



Centre for Academic English Pre-sessional English Programme 2020

Information about the 3-week Pre-sessional English Course Online

Our 3-week 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 met the English language requirement of your offer for study in October 2020, you are welcome to apply for our online 3-week pre-sessional English course.

Who the 3-week Pre-sessional English Course Online is for

The online 3-week pre-sessional is preparation course for **undergraduate and postgraduate** students who have already met the English language requirement for their degree programme but who recognise the importance of extending and enhancing their academic skills before they begin their first term at Imperial College London.

Overview of the Course

The 3-week pre-sessional online is an **academic language and skills course** designed specifically for **students studying science, technology, engineering, maths or medicine (STEMM) at Imperial**. The course is delivered remotely through Blackboard and Microsoft Office 365, specifically live Microsoft Teams classes. It is **full-time** and **intensive** 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 3-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. You may decide to dedicate more time to some of the goals.

Classes are small (approximately 12 students), which allows the teacher to respond to individual needs. As well as language skills classes, students will complete weekly projects. There is no final assessment, but students receive regular feedback; there is also 1:1 guidance from teachers.

By the end of the course, students will have upgraded their written and oral language skills, will have a better understanding of academic conventions and expectations and will be familiar with the information systems and online learning technology at Imperial College. They will be very well prepared to face the demands of their main degree programme.

Aims of the course

The aims of the online 3-week pre-session course are to:

- upgrade and extend students’ academic language, spoken and written
- advance students’ academic study skills and independent learning skills
- give practise in completing the types of assignments set on degree programmes
- raise awareness of academic expectations at Imperial College London
- encourage students to work collaboratively and with consideration for others from different disciplines and cultural backgrounds
- provide an overview of the wide range of the research conducted at Imperial

Learning outcomes

By the end of the course students 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 their 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	<p>Improving and extending your understanding of academic language and communication</p> <p>Writing a range of practice academic STEM texts and receiving feedback</p> <p>Improving grammar and vocabulary for STEM writing</p> <p>Raising awareness of pronunciation and fluency for communication in an international environment</p> <p>Giving a range of oral presentations (including a poster presentation, a PowerPoint presentation, and a video presentation) and receiving feedback</p>
Scheduled Preparation Tasks	Working independently during scheduled sessions to prepare course work
Self-study Tasks	Working to complete tasks to improve your language competencies and skills
Presentations	<p>Speaking at and participating in poster discussions</p> <p>Giving a prepared presentation on your own topic</p>

Project Work	Working in groups online to complete tasks and develop team work and negotiating skills Completing a group video presentation task Researching and presenting a solution to a world problem
Lecture Listening	Listening to a lecture by an Imperial academic to practise taking notes in real time (will be live streamed if possible)

Sample Timetable

All students will follow the same programme of study through the 3-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	Scheduled Preparation Tasks	Scheduled Preparation Tasks	Scheduled Preparation Tasks	Scheduled Preparation Tasks	Scheduled Preparation Tasks
break					
set-up	Q&A/ activity	Q&A	Q&A	Starter Activity (Listening preparation)	Q&A
3	Language and skills Class: Plagiarism awareness	Project Work: Preparing for poster presentation	Project Work: Preparing for poster presentation	Imperial Stars Lecture / notes	Language and Skills Class: Effective Technical Writing
break					
4	Language and Skills Class: Effective reading strategies	Project Work: Communicating visual data	Project Work: Poster event Feedback and follow up	Language and Skills Class: Lecture Follow- up	Language and Skills Class: Drafting writing for submission
round-off	Task instructions	Task instructions	Task instructions	Q&A	Task instructions

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.

2. SOUTH AMERICA TIME ZONE

session	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
set-up	Q&A/ activity	Q&A	Q&A	Starter Activity (Listening preparation)	Q&A
1	Language and skills Class: Plagiarism awareness	Project Work: Preparing for poster presentation	Project Work: Preparing for poster presentation	Imperial Stars Lecture / notes	Language and Skills Class: Effective Technical Writing
break					
2	Language and Skills Class: Effective reading strategies	Project Work: Communicating visual data	Project Work: Poster event Feedback and follow up	Language and Skills Class: Lecture Follow-up	Language and Skills Class: Drafting writing for submission
round-off	Task instructions	Task instructions	Task instructions	Q&A	Task instructions
break					
3	Scheduled Preparation Tasks	Scheduled Preparation Tasks	Scheduled Preparation Tasks	Scheduled Preparation Tasks	Scheduled Preparation Tasks
break					
4	Research/ Reading	Private study	Research/ Reading	Homework	Private Study

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.