

## B.A. (Honours) in Contemporary English Studies

<b>Course Title</b>	:	Genres of Speech and Writing
<b>Course Code</b>	:	ENG209
<b>Recommended Study Year</b>	:	2 <sup>nd</sup> Year
<b>No. of Credits/Term</b>	:	3
<b>Mode of Tuition</b>	:	Lecture and Tutorial
<b>Class Contact Hours</b>	:	2 hours Lecture/week 1 hour Tutorial/week
<b>Category in Major Programme</b>	:	Required Course
<b>Prerequisite(s)</b>	:	N/A
<b>Co-requisite(s)</b>	:	N/A
<b>Exclusion(s)</b>	:	N/A
<b>Exemption Requirement(s)</b>	:	N/A

### **Brief Course Description**

This course serves two specific purposes:

1. Ensuring that students' proficiency level in all four basic skills areas, and especially the productive skills of writing and speaking, is adequately developed to cope with university study, especially for a liberal arts degree of this nature. This is achieved through
  - seminars and tutorials on study skills focused on individual learning needs related to the target tasks
  - self-access activities that are tailored for the course and adapted to individual needs;
2. Sensitizing students' awareness to the generic features of a variety of spoken and written texts, which represent genres that students are likely to encounter in their everyday life. The texts are selected from the fields of journalism, academia, literature and current affairs. Students will examine the lexico-grammatical, paralinguistic and discoursal features of the texts and base their own productions on the structure and techniques of these models.

### **Aims**

The course aims to enhance students' lexico grammatical competence and mastery of the essential discourse features of texts commonly encountered in their everyday life.

At the end of the course, participants will be able to:

1. Apply the study skills they master to facilitate their study;
2. Analyse their own needs, monitor their language development and become self-directed learners of the English language;

3. Analyse extracts for structure, grammar and use of language;
4. Understand the need for grammatical accuracy and variety of expression;
5. Recognize techniques of good writing through analysis of sentence structure, varied vocabulary and paragraph coherence;
6. Demonstrate improved aural comprehension and oral performance in English;
7. Understand techniques of good speech through analysis of intonation, use of colloquial expressions, discourse markers and various speech acts, as well as techniques of persuasion;
8. Identify obligatory and optional moves in texts, and select and sequence moves in the texts they produce;
9. Apply the techniques of given genre models to their own written and oral production in English;
10. Demonstrate an increased vocabulary, skill at grammatical analysis, analysis of content components of texts;
11. Demonstrate improved oral skills by giving oral presentations of written texts and comparison of print and video versions or print and spoken versions of the same texts;
12. Demonstrate developed skills in giving presentations in groups, analyzing texts or comment on the texts other students produce;
13. Produce texts according to the features and techniques derived from analysis of the models;
14. Analyze individual needs and produced a negotiated programme to meet their needs;
15. Demonstrate developed skills in analysing language needs and monitoring language development.

### **Learning Outcomes**

See above

### **Indicative Content**

1. Interviewing skills – questions, note-making and writing up an interview
2. The language of criticism: description and analysis, poems, songs, short stories; making presentations on texts
3. Narrative and documentary film – writing a review, group presentations
4. The language of newspapers, magazines and advertising; preparing small-group presentations

### **Teaching Method**

Seminars, workshops, tutorials.

## **Measurements of Learning Outcomes**

Class discussion, individual and group presentations, written exam, written assignments, journal writing.

### **Assessment**

Continuous assessment: (60%)

1. Presentations: individual or group, providing analysis of poems, songs or other appropriate texts. Group commentary on a documentary film.
2. Written assignments commenting on a selected feature film. Reports on interviews.
3. Journal writing.

Exam: (40%)

Written exam: text commentary, media language commentary.

### **Required Readings**

No textbook is prescribed. Instead, students will be provided with:

1. Selected texts from everyday genres in journalism, literature and local and international affairs;
2. Handouts with tasks for self-access learning, linguistic and discoursal analysis and assignment guidelines;
3. Teaching notes on linguistic and discoursal features of the texts.

### **Supplementary Readings**

Collins Cobuild, *English Language Dictionary*, London: Collins, 2005.

Thomson, A.J., Martinet, A.V., *A Practical English Grammar*, Oxford: O.U.P, 1988.

Roget, P.M., L.R. and R.R., Latest edition, *Thesaurus of English Words and Phrases*  
London: Longman.