Aims
This English course is designed to develop important principles in Academic English (reading, writing, listening and speaking) in preparation for first year university. The course will cover necessary writing structures and formatting for successful completion of written assignments, essays and short answer questions, which can be applied to any subject which requires an English language-based response. Techniques for lecture comprehension and note-taking are also a large focus of the course. Finally, the course will familiarise students with speaking structures that are necessary in academic environments.

Learning outcomes
On completing this course, students will be able to:
> Develop a basic academic essay following analysis of the given question
> Make appropriate and accurate lexical choices in order to present and develop a logical explanation
> Understand the rules of plagiarism and the importance of accurate referencing to avoid plagiarism including how to incorporate the Harvard Author-Date in-text referencing system
> Identify the basic structure of, and common discourse markers use within a lecture context
> Identify and note main ideas of a lecture and develop skills for identifying specific information
> Use a range of grammar structures accurately within academic writing
> Participate in group discussions and team learning activities, and negotiate project responsibilities.

Course content
The following skills will be covered:
> Learning strategies: independent learning techniques, team/group work
> Writing: avoiding plagiarism, vocabulary development, assignment writing, editing
> Reading: comprehension, critical reading, analysing questions and texts
> Listening: predicting content/structure, inferring meaning from context, note-taking skills
> Speaking: discussion skills, oral presentations, asking/responding to questions.

Further details of the course content will be advised in the first week of classes

Contact hours
4 hours per week

Assessment
Indicative weightings for each assessment item are outlined below

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assessment</th>
<th>Weighting</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Homework, participation &amp; class attendance</td>
<td>5%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Grammar</td>
<td>10%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Essay writing</td>
<td>25%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Listening &amp; note-taking</td>
<td>10%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Oral presentation</td>
<td>10%</td>
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<tr>
<td>End of semester exam</td>
<td>40%</td>
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