

Imperial College
London

Centre for Academic English
Pre-sessional English Programme 2019

3-week Course Information



Information about the 3-week course

WHO THE COURSE IS FOR

The 3-week course is for new students who have already met the language entry requirement for their degree course but want to upgrade and extend their academic language and skills before they start in October and be ready and settled when their main programme begins.

OVERVIEW OF THE COURSE

The 3-week pre-sessional is a full-time, intensive academic language and skills course designed specifically for students studying science, technology, engineering, maths or medicine (STEMM) at Imperial.

It will give you the opportunity improve the academic language and communication strategies that you will need for success on your degree, e.g. by practising giving poster presentations, writing up data, listening to lectures and being an effective member of a team.

It also gives you the chance to become familiar with the College, its facilities and the local area, as well as to make new friends on the course and the social programme.

There are no formal assessments on the 3-week pre-sessional, but with full participation you will receive regular feedback on individual assignments and group projects.

AIMS OF THE COURSE

- To upgrade and extend your academic language, spoken and written
- To advance your academic study skills and independent learning
- To raise awareness of academic expectations at Imperial College
- To work collaboratively and with consideration for students from different disciplines and cultural backgrounds
- To help you to become familiar with the facilities at Imperial College South Kensington campus and feel part of the College community

LEARNING OUTCOMES

By the end of the course you will:

- be able to communicate more effectively in speaking and writing for academic contexts
- have developed strategies for better understanding lectures and conversations
- have improved your ability to retrieve, analyse and synthesise information from readings
- have developed greater confidence for communication and participation in academic settings
- have developed key competencies for academic study, such as time management, autonomy and criticality

KEY FEATURES OF THE COURSE

Language Skills	Improving and extending your understanding of academic language and communication Writing a range of practice academic STEM texts and receiving feedback Improving grammar and vocabulary for STEM writing Raising awareness of pronunciation and fluency for communication in an international environment Giving a range of oral presentations and receiving feedback
Task-based assignments	Carrying out and reporting on a simple experiment Completing a group video presentation task Researching and presenting a solution to a world problem
Team Tasks	Working in groups to complete tasks and develop team work and negotiating skills
Lecture Listening	Attending a live lecture by an Imperial College academic and practise taking notes in real time
Interactive Research Events	Speaking at and participating in poster events
Coaching	Meeting regularly one-to-one with a designated coach to discuss study goals and progress
Academic Culture	Developing a deeper understanding of academic conventions Understanding what to cite and when to give citations and avoid plagiarism Developing approaches to read academic texts effectively and efficiently
Familiarisation	Getting to know the Imperial campus and College facilities
Social Programme	Taking part in activities and trips with the pre-sessional social organiser, student volunteers and your colleagues on the pre-sessional

THE SOCIAL PROGRAMME

At weekends and one or two evenings per week, we organise a social programme for you and we encourage you to join in. The programme includes day trips and other activities and is a great way to make

- A British tea party
- Day trip to Brighton
- Imperial Students' Union clubs and societies' "Give-it-a-Go!" events. (Try something new)
- Walking tour of Westminster
- Conversation club
- TV and film club
- Meal at a Mexican restaurant
- Games in the park
- End of course party

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
9.30 – 11.00	Effective Technical Writing: feedback and review of previous week's work	Academic Listening: strategies for listening to lectures and taking effective notes	Effective Technical Speaking: communicating visual data	Effective Technical Writing: writing about methods and results	Effective Technical Writing: improving academic style and accuracy
11.15 – 12.45	Academic Culture: plagiarism	Lecture Listening and follow-up attending a lecture by an Imperial College academic, practising notetaking	<i>Pronunciation and fluency</i>	<i>Writing practice and submission – feedback given on following Monday</i>	<i>Planning and drafting a longer piece of writing</i>
	LUNCH	LUNCH	LUNCH	LUNCH	LUNCH
2.00 – 4.00	Effective Reading Strategies: improving speed and accuracy	Project work: preparation for group poster presentation	Project work: group poster presentation event	<i>Feedback on project work and reflection & individual coaching tutorials</i>	Coaching Tutorials – discuss project work and personal study goals
After 4pm			Social event		Social event

Disclaimer: This is a sample timetable. Courses can change and develop over the academic year. The timetable you follow could differ from the one given