



Centre for Academic English

Pre-sessional English Programme 2020

Information about the 6-week Pre-sessional English Course Online

Our 6-week summer pre-sessional English course has now moved **online for full-time distance learning** for summer 2020. It delivers the same academic content as our face-to face course. If you are an international student, speak English as an additional language and have an offer for study in October 2020, you are welcome to apply for one of our online pre-sessional English courses.

Who the 6-week Pre-sessional English Course Online is for

The 6-week Pre-sessional English Course Online is a full-time, intensive course for prospective Imperial College London science, technology, engineering, maths or medicine (STEMM) students who hold a conditional offer and who need to improve their English language proficiency.

Standard entry: If you have not yet met the College's standard English Language entry requirement for your degree course, and you have an IELTS score of 6.0 or 6.5 overall (no less than 5.5 in any element), you should apply for the 6-week Pre-sessional English Course Online.

Higher entry: If you have not yet met the College's higher English Language entry requirement for your degree course and you have an IELTS score of 6.5 overall (no less than 6.0 in any element), you should apply for the 6-week Pre-sessional English Course Online.

See our [webpage on Entry Requirements](#) for the required levels for other English language tests. If the test you hold is not listed, please contact us pre-sessional@imperial.ac.uk.

Overview of the course

Our online Pre-sessional course can help you learn the real academic language and skills that you need for successful study at Imperial. It will introduce you to the language, strategies and processes that you will need for studying and conducting research in your discipline.

The course is delivered remotely through live Microsoft Teams classes and OneNote Class Notebooks, and Blackboard. It is a full-time, intensive course with a weekly schedule Monday-Friday.

Full time: There will be daily contact at specified times including taught sessions, lectures, group activities and 1:1 guidance from teachers. The 6-week schedule assumes full-time dedicated study; coursework and guided self-study may need to be completed in your own time.

Intensive: In addition to contact with teachers and classmates, coursework and preparation sessions are scheduled, and all work must be completed on time. You are responsible for achieving the study goals set by your teachers, and, depending on your level, you may need to dedicate more time to some of the goals.

By passing the three end-of-course assessments, you fulfil the College's English Requirement and do not need to re-sit the IELTS test.

Aims of the course

The aims of the course are to:

- prepare you for the study of your science-related discipline through English
- develop your English language skills to the level needed for College entry to begin your degree course
- advance your academic study skills and independent learning

Learning outcomes

By the end of the course, successful students will:

- be able to communicate clearly and appropriately for entry to their degree studies in writing and in speaking
- have developed strategies for understanding lectures and conversations
- have improved their ability to retrieve, analyse and assimilate information from readings
- have developed confidence through participation in a range of communicative activities
- have developed key competencies for academic study, such as time management, autonomy and criticality
- be confident in using the College's information systems and digital learning technology

Assessment on the 6-week Pre-sessional Course Online

To pass the online pre-sessional, you must complete all course assignments and class work to the required level and pass the three end-of-course assessments, the Pre-sessional Test of Written English online, the Pre-sessional Test of Spoken English online and the Personal Research Portfolio. Passing the pre-sessional course means you will have fulfilled the College's English language entry condition for your degree course and you will not need to re-take an English language test such as IELTS.

The great majority of students pass the pre-sessional course and are able to go on to their degree studies. In the case where a conditional student has a fail grade in an assessment, a re-sit will be available the following week.

Key Features of the Course

Academic process	Identifying and selecting relevant information from texts Improving grammar and vocabulary for STEMM writing Using academic conventions to communicate your understanding in writing
Writing from Sources	Reading STEMM texts, extracting key details and producing new text without copying
Specialist Subject Workshops	Reading, understanding and explaining content from your discipline Presenting your subject to STEMM students
ACT- Autonomous Completion of Tasks	Working independently during scheduled sessions to prepare course work
Self-study Tasks	Working to complete tasks to improve your language competencies and skills
Imperial Stars	Regular lectures from Imperial academics (these will be live-streamed where possible).
Presentations	Speaking at and participating in poster discussions Giving a prepared presentation on your own topic
STEMM-focused assessment	Individual speaking exam (viva voce) on your own subject Writing from Sources test of written English (general science topic) Personal Research Portfolio (coursework)

Sample Timetable

All students will follow the same programme of study through the 6-week online course. The time of delivery, however, will vary depending on your time zone. See below for samples of our online timetable shown for two different time zones.

1. EAST ASIA TIME ZONE

session	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
1	Research/ Reading	Private Study	Research/ Reading	Homework	Private study
break					
2	A.C.T. preparation	A.C.T. preparation	A.C.T. preparation	A.C.T. preparation	A.C.T. preparation
break					
set-up	Q&A/ activity	Q&A	Q&A	starter activity	Q&A
3	Specialist Subject Class	Academic Process Class	Specialist Subject Class	Imperial Stars Lecture / notes	Academic Process Class
break					
4	Specialist Subject Class	Academic Process Class	Specialist Subject Class	self-study with guidance	Academic Process Class
round-off	task instructions	task instructions	task instructions	Q&A	task instructions

Disclaimer: This is a sample timetable and may change according to circumstances.

2. SOUTH AMERICA TIME ZONE

session	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
set-up	Q&A/ activity	Q&A	Q&A	Starter Activity	Q&A
1	Specialist Subject Class	Academic Process Class	Specialist Subject Class	Imperial Stars Lecture / notes	Academic Process Class
break					
2	Specialist Subject Class	Academic Process Class	Specialist Subject Class	self-study with guidance	Academic Process Class
round-off	task instructions	task instructions	task instructions	Q&A	task instructions
break					
3	A.C.T. preparation	A.C.T. preparation	A.C.T. preparation	A.C.T. preparation	A.C.T. preparation
break					
4	Research/ Reading	Private Study	Research/ Reading	Homework	Private Study

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