

**COURSE DESCRIPTION AND COURSE REQUIREMENTS**  
**ACADEMIC YEAR 2020/2021 SPRING**

*IELTS Advanced Exam Preparation - Writing* *Thursday 15.00 – 16.30*

<i>Course Code</i>	<b>SZE055AN</b>
<i>Hours/Week</i>	<b>2 seminars</b>
<i>Credits</i>	<b>2</b>
<i>Degree Programme</i>	<b>All</b>
<i>Study Mode</i>	<b>Full time</b>
<i>Evaluation</i>	<b>Final course grade</b>
<i>Teaching Period</i>	<b>Autumn/Spring</b>
<i>Prerequisites</i>	<b>Placement test</b>
<i>Department</i>	<b>Centre for Foreign Languages for Technical Purposes</b>
<i>Teaching Staff</i>	<b>Julia Török</b>

**SHORT DESCRIPTION**

This course is designed for students who have an intermediate knowledge of English and who would like to prepare for the IELTS exam in band 6.5 and above. It covers the core skills needed for the reading and writing parts of the exam, especially focusing on academic material rather than general English.

The IELTS language exam is the most commonly required exam for professionals who would like to work or study abroad, and is accepted in more than 130 countries. Professional organisations in the area of engineering, construction and education generally require IELTS certification as proof of language proficiency, as do many universities and immigration authorities.

The course teaches the skills needed for reading and interpreting a wide range of texts. Students become familiar with the Reading and Writing components of the IELTS exam and how to maximise points in each section. Students learn how to effectively express their opinion and argue their viewpoint in written communication.

**AIMS AND OBJECTIVES**

The aim of the course is to prepare students for the reading and writing tasks of the Academic IELTS examination not only by improving their reading and writing skills but also by providing students with an understanding of the question types and developing test-taking strategies.

## CONTENT

### *Syllabus:*

Week 1	Placement tests
Week 2	Introduction to the IELTS Academic Reading Tasks Question types
Week 3	Academic Writing Task 1 Describing a chart, table or graph Comparing and contrasting graphs and charts
Week 4	Content, structure, cohesion and coherence Reading strategies Action plan for True/False/Not Given Action plan for Flow chart completion Action plan for Locating information Action plan for Matching names Action plan for Summary completion
Week 5	Academic Writing Task 1 Describing diagrams Describing maps
Week 6	Academic Reading Action plan for Yes/No/Not Given Action plan for Multiple choice Action plan for Matching sentence endings
Week 7	Academic Writing Task 2 Question types and common topics Developing a structured argument Style Useful language
Week 8	Midterm test
Week 9	Academic Reading Time management
Week 10	Spring break
Week 11	Writing task 2 Structure Agree or disagree essay
Week 12	Academic Reading Practice
Week 13	Writing task 2 Discussion essay Problem and solution essay
Week 14	Academic Writing Practice
Week 15	Final test

## REQUIREMENTS AND ASSESSMENT

### *Attendance:*

Attendance is required for all classes and will impact the grade. Unexcused absences will adversely affect the grade, and absences from more than 30% of the total number of lessons will be grounds for failing the class. Punctual attendance for the whole lesson is required and arriving more than 20 minutes late will be counted as an absence. In the case of an illness or family emergency, the student must present a valid excuse, such as a doctor's note.

### *Minimum Course Requirements, Assessment and Grading Policy:*

For passing the course students are required to pass the midterm test and the final test, complete all class and home reading assignments and submit all writing assignments.

Students can retake a missed or failed test only once. They can also re-sit the tests if they want to improve their mark. In the latter case the result of the re-sit will be taken into consideration when the final course grade is calculated.

### *Grading Scale:*

85 – 100%	5 (Excellent)
76 – 84%	4 (Good)
61 – 75%	3 (Average)
50 – 60%	2 (Poor)
0 – 49%	1 (Fail)

Final course grade calculation: 25% midterm test, 25% final test, 25% class attendance and participation 25% submitted home assignments

## COURSEBOOKS AND RECOMMENDED READING

- [1.] The Official Cambridge Guide to IELTS
- [2.] IELTS12 Academic (Authentic Examination Papers)
- [3.] Additional course material and handouts to be downloaded from Neptun folder