



**Edge Hill
University**

Course Description

English Language Development

The Language Centre

The Language Centre is one of 12 departments in the Faculty of Arts and Sciences. It exists to serve the needs of international students whether they come to Edge Hill University to study or whether they come for shorter periods of time during the summer and then return to their home countries. The Language Centre teaches the following languages: English, Spanish, French, German and Mandarin. In September 2018 we hope to add Arabic and Italian.

The Language Centre delivers a range of English language courses:

- English Language Development
- Pre-sessional Academic English
- In-sessional Pronunciation Lab
- In-sessional English language support (Writing)
- In-sessional English language support (Speaking)
- Academic Writing Clinic

It also delivers the following programmes:

- International Foundation Year (IFP)
- Pre-Masters Programme (PMP)
- MA TESOL (Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages)

In addition, special courses can be offered which meet the specific needs of students who come as a closed group.

The English Language Development Course

This course runs during each term through the academic year and it also runs during the summer period. Courses during the academic year are available for 9, 11 or 12 weeks. Courses during the summer are available for 3 weeks but students can decide to stay for a 4th week and visit London.

Aims

The main aim of this course is to improve your overall English language ability. In particular, the aim is to increase your confidence in speaking and using English.

Learning Outcomes

By the end of this course you should be able to:-

- Use a range of vocabulary in speech and writing to describe family, sport, food and other topics;
- Interact with others using more fluent spoken English with a greater degree of confidence;
- Transfer knowledge from one skill to another, for example, listen and then write;
- Practise all four language skills in an integrated manner;
- Present a brief oral presentation on an aspect of British Culture that you have researched (depending on length of course);
- Present a group presentation on an aspect of British Culture that you have researched (depending on length of course);
- Research a topic on an aspect of British Culture and produce a written project to discuss findings (longer courses only);
- Take part in seminars and discussions on aspects such as the Royal Family or What is the United Kingdom?;
- Gain an overview of aspects of British Culture including history, geography, politics, literary achievements, food and eating habits and how these aspects impacted on the local area and the wider world, sharing insights into your own culture.

Content

You will study all four language skills: Speaking, Listening, Reading and Writing but there will be a major focus on Speaking. You will also study British Culture.

1. Integrated Language Skills (**9 hours per week**)

You will be given a course book for this part of the course and you will study language skills in an integrated way e.g. reading a text and then writing about it or listening to a news article and then discussing it with a partner. The type of grammar you study will depend on your current language level and needs. We ask students to 'actively' participate in classes so you can expect to talk and to do a range of pair and group work. This will help to activate the language you know but have not used. You will also have one-to-one tutorials with the tutor who teaches the Integrated Skills classes.

2. Speaking and Listening (**6 hours per week**)

These classes will involve various ways to get you to speak and use English. You will have debates (e.g. about the Monarchy) and discussions. You will be asked to do an oral presentation on your own and also in a small group.

3. British Culture (**3 hours per week**)

These classes aim to help you understand and learn about life in Britain, our customs and traditions. You will focus on many different aspects including:

- Food and eating habits
- The Monarchy
- Geography of the British Isles, what is the difference between the terms UK, Great Britain, the British Isles?

- British inventions
- Famous writers from Britain
- Brexit
- Traditions such as Bonfire Night, Halloween
- Princes and Princesses

You will also do a project (longer courses only, not the 3 week summer courses) that involves researching an aspect of British Culture that interests you. You will present this in written form as an extended piece of writing with references.

English Language Entry Requirements

You will need to have a minimum English language level equivalent to IELTS 3.0 (overall and in each element) in order to join one of our English Language Development courses. This is equivalent to A2 on the Common European Framework (or CEFR). The Language Centre cannot take Beginners or Elementary students.

Timetable

This course has 18 hours per week of classes and this includes a tutorial. Classes take place every morning from 0930-1100 and 1130-1300 and also on Tuesday and Thursday afternoons from 1400-1530. See sample timetable below:-

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
0930-1100	Speaking and Listening	Integrated Language Skills	Speaking and Listening	Integrated Language Skills	British Culture
1100-1130	Break	Break	Break	Break	
1130-1300	Speaking and Listening	Integrated Language Skills	Speaking and Listening	Integrated Language Skills	British Culture
1300-1400	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	
1400-1530	Private Study/library	Integrated Language Skills	Private Study/library	Integrated Language Skills	No lesson
1530 onwards	Independent study	Independent study	Independent study	Independent study	

Levels

This course is aimed at students who are Pre-intermediate or higher. We ask for evidence of English language proficiency prior to arrival to ensure that we can accommodate your level. For closed groups, we check that students can be taught in the same closed group (i.e. that they are all at a similar level) so that they gain maximum benefit from the course. We also check English language level on arrival by doing a short interview and asking students to write something.

Independent Study

Outside of class times, you may use the library and other learning facilities on campus. There are open access computer suites across the campus and there are many computers in the Hub that you can also use. You will be asked to produce a written project on an aspect of British Culture (not during the summer period) so you will need to carry out some research in the library or using computers before you write your final draft.

Assessment

You will have a series of assessments throughout the course and your tutor will give you all the details you need when you join the course. We will award marks (out of 100) for each skill at the end of the course based on your performance in this series of assessments, which may vary from a mini test to an oral interview to a piece of written work.

Reports

We will write a report at the end of the course and this can be sent to your home address or collected. The report will comment on your progress and your attendance on the course.

Certificates

You will receive a certificate when you complete the course. It will show your actual attendance hours.

Class size

The maximum class size is 16 students.

Age of students

18 years or more.

Minimum period of study

This is 3 weeks (summer) and courses from September to June vary in length from 12 weeks (September to December), 11 weeks (January to March) and 9 weeks (April to June). We sometimes have closed groups and these groups can come for 2 weeks or more.

Accommodation

Accommodation can be arranged for you and the International Office can help you with this. Please visit the website below for more details of Edge Hill's residential accommodation.

www.edgehill.ac.uk/international/accommodation/

Social Programme

The social programme, including visits to other areas or towns, is arranged by the International Office. Please visit their website for more details.

www.edgehill.ac.uk/international/support/while-you-are-here/?tab=social-activities

Sports Facilities

Edge Hill has a Sports Centre offering a wide range of sporting activities which are open to you.

www.edgehill.ac.uk/edgehillsport/

The Arts Centre

The Arts Centre offers a range of evening events from September to June each year. These events are open to Edge Hill students and staff. They range from film viewings to theatre or dance performances. Events do not take place during the summer period but the International Office arrange a full programme of evening social events and trips for international students.

www.edgehill.ac.uk/events/arts-centre/whats-on/

Booking your place on the English Language Development course

If you want to join our course, you can apply through the International Office. Details of how to apply can be found on their website.

www.edgehill.ac.uk/international/how-to-apply/

Contact Details

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