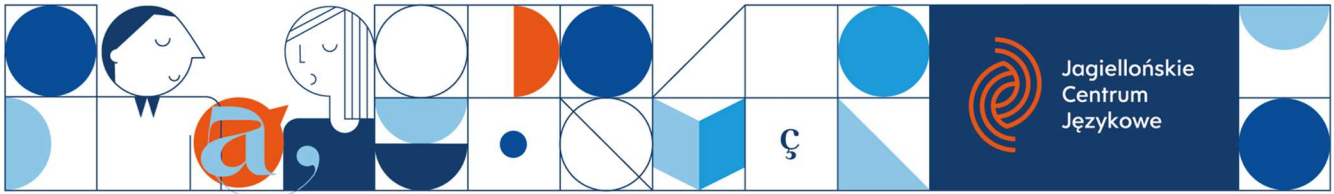
acknowledging and interpreting different perspectives, managing ambiguity, anticipating misunderstandings

2. Student is ready to cooperate by explaining, paraphrasing and interpreting difficult concepts and technical texts using language suitable for a listener / reader including communicating with non-experts.

ECTS credits

1. **Contact hours (academic hour = 45 minutes)**

30 hours per semester

2. **Student's individual workload**

30 hours per semester

3. **Course activities**

Preparing written assignments; analysing research papers content- and language wise as preparation for writing a final assignment; preparing oral tasks and a final presentation related to student's research project

Course Content

Features of academic English and discipline-related conventions

Analysis of discipline-related scholarly texts

Models of selected academic genres (e.g. abstract, research paper, scholarly presentation, poster presentation)

Hedging

Paragraph writing, cohesion and coherence

Creating selected discipline-related texts

Selected grammar issues and general academic vocabulary
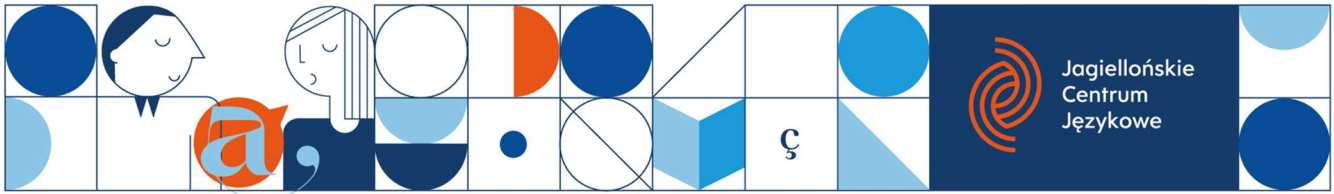
Critical reading of research papers

Researcher as mediator and facilitator; effective communication techniques

Unintentional plagiarism and how to avoid it (summarising, paraphrasing, quoting)

Quotation stylesheets

Academic correspondence

Individual and group feedback on delivered written and spoken texts

Additional information

1. Teaching methods

Workshop, mini presentations, group discussion, case studies, e-learning

2. Forms of obtaining ECTS

1st semester: writing task based on a selected scholarly paper related to PhD student's research project; detailed instructions will be provided in due course

2nd semester: delivering a 10-minute academic presentation (plus 10 minutes for discussion) related to PhD student's research project

3. Conditions of obtaining ECTS

Winter semester - completing all the written assignments; regular attendance.

Summer semester - completing micro-tasks; delivering the final scholarly talk, regular attendance.

Passing the final examination required if required.

4. Entry requirements

It is assumed that the Participants entering this course already know language functions and grammar issues at B2/B2+ level

5. Additional requirements

Participants need a computer, with a microphone and camera and stable Internet connection. Participants need access to MS Teams as active users (not as guests) via their email addresses with the university domain.

Resources

Bailey, S. (2006). Academic Writing. A Handbook for International Participants. Abingdon: Routledge.
Cory, H. (2009). Advanced Writing with English in Use. Oxford: Oxford University Press.
Doumont, J. (2012). Trees, maps, and theorems. Belgium: Principiae.
Glasman-Deal, H. (2010). Science Research Writing. For Non-Native Speakers of English. London: Imperial College Press.
Grussendorf, M. (2007). English for Presentations. Oxford: Oxford University Press.
Hyland, K. (2006). English for Academic Purposes. Abingdon: Routledge.
McCarthy, M., O'Dell, F. (2016). Academic Vocabulary in Use. Cambridge, Cambridge University Press.
Paterson, K. Wedge, R. (2013). Oxford Grammar for EAP. Oxford: Oxford University Press.
Porter, D. (2007). Check Your Vocabulary or Academic English. London: A&C Black Publishers.
Powell, M. (2010). Dynamic Presentations. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
Stawicka, M. (2012) Abstract Project. How to write abstracts effectively: http://www.abstract.jcj.uj.edu.pl/
Stawicka, M (2009), Effective presentation in English, English++; part on presentation with repertoire of phrases: https://englishplusplus.jcj.uj.edu.pl/
Wallwork, A. (2011). English for Academic Correspondence and Socializing. New York: Springer.
Wallwork, A. (2013). English for Academic Research: Grammar Exercises. New York: Springer.
Wallwork, A. (2013). English for Academic Research: Vocabulary Exercises. New York: Springer.
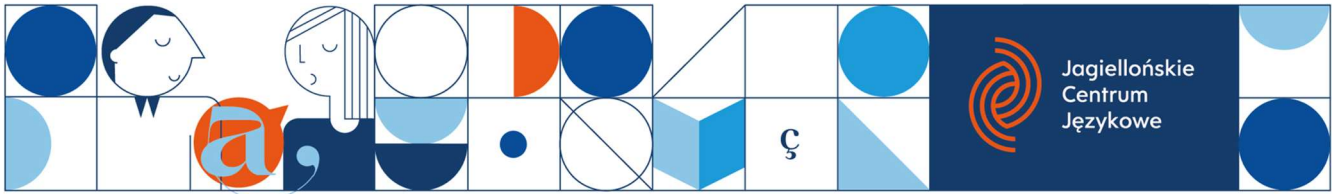
Other Online resources

Using English for Academic Purposes For Students in Higher Education: www.uefap.com

Jean-Luc Doumont:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=meBXuTIPJQk

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IFu3jaLmse0

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=07QxQRl1viI

University of Edinburgh https://www.ed.ac.uk/studying/international/english/postgraduate

Poster Presentation Tips: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IIr22p0jWjQ