

EAP090: English for Academic Purposes III (8 credits)

EAP III is a highly intensive set of courses that offers students an advanced level of study in university academic English. EAP III is designed for students with an advanced level of English who usually have a TOEFL score between 480 and 497 (CBT: 157-170; iBT: 54-60). Students who have higher TOEFL scores are also required to complete EAP III as part of their undergraduate courses studies.

Developing Academic Reading

By engaging in readings in the humanities, physical and social sciences, as well as the reading of narratives, students should be able to better comprehend undergraduate-level reading upon successful completion of this course. Additionally, the focus on advanced reading strategies and discussions on genre will help students better identify text forms and successful strategies for working with them. Students will increasingly be able to recognize vocabulary in context (including the Academic Word List), be able to identify and differentiate the main ideas from the supporting details in passages, and better understand the tone/purpose of readings. Ideally, students will be able to discuss critically the content of readings. In addition to the course readings assigned by instructors, students are expected to read extensively for 5 hours per week outside of class. They will be required to discuss/ present and/or write about their extensive reading.

Developing Academic Writing

In preparation for the vast amount of academic writing required within university courses, students in EAP III take a separate writing course so they can develop their writing abilities in English. In this course, students do a variety of writing, including freewriting and journal-writing, but focus their attention on writing polished brief essays. All easy writing in this class is based on readings; it requires several drafts. Because reading is integral to writing, frequent quizzes, called Reading Reviews, are given to support students in their understanding and interpretation of what they are reading. Finally, because spelling, punctuation, and grammar are essential aspects of “good writing,” students will spend a significant amount of time reviewing (and, when necessary, learning) the “mechanics” of writing in English. This course closely parallels the focus and work of Composition I in Basic Education.

Advanced Focused Listening and Speaking

In this course, student are required to listen carefully to recorded materials usually made by their instructors and to write down exactly what they hear until they achieve a high degree of accuracy with this activity. Each week the recordings become longer. Also, at the beginning of each week students will have a quiz based upon one part of each of the recordings from the week before. This is called a “composite quiz” and students must write down everything on the recording. This course provides an excellent opportunity for students to become familiar with the voices of their instructors so they can better understand their classes. Among other results, students who perform successfully in this course---working at a fast and advanced level of listening---might expect better results on the Listening Section of the TOEFL exam, although this is by no means guaranteed.

Computer Basics

This is a required course so that all students can develop their computer literacy both for EAP classes as well as future university coursework. This course meets each time in a computer lab. Students will develop keyboarding skills, learn how to use Word (beginning with fundamentals and moving to complex features), send email, and use the internet. Depending

on the rate of progress among students, this course may also involve more advanced computer work. This course is required of all students in EAP III who do not “test out” at the beginning of the semester.

EAP091: English for Academic Purposes III Practice (1 credit)

Students meet in the LDIC for this course, which is designed to provide them with opportunities to improve their English language skills and to strengthen their understanding of how to learn a language. This course encourages students to take charge of their learning by planning and carrying out their own personal language learning program. Students can choose to work on materials they selected themselves from AIU’s state-of-the-art Language Development and Intercultural Center (the LDIC) that will strengthen aspects of their language acquisition that may seem weak to them or may be of the most interest to them. *The criterion for passing this course is based on attending 90% of the total class minutes, minus excused absences. If a student fails to meet this criterion for any reason whatsoever, he or she will receive a grade of I (incomplete), and will have to repeat the entire practice course in the following term. Note that passing Level III Practice is required for graduation and students must complete this requirement before going abroad.*

TOEFL Preparation

Though it is not always available for students in EAP III, this course is designed to assist students in preparing for the TOEFL test. The course offers guidelines and practice for all skill areas tested on the Institutional Paper version of the TOEFL.