National Tsing Hua University
Academic English Reading & Discussion, Spring 2024
Tentative Syllabus

Course Code Number: 11220LANG500002   **Class hours**: Tuesday 12:20 pm~3:10 pm

Classroom: 綜二 108   **Credits**: 3

Instructor & Contact Information:

Name	Email	Office & Tel	Office Hour
汪友于	lucywang2012th@gmail.com	(full-time teachers only)	(full-time teachers only)

英文核心能力指標 University Student Core Competency Indicators

1. 英語溝通與表達能力 (ability to communicate and express oneself in English)   20%

2. 深度分析與組織思考的能力 (ability to think critically and organize ideas logically in English)   20%

3. 英語學習策略與技巧 (knowledge of English learning strategies and techniques)   20%

4. 對英語與多元文化的國際視野 (global views of English and multicultural diversity)   20%

5. 善用英語學習資源，培養獨立學習英語的習慣與能力 (ability to use existing English learning resources and development of independent self-learning habit)   20%

COURSE GOALS & DESCRIPTION:

This course aims to enhance students' reading abilities by familiarizing them with vocabulary and developing their reading strategies and skills. All the reading materials are theme-based and systematically presented, which are highly useful in building up students' vocabularies. The abilities of information organization and critical thinking are also the emphasis of this course.

- At the high-intermediate level
- Academic, personal or professional purposes/goals
- Learn how to predict the content of a reading
- Capture main ideas
- How to read for details
- Adopt a variety of strategies, such as skimming, getting meaning from context, and summarizing
- Locate specific information in a text to help better comprehension
- Read and recognize different text types
- Make inferences to improve comprehension and understand a text more deeply
- Distinguish fact from opinion
- Develop critical thinking ability:

- ➤ Recognize bias to better evaluate ideas
- ➤ Explain ideas to demonstrate comprehension
- ➤ Support opinions with reasons and examples
- ➤ Express ideas/ reactions/ opinions orally and in writing
- ➤ Discuss in groups to clarify understanding
- ➤ Apply new information to one's own experience
- ➤ Build up vocabulary by learning word roots
- ➤ Students gain exposure to academic content
- ➤ **AI-assisted reports and assignments are not allowed: only content done by a student or as part of an assigned group is accepted**

Reminder: When students use AI—no matter how much—must be responsible to ensure the correctness of the information. One of Chat GPT's biggest limitations is its databases only goes up to 2021, making it unaware of current events.

UNIFORM TEXTBOOK:

Anderson, N, J. (2014). *Active Skills for Reading 4*. Boston: National Geographic Learning

Richmond, K. (2017). *Inside Reading 4.* New York: Oxford University Press

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GRADING:

1. Attendance and participation 20%
2. Presentations   20%
3. Assignments   30%
4. Midterm project   15%
5. Final project   15%

SUGGESTED CLASS ACTIVITIES:

- ● Group/ individual presentations on selected articles
- ● Listening comprehension activities
- ● In-class discussion
- ● Vocabulary building activities
- ● Thought-provoking questions & discussion
- ● Interpretation project/ text comprehension

REQUIREMENT & RULES:

1. Class attendance, lesson preparation and active class participation are required.
   I will take attendance once in a while throughout the semester. If you are all present whenever I

call the roll, you will get **90** (i.e. the primitive score) in this category (i.e. Class attendance). If you are absent for **two hours**, **ten points** will be deducted from this primitive score. If you are absent for more than 12 **hours**, <u>you will definitely be flunked</u>.

2. Absence from a class is no excuse for not knowing the assignment and what has been discussed in that class. **It is your responsibility to ask your classmates or me what has been covered in the class**.

3. <u>Cheating</u> on the exam is <u>**absolutely not permitted**</u>. If someone is found cheating on an exam, it means he/she will get a zero point for that exam.

4. When students use **AI**—no matter how much—must be responsible to ensure the correctness of the information. One of Chat GPT's biggest limitations is its databases only goes up to 2021, making it unaware of current events.

5. There will be **NO make-up exams** or **presentations** unless you notify the instructor valid and official reasons for your absence **beforehand**. If a group presentation is "crippled" due to your lateness or absence, you will receive no grade on the presentation.

6. Assignments are expected to be completed and submitted by due date. No late submission will be accepted or graded unless the instructor approves your application of late submission.

    NO full credit for late submission/Penalty for late submission: 10% of the total mark awarded will be deducted for each working day after the submission date.

Late Submission		Mark Awarded After Penalty	
Number of days late	Penalty	Original grade 90	Original grade 60
1	10%	81	54
2	20%	72	48
3	30%	63	42
4	40%	54	36
5	50%	45	30
More than 5 days	Not completed and grade of zero awarded		

7. **Penalty for no or poor participation in groupwork**

    Students are expected to take part in various groupwork activities. Failure to engage with these activities may lead to reductions in grades awarded. Sometimes the reduction may be suggested by other group members, in other circumstances the academic in charge may reduce the grade awarded without reference to other group members.

8. Mobile devices are only used for educational purposes relevant to the subject or tasks in the classroom setting with the permission of or at the request of the instructor.

    During class students are not to be seen with a cell phone in hand. Mobile phones are expected

to be turned off or switched to a silent mode.

DETAILED SYLLABUS:

Week	Date	Main Topic
1.	2/20	Course introduction & Orientation
2.	2/27	The World of Work: Not Your Typical 9-to-5 Job (Magazine article) Skills: Predicting/ The root Word: *ten/tain*
3.	3/5	The World of Work: Job Interview Types (Web article) Skills: Skimming for Content/ Homophones
4.	3/12	The World of Work/ Individual Presentation Skills: Reading Job Ads
5.	3/19	Travel Adventures: Into the Heart of a Family in Casablanca (Magazine article) Skills: Scanning/ Adverbs of Emotion
6.	3/26	Travel Adventures: Travel for Good (Magazine article) Skills: Previewing/ The Root Word *ject*
7.	4/2	Travel Adventures/ Individual Presentation Skills: Choosing a Travel Guidebook
8.	4/9	A Good Read: What Exactly Is a Short Story? (Magazine article) Skills: Recognizing Simile and Metaphor/ The Root Word *scribe*
9.	4/16	A Good Read: An Interview with J.K. Rowling (Web interview) Skills: Scanning/ Phrasal Verbs
10.	4/23	A Good Read/ Individual Presentation Skills: Understanding Literary Terms
11.	4/30	A New Generation of Thinking: Emotional Intelligence (Reference article) Skills: Skimming/ The Root Word *tend*
12.	5/7	A New Generation of Thinking: Left Brains, Right Brains, and Board Games (Reference article) Skill: Identifying Main and Supporting Ideas/ The Root Word *cap*

13.	5/14	A New Generation of Thinking/ Individual Presentation Skill: Determining Your Intelligence
14.	5/21	It's Dinner Time: The Mediterranean Diet (Reference article) Skill: Identifying Meaning from Context/ Numerical Root Words: *mono, dec, cent, and mill*
15.	5/28	It's Dinner Time: Genetically Modified Food (Newspaper article) Skill: Arguing for and against a Topic/ The Root Word *sist*
16.	6/4	It's Dinner Time/ Individual Presentation Skill: Understanding Punctuation
17.	6/11	Language and Life: The Exodus of Languages (Magazine article) Skill: Identifying Cause and Effect/ The Suffix *-al*
18.	6/18	Group Presentation

SDGs (UN Sustainable Development Goals) Indicators

Academic Linguistic Skills Indicators

- ☐ Academic Writing
- ☐ Attention to Detail
- ☑ Brainstorming
- ☑ Collaborating
- ☑ Critical Thinking
- ☐ Debate
- ☐ Editing
- ☑ Information Gathering
- ☐ Listening
- ☑ Note Taking
- ☑ Organizing
- ☐ Peer Review
- ☑ Presentations
- ☐ Public Speaking
- ☑ Reading Comprehension
- ☑ Verbal Communication
- ☐ Writing