

ENGL 020 (CEFR B2+)

Course Description

ENGL020 is a general English course at upper-intermediate level, equivalent to B2 on the CEFR scale. Its primary objective is to raise students' language competencies to this level in their speaking, writing, reading and listening skills. A key component of the course is the Institutional TOEFL exam, whose function is to ensure standardization of outcomes through benchmarking of institution-developed testing materials. The course uses a range of commercially available teaching materials, Life and Reading Explorer alongside supplemental materials developed within the department.

Learning Outcomes – Listening

By the end of this course, students will be able to:

- Demonstrate the ability to comprehend spoken English employing a range of macro- and micro-skills
- Identify subjects of whole-text listening texts
- Comprehend individual sounds within words
- Make inferences

Learning Outcomes – Reading

By the end of this course, students will be able to:

- Identify the general subject of a text at whole-text or paragraph level
- Infer meaning of unknown vocabulary using the context
- Extract specific information from the text
- Identify the referents of pronouns

Learning Outcomes – Writing

By the end of this course, students will be able to:

- Write a coherent and cohesive response to tasks at B2 level, using appropriate tone and register, with organized paragraphing and a range of appropriate structures and vocabulary.
- The writing tasks include a Product-or-Service Review, a For-and-Against Essay, a Cause-and-Effect Essay and a Problem-and-Solution Essay

Learning Outcomes – Vocabulary

By the end of this course, students will be able to:

- Use over 1000 new items (B2 and C1 level)

Learning Outcomes – Speaking

By the end of this course, students will be able to:

- Speak and engage in spoken communication at B2 level. This will be independently (monologue) and in communication with another student (dialogue).

Institutional TOEFL Examination

The ENGL020 course contains an Institutional TOEFL component with a weight of 20%. The Institutional TOEFL is an external examination provided by the Educational Testing Service (ETS) and comprises Listening, Grammar (called 'Structure and Written Expression'), and Reading components. This examination is always held at the end of each module.

Because the Institutional TOEFL does not assess students' speaking and writing abilities, students do not receive an official TOEFL certification upon completion. Rather, the Institutional TOEFL is intended for internal PEP purposes only.

TOEFL scores are scaled to a fixed weighted percentage from 470 to 530. To illustrate, an ENGL020 student scoring 510 would receive an allocation of 14% out of a possible 20%.