

## In-sessional Courses

### Frequently asked questions: Semester 2

#### ***Will registering for in-sessional courses help me with my academic application?***

Although we are happy to provide whatever information we can on the University Language Centre's academic support programme provision, we are unable to advise or assist prospective students with their academic application. Prospective students should contact admissions staff in their destination School for guidance at the application stage.

#### ***What is the difference between pre-sessional and in-sessional courses?***

**Pre-sessional courses** (in academic English) are designed for international students hoping to progress onto a university programme. Successful completion of a Pre-sessional course usually indicates that the student's English language level has been raised to that required by their School. Pre-sessional courses are open to the public, are full-time and attract a weekly tuition fee (see <http://www.languagecentre.manchester.ac.uk/study-english/our-courses/presessional-english/>). The student receives a transfer report upon successful completion of the course.

**In-sessional courses** in academic English exist to support international students who are currently registered on a course at this University. These courses are free of charge to the student. They are not open to the public. Students are not formally assessed and certificates of attendance are not issued.

#### ***How do I register and attend in-sessional courses?***

Visit [www.languagecentre.manchester.ac.uk/insessional](http://www.languagecentre.manchester.ac.uk/insessional) to view timetable information and 'express interest' by following the links next to each individual class. Once you have expressed interest you will receive a confirmation email containing further information.

- Please ensure you enter your email address correctly to ensure you receive all of our updates.
- Note that in-sessional classes do not currently appear on your My Manchester timetable.
- You must fill out the attendance sheet circulated at each class you attend.

#### ***What happens if I express interest in a class which is already full?***

Different procedures are used for writing/speaking classes and grammar classes.

- Speaking and writing classes run in 'blocks' of three or four workshops. There is no waiting list, but if there is no space in the weeks you would like, feel free to book into the next available block.
- Grammar classes are a series of eight workshops. If there are no places for the class you wish to attend, you may be added to a waiting list and informed when to start attending. Do not worry if you miss classes: these courses are very flexible and a new topic will be covered each week. After the first six weeks, places will become available in most classes.

#### ***What about the in-sessional pronunciation classes?***

These were run as a trial during welcome week and weeks 1-2 of Semester 1 2018-19. They are not currently running in Semester 2.

#### ***Where can I find timetable information?***

[www.languagecentre.manchester.ac.uk/insessional](http://www.languagecentre.manchester.ac.uk/insessional)

#### ***How many in-sessional classes do I need to attend?***

We repeat a number of our classes each week to allow students to fit in classes around their academic commitments. You only need to go to one class per course (academic writing,

academic speaking, grammar) per week. You do not need to attend all 3 courses, but if you choose to, you will attend a maximum of 4 hours of classes per week in total (1.5 hours academic writing, 1.5 hours academic speaking, 1 hour grammar).

***Do I have to pay for in-session courses?***

No, in-session courses are free of charge to all University of Manchester students, staff and visiting fellows.

***Does it matter if I vary class attendance to fit in with my academic work (e.g. go to Monday academic writing one week and to Thursday academic writing during other weeks)?***

We understand why you may need to do this. Please email [insessional@manchester.ac.uk](mailto:insessional@manchester.ac.uk), explaining what you would like to do, and we will advise you of what to do.

***If I no longer wish to attend a class, should I inform you?***

No.

***Will I earn any credits / get a certificate for attending in-session courses?***

No, in-session courses are a support service and are not formally assessed. Certificates of attendance are not issued, although we must keep a log of student attendance for statistical purposes and to inform school administrators/personal tutors of attendance, should they require this information.

***By passing these courses, will I satisfy the condition of my academic offer?***

In-session courses are for international students who have already met their destination School's minimum language requirements. Attendance on these courses are voluntary: they are not formally assessed so they cannot be passed or failed. However your School within the University may have requested that you take the online diagnostic test or attend our classes. If this is the case, please ensure you know what your School has requested from you as staff may verify that you have been accessing the service.

***I am a visiting researcher / international member of staff – can I take in-session courses?***

Yes.

***Should I do one of your full-time English language courses to improve my English?***

No, for two main reasons: (a) your academic commitments will not allow you enough time to attend a full-time English language course and (b) the University Language Centre's full-time courses are designed for pre-registration students seeking University preparation and to bring their IELTS / TOEFL score up to their destination School's minimum entry requirement so they would not be pitched at the level you require.

***I would like to participate in a (German, Spanish, Chinese, etc.) language course – how do I join?***

Information on LEAP foreign language courses can be found at <http://www.languagecentre.manchester.ac.uk/learn-a-language/>