

Title of course:**English and Academic Preparation (EAP) (*New Course*)****Level 3 15 weeks****Course Code: XA3****CRICOS Provider Number: 058664C**

This course is a short, access and preparatory pathway program offered as part of the University of Ballarat's articulation arrangements or as pre-entry to approved higher education undergraduate, postgraduate or TAFE courses.

Year of Introduction:

2006

Location:

University of Ballarat, Mt Helen Campus.

Admission Requirements:

Students will be non-English speaking background fee paying international students who meet the minimum requirement of an overall IELTS score of 5.5 or its equivalent. The students will be in an articulation arrangement for higher education award courses, or pre-approved undergraduate, postgraduate or TAFE program. Admission decisions will ultimately rest with the Manager – ISP Administration and Admissions, and the Director – EAP.

Duration of the course:

The course will be of 15 weeks duration with a minimum of 22 study hours per week. The course may be taught in any semester or in semester break.

Mode of Delivery:

This course will be delivered in full-time mode on-campus.

Rationale for the Course:

This course aims to assist international students who have a minimum overall IELTS score of 5.5 or its equivalent with two or more bands of 5.0 or lower, to achieve competency in English for academic purposes prior to their commencement of approved articulation programs into higher degree courses, or planned enrolments. Students who would normally enrol in the 15 week course would need more English language and academic preparation than a student eligible for a 10 week course.

The first unit, XA 301 - Intensive Academic English for International Students, is delivered independently of the co-requisite units. It combines critical and practical approaches within a TESOL methodology. By enhancing the core skills required for academic study, specifically academic writing, reading, listening and speaking, this unit aims to prepare non English speaking background international students for tertiary study in the English medium environment, specifically Australian universities. The core academic English language skills are developed and extended in the co-requisite units through a variety of topics and activities, including studies in Australian society and a range of academic cultures. Such topics provide students with opportunities to examine the values and methods of instruction and learning that prevail in Australian universities, compared with their own. By developing an insight into cultural variations in teaching and learning styles, it is expected that students will

be better prepared to effectively respond to the demands placed on them in a variety of academic situations in their new learning environment.

The co-requisite units, XA 201 and XA 202 and XA 203 provide for a program of study which is more advanced than XA 301 and include advanced critical literacy skills and considerable preparation in western academic culture so that students can successfully and confidently enter their chosen course of study at the year level specified in their offer letter or planned enrolment.

The 15 week EAP program is full time with a minimum of 22 contact hours per week. The course consists of four units, Intensive Academic English Preparation for International students, Advanced Critical Literacy for international Students, Understanding Western Academic Culture and Advanced Practical Application of Skills in Higher Education.

Students enrol in the four units and must satisfactorily complete all four prior to entry to the articulated program or planned enrolment into their higher degree courses. Satisfactory progress in the 5 week intensive unit is mandatory for continuation into advanced units within the 15 week EAP course. Students who demonstrate a high level of ability in XA 301 may be eligible for a reduced load in XA 203.

The five weeks of intensive classroom instruction provided in XA 301 focus on developing the core skills of academic reading (6 hours), writing (7 hours), listening (3 hours), and speaking (3 hours), with additional allocated self study time and daily/weekly homework tasks. By the end of week five, it is expected that students will have the foundation skills necessary to confidently undertake the co-requisite units in which students critically examine the methods of instruction and learning that prevail in western academic culture and the English speaking medium environment. The co-requisite units, in particular XA 203, provide many opportunities for students to apply and produce the newly acquired skills in authentic and authentically simulated academic situations and through the range of learning and assessment tasks allocated to each unit of study. The remaining ten weeks are less intensive than weeks 1-5.

<p>EAP Level 3</p> <p>15 weeks Entry requirement: Minimum: IELTS score 5.5</p>	<p>1 unit x 5 weeks</p> <p>XA 301 Intensive Academic English Preparation for International Students</p>	<p>3 units x 10 weeks</p> <p>XA 201 Advanced Critical Literacy for International Students XA 202 Understanding Western academic Culture XA 203 Advanced Practical Application of Skills in Higher Education.</p>
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