LANG 2010 English for Science 1

1. Course Information  LANG 2010 is a three-credit, one semester core course offered to second-year undergraduates of the School of Science. Over one term, students will attend three hours of class, and will be expected to complete up to six hours of out-of-class work per week. It is an integrated skills course utilizing the problem-based case study concept to assist and enhance the development of students’ confidence and competence in language, communication and general life skills.

The course aims to develop students’ ability to deliver presentations and take part in discussions on topics relevant to their field of study. It also aims to enhance their ability to read and write about science-related topics, combining the use of sources with their own ideas. Language work focuses on developing the vocabulary, language structures, writing and speaking skills which will allow students to fulfil these aims.

2. Pre-requisites: LANG 1402 and LANG 1403

3. Aims of the course: Intended Learning Outcomes

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<tr>
<th>1. Competency-building</th>
<th>Students can communicate effectively in academic contexts relevant to science. They can:</th>
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<td></td>
<td>a. identify and address the needs and concerns of both technical and non-technical audiences in speaking and writing</td>
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<td>b. critically analyze science-related texts</td>
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<td>c. select, summarize and synthesize information from general-interest and science-related written and spoken materials</td>
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<td>d. use accurate and fluent language (vocabulary, structures and style) relevant to science-related communication tasks</td>
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<td>e. support claims with appropriate evidence, and properly acknowledge sources</td>
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<td>f. write a coherent case study report to present problems/disasters and solutions to prevent, mitigate against, prepare for, respond to and recover from the identified problems/disasters</td>
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g. deliver well-structured presentations to introduce the problems/disasters and to share progress of project and findings and solutions
h. use appropriate body language, vocal variety, fluent and natural speech in the presentation to enhance communication effectiveness.

2. Leadership & Teamwork
a. work effectively in a team
b. communicate productively with others in face-to-face / online discussions.

3. Vision and Orientation to the Future
a. locate and use appropriate language materials, tools and resources in developing and maintaining life-long communication skills.
b. raise awareness in self-motivated learning

4. Course assessment

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<th>Assessment</th>
<th>Weighting</th>
<th>ILOs</th>
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<tr>
<td>An individual 3-min presentation - Present a scientific concept in plain English and self-evaluation of performance in the individual presentation (SIPE)</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>1.a, b, c, d, e, h 3.a, b</td>
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<td>A group presentation update - Present a problem analysis in a group on the natural disaster case study project followed by an in-depth Q &amp; A session</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>1.a, b, c, d, e, g, h 2.a, b 3.a</td>
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<td>An individual recommendation report - Recommend solution to the negative impact in the case study</td>
<td>40%</td>
<td>1.a, b, c, d, e, f 3.a</td>
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<td>Reflective video – reflect and explain on learning points from Unit 2</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>3. a, b</td>
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5. Course Content

Unit 1 Science in Plain English (SIPE) Oral Presentation

- Understanding science communication
- Analyzing audience
- Making science (scientific concepts) more understandable
- Organizing and scripting an oral presentation
- Engaging the audience (1) - voice and connected speech
- Engaging the audience (2) - non-verbal communication strategies
Unit 2 Case Study Project on a Natural Disaster

- Interdisciplinary collaboration & communication in science
- Problem analysis in science
- Collaborating on a problem analysis
- Audience, purpose and context in science communication
- Evaluation & limitation in science
- Constructive evaluation and Q&As
- Presenting skills
- Revisiting synthesis
- Report writing - Organization and development
- Academic writing - Writing cautiously and concisely, and coherence