

University Language Centre

ENGLISH LANGUAGE COURSES 2015-16

English for University Study (EUS)

English for Personal and Professional Study (EPP)

English Summer Programme (ESP)

University Language Centre

The University Language Centre (ULC) is part of the School of Arts, Languages and Cultures (SALC) in the Faculty of Humanities. The School of Arts, Languages and Cultures is internationally recognised in the fields of human cultures, beliefs, institutions and languages. The School also has several research centres and institutes including the Graduate School, the Martin Harris Centre, the Institute for Cultural Practices, the Centre for Interdisciplinary Research in Arts & Languages (CIDRAL), the Confucius Institute and the Humanitarian and Conflict Response Institute (HCRI). SALC also consists of the following divisions: Art History, Drama & Music; Archaeology, Religions and Theology, Classics & Ancient History; English, American Studies & the Centre for New Writing; History; Language-Based Area Studies; Languages & Intercultural Studies and Linguistics & English Language.

The ULC has over 30 years' experience of running English language courses for international students, and these courses are accredited by the British Council, through Accreditation UK. The ULC's pre-session courses are also accredited by BALEAP (British Association of Lecturers in English for Academic Purposes). The ULC is a UCAS Centre, a regional testing centre for IELTS and an internal testing centre for Cambridge (FCE, CAE, CPE) English examinations. In addition to this, the ULC advises university staff on English language qualifications and the recommended period of pre-session study. Teaching staff also conduct research into aspects of language learning/teaching.

English Language Study

Our full-time English language courses combine both general English (Core Modules) and areas of language specific to the student's personal, professional or academic needs (Target Modules). The structure enables students to follow different learning routes according to their aims and objectives and has been carefully designed for three broad groups of students:

- i. EUS: Students who are intending to study or carry out research at an English speaking university. Students returning to their home university, visiting research students and academics may also find the course useful.
- ii. EPP: Students who wish to improve the overall proficiency of their language for personal or professional reasons.
- iii. ESP: University-aged students and professional people who wish to improve their English language proficiency and experience British culture through educational visits to local places of interest.

Content

- **Core Language Module:** These classes focus on improving grammar, vocabulary, the four language skills (listening, speaking, reading, writing) and study skills. A course book is given to students for this part of the programme.
- **Target Modules:** These classes cover a range of topics and skills based on students' specific needs and current language proficiency. Modules offered vary from term to term. Examples of possible Target Modules are:

1. Target: University Study

- *Skills for University (English for Academic Purposes): academic listening, speaking, reading, writing, study strategies and academic skills (e.g. referencing, paraphrasing, note-taking and presentation skills)*
- *Topics for IELTS: vocabulary for key topic areas and skills development*
- *Integrated Skills and British Culture: practice in the four language skills; listening, speaking, reading and writing, through thematic areas integrating these skills*
- *IELTS Test Preparation: strategies for practising the four skills and intensive test practice*
- *Advanced Skills and British Culture: advanced practice in the four language skills; listening, speaking, reading and writing, through thematic areas integrating these skills*

Progression: Students intending to go onto university may progress on to a Pre-session course (if they meet the English language entry requirements) or directly to their academic programme / research.

2. Target: Personal and Professional Study

- *English for Business and Management: language needed in the context of business and management and thematic areas integrating the four language skills; listening, speaking, reading and writing*
- *Integrated Skills and British Culture: practice in the four language skills; listening, speaking, reading and writing, through thematic areas integrating these skills*
- *IELTS Test Preparation: strategies for practising the four skills and intensive test practice*
- *Advanced Skills and British Culture: advanced practice in the four language skills; listening, speaking, reading and writing, through thematic areas integrating these skills*

Progression: Students may wish to progress to further professional development or executive education courses in an English-speaking country or to progress their career utilising their English language skills.

3. **Target: Summer Programme**

- *Integrated Skills with British and Manchester Cultural Studies: practice in the four language skills; listening, speaking, reading and writing, through thematic areas integrating these skills*
- *English for Academic Purposes: academic listening, speaking, reading, writing, study strategies and academic skills (e.g. referencing, paraphrasing, note-taking and presentation skills)*

Progression: Students who wish to stay for a longer period may apply to transfer to EUS or EPP. Students may also wish to apply for a postgraduate programme at the University of Manchester.

Examinations: ULC is a regional testing centre for IELTS (held every 2 weeks from September-April and weekly from May-August) and an internal testing centre for Cambridge (FCE, CAE, CPE) English examinations (held twice per year in June and December). Students may take IELTS or Cambridge English exams to obtain formal recognition of their English language proficiency. Fees for public examinations are not included in tuition fees.

Levels: Minimum IELTS 3.0 in all skills; listening, speaking, reading and writing (or equivalent at A2 on the CEFR). For students requiring a Tier 4 visa the minimum requirement is CEFR level B1 or above in all skills (UKVI IELTS 4.0 from a UKVI approved test centre. (<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/guidance-on-applying-for-uk-visa-approved-english-language-tests>)).

Timetable: 21 hours per week (including tutorials). Classes take place between 0930 and 1530 Monday to Thursday, and 0930 and 1300 on Fridays. There are no classes on Friday afternoons.

Private study: Students may use the Open Learning facilities, the university libraries and computer clusters.

Class size: Maximum class size is 16 students.

Age of students: 18 years old +.

Minimum period of study: EUS / EPP: 4 weeks. ESP: 3 weeks. These courses cover 45 weeks of the year and it is possible to join at set points of the year (see application form).

Testing and Assessment: Students are tested and placed in a group at the start of their period of study. Students are assessed regularly and a final assessment is made at the end of their period of study.

Reports: A final report is produced for students at the end of their period of study. Students can be sent a copy of their report on request.

Certificates: A Certificate of Attendance is given to all students at the end of their period of study provided they have attended a minimum of 80% of their classes.

Accommodation: From October to June, the ULC offers homestay accommodation to our full-time English language students, in partnership with a homestay agent. During the academic year (September to June), accommodation in the University's Halls of Residence may be bookable (subject to availability and course duration) and can be arranged through the University of Manchester Accommodation Office. Private accommodation can be arranged through Manchester Student Homes: www.manchesterstudenthomes.com. During the summer term (July to September) accommodation is available in the University's Halls of Residence and for EUS, EPP and ESP students, this can be booked through ULC.

Social programme: Full-time English language students at ULC are given membership to The International Society and two free day trips per month as part of their course fees. The International Society offers a wide and varied programme of evening activities, weekend day trips and overnight trips to places of interest within Greater Manchester, the North-West and the UK.

Sports activities: Students may use the wide range of sports facilities available in the two university Sports Centres and the Manchester Aquatics Centre, and are charged at the normal student rates.

Booking Conditions: EUS: <http://www.ulc.manchester.ac.uk/english/full-time/universitystudy/book-cond/>
EPP: <http://www.ulc.manchester.ac.uk/english/full-time/personalprofessionalstudy/book-cond/>
ESP: <http://www.ulc.manchester.ac.uk/english/full-time/english-summer-programme/bookingconditions/>