

School of Linguistics and Applied Language Studies Course Outline

ALIN 302, Language education for science and technology Trimester 2, 2008

1. Course Coordinator: Paul Nation

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2. Staff: Lecturers and tutors: Stuart Webb and Elaine Vine

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3. Class times and rooms:

There are two lectures and one tutorial each week.

Lectures are on Thursday 2.10-3:00pm (HU 221) and Friday 11.00-11.50am (HU 221).
Course members must attend one tutorial on Wednesday 2.10-3.00pm in HU 113 or Wednesday
3.10-4.00pm in KK 105. Tutorials begin in Week 2. Allocation to tutorial groups will be done in
Week 1 lectures.

4. Announcements: Undergraduate BEd(TE SOL) noticeboard Level 3 Von Zedlitz

5. LALS main office: VZ210, 2nd floor Von Zedlitz Building, Kelburn Parade

6. Course Administrator: Anette Klaassen, Undergraduate administration
Tel: 463 5627, 463-5600

7. Aims:

This course explores ways of helping second or foreign language learners increase their language proficiency while studying content matter subjects like mathematics and science through the

medium of English. It also looks at ways of reducing language-related problems in content matter learning.

8. Objectives:

By the end of this course, students should be able to

- (1) decide what language features need special attention,
- (2) plan a range of ways of giving attention to these features,
- (3) design appropriate assessment which takes account of both content matter and language learning, and
- (4) ensure that language issues do not hold back content matter learning.

9. Content:

A discourse perspective on EST

DP = Set Readings: A Discourse Perspective on EST (set text)

- Week 1: Introduction to the course (*DP* Reading 1, Chan & Tan 2006); Register and mode continuum (*DP* Reading 3, Gibbons 2003)
- Week 2: How texts construct scientific meaning (*DP* Reading 11, Young & Nguyen 2002)
- Week 3: Knowledge framework (*DP* Reading 7, Tang 2001); Levels of questioning (*DP* Reading 4, Gray 1996)
- Week 4: Recasts as scaffolds (*DP* Reading 5, Mohan & Beckett 2003); Mathematics register (*DP* Reading 8, Vine 1985, Reading 10, Vine Devere & Luxford 2005)
- Week 5: Language demands and learning activities (*DP* Reading 9, Vine 1997)
- Week 6: Assessing language and content learning (*DP* Reading 6, Short 1993)

A vocabulary perspective on EST

FV = Focus on Vocabulary (set text)

- Week 7: Types of vocabulary and levels of vocabulary (*FV* Chs 1 and 3) (Coxhead, 2000; Chung and Nation, 2003)
- Week 8: Investigating words (*FV* Ch2) (see the *Corpus studies* and *Concordances* sections of the set readings)
- Week 9: Vocabulary as a barrier to learning (*FV* Ch 1) (Neville-Barton and Barton, 2005)
- Week 10: Shared tasks and guided tasks (*FV* Chs 4 and 5) (Nation, 2004; Ellis, 2005)
- Week 11: Experience tasks (*FV* Chs 4 and 5) (Langham, 2003; Teemant et al, 1996)
- Week 12: Planning and assessing the vocabulary component of a course (*FV* Chs 3 and 7) (Nation, 2000)

10. Texts:

Required:

1. A set of readings from the students notes centre called *ALIN 302 Language education for Science and technology: Set readings: A Discourse Perspective on EST* (\$12.27)
2. Paul Nation and Peter Yongqi Gu. (2007) *Focus on Vocabulary* Sydney: NCELTR, Macquarie (\$40.95).
3. A set of readings from the students notes centre called *ALIN 302 Module 2 Set readings* (Cost to be advised).

Recommended:

1. A text from the student notes centre called *Creating, adapting and using language teaching techniques*.
2. Vocabulary Resource Booklet (Available from the student notes centre)

Any other relevant material/equipment:

A concordance program *Antconc* available from <http://www.antlab.sci.waseda.ac.jp/software.html> or ConCAPP 4.0 available from <http://www.edict.com.hk/concordance/>

The RANGE program available from <http://www.vuw.ac.nz/lals/staff/paul-nation/nation.aspx>

Course members should also be familiar with Range, Vocabprofile and the concordancers on Tom Cobb's website www.lex tutor.ca

11. Assessment:

The course will be assessed by two tasks, one test and an assignment.

Task 1	Due 2.00 pm Thursday 07 August 2008	20%	1,200-1,600 words
Task 2	Due 2.00 pm Thursday 18 September 2008	20%	1,200-1,600 words
Test	In class on Thursday 02 October 2008	20%	
Assignment	Due 5.00pm Friday 10 October 2008	40%	2,500-3,200 words

N.B. Note that if no work is submitted for assessment before the last three weeks of teaching, there will be nothing on which to base an aegrotat consideration All assignments should be submitted with one hard copy and an electronic copy sent to alin-302@vuw.ac.nz.

12. Penalties:

Assignments and tasks must be submitted by the due date. There is no penalty for late submission but permission must be sought and a good reason given. Be careful to keep within the word limits. Assignments and tasks which are plagiarised will not receive a grade and cannot be resubmitted.

13. Relationship between assessment and course objectives:

The tasks focus on objective 1, deciding what language features need special attention, from a discourse perspective for Task 1 and from a vocabulary perspective for Task 2. The test focuses on important ideas covered in the course relating to objectives 1, 2 and 3 from both a discourse and a vocabulary perspective. The assignment focuses on objective 4 by giving class members a chance to integrate the learning from the whole course and apply this to a text or practical situation to ensure that language issues do not hold back content matter learning.

14. Workload:

In order to make satisfactory progress in this course you should expect to devote, on average, 18 hours a week to it. This includes attendance at lectures and tutorials, preparation for tutorials, background reading and preparation for tasks, test and assignment. Some students will find that they need to do more than this, and students aiming for high grades will almost certainly need to do more.

15. Mandatory Course Requirements (Terms):

There are minimum course requirements which must be satisfied to be assessed for the final grade. In order to meet these requirements, you must hand in the two tasks and the assignment by 5pm on Friday 10 October 2008 and sit the test in class. You must make a satisfactory attempt at the two tasks and the assignment. 'Satisfactory' means that if the work does not reach a C standard, it must nevertheless reflect the fact that the task/assignment has been taken seriously and that a reasonable amount of effort has been devoted to the topic. You must also get a grade of D or better in the class test.

16. Attendance:

Course members are expected to attend all lecture and tutorial classes.

GENERAL UNIVERSITY STATUTES AND POLICIES

Students should familiarise themselves with the University's policies and statutes, particularly the Assessment Statute, the Personal Courses of Study Statute, the Statute on Student Conduct and any statutes relating to the particular qualifications being studied; see the *Victoria University Calendar* available in hardcopy or under "about Victoria" on the Victoria homepage at:

http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/about_victoria/calendar_intro.html

Information on the following topics is available electronically under "Course Outline General Information" at:

<http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/about/newspubs/universitypubs.aspx#general>

- Student and Staff Conduct
- Academic Grievances
- Academic Integrity and Plagiarism
- Meeting the Needs of Students with Impairments
- Student Support