

Case Study

It is possible that the only information you have with respect to a particular course is the course description. This is also the information which a student would access when deciding on courses or a programme of study.

From the course descriptions below:

- Are there any potential barriers to disabled students wishing to undertake any of the courses?
- How could reasonable adjustments be made to remove or reduce these barriers?

The Code of Practice says:

6.2 Under the Act, responsible bodies must have regard for the relevant provisions of this Code [s28T(2)]. Without attempting to be exhaustive, the following are some of the factors that might be taken into account when considering what is reasonable:

- the need to maintain academic or other prescribed standards
 - the financial resources available to the responsible body
 - grants or loads available to the student
 - the cost of taking a particular step
 - the extent to which it is practicable to take a particular step
 - the extent to which aids or services will otherwise be provided to disabled students
 - health and safety requirements
 - the relevant interests of other people, including students
- Are there possible adjustments which you would reject, with reference to any of these factors?
 - Could the course descriptions be more accurate/informative?

1. English Language

No prior knowledge of the linguistics of English is assumed at the beginning of the course. The aim of the Department is to produce graduates of the highest calibre who have been trained in a range of disciplines, covering both the structure of the modern language and its historical development...

First Year

The first year course introduces the shape of present day English, including regional and social variation and students also learn to describe the sounds and structure of the language.

English is covered from a historical perspective, particular attention being paid to the 16th and 17th centuries and how we can discover what it was like.

Course requirements are 2 assignments, 1 class exam, 1 essay and a degree exam from which exemption is possible if 60% is gained from coursework...

English Language One

Aims of the Course

1. The course introduces students to the study of English Language in a rounded and systematic way. The course can "stand alone" for those who will not take the subject beyond a single year, but more importantly, it provides the fundamental preparation for further study, especially for those who pursue the subject, singly or jointly, at Honours.
2. The course is an introduction to the fundamental analytical concepts involved in the study of the linguistic structure of English today and its broad historical development.
3. The course will give students the technical means of engaging in the analysis and explication of English as a language...

Objectives of the course

1. To establish understanding of key concepts in areas of formal description fundamental to the description, analysis and discussion of English as a language both now and in the past. The course therefore begins with a six-week series of classes offering instruction on how to describe the **structure of sounds, words and sentences** of the modern language.
2. To introduce students to the study of English Language in its **historical perspective**. Attention will be paid to matters like how we can try to "recover" the pronunciation of the language of the past and how its spelling and grammar differ from our own, to changes in the meanings of words and additions to and losses from the vocabulary.
3. Classes investigate examples of British and world-wide geographical **linguistic variation**, both in geographical terms - comparing modern Scottish English with say, Cockney, against the background of the British English 'standard' form - and by studying gender, age and social class as variables in linguistic behaviour.
4. To discuss English as a **cultural phenomenon**. ... Here we shall look at examples of different structures and styles in types of text, as well as studying the relation between language and communication in spoken English discourse.

Working for the course

As in all university courses, you will be required to do five different kinds of "work". These are:

Reading

Listening in Lectures

Participating in Seminars

Consulting your teachers

Writing: There are two Assignments and one Essay to be written during the course and one Class Examination to be taken in Week 13 (week 3 of Spring Term). The Degree Exam takes place in June. Developing the relevant skills in written work such as university essays is an important part of the work of the English Language 1 class, and the marks given for written work will reflect this.

2. Undergraduate LLB

Course Name: Honours Skills Development

Course Code: XXX

Introduction:

The purpose of this course is to provide all students with an introduction to some basic research and practical skills. This is intended to facilitate the completion of the honours course, providing an overview of skills that may be obtained in other courses, and an introduction to some skills that may be demanded by future employers.

The course is compulsory for all students admitted to Honours.

Credit Value: 5

Teaching:

Teaching will consist of 7 hours of lectures and 5.5 hours of small group sessions.

Tutorials will be held in the third term. There will be three meetings

1. Presentation skills
2. IT research
3. Presentation of dissertation outline

Students should sign up for tutorial groups before the end of term 2.

Aim of Course:

The aims of the course are:

- To introduce students to the principal features of teaching and learning at honours level, compared to that at ordinary level;
- To develop students' presentation skills, including oral and written communication skills;
- To further develop students' skills in legal research, including library and advanced IT skills;
- To instruct students in the skills necessary to complete a dissertation, including relevant research and writing skills;
- To assist students to manage time and cope with stress effectively.

Learning outcomes:

By the end of the course the student should:

- Be more aware of what is expected generally of the student as an honours student, particularly in relation to critical analysis of material studied;
- Be better able to effectively participate in an honours seminar;
- Be better able to make a presentation;
- Be better able to carry out advanced independent research using both libraries and IT facilities;
- Be better prepared to undertake the preparation, research and writing of an honours dissertation;
- Be more aware of how to manage time and stress effectively.

Skills Components:

Communication:

- Preparation of presentation
- Delivery of presentation

Improving your own learning and performance:

- Feedback on presentation
- Feedback on research exercise
- Training on dissertation planning and writing
- Training in time and stress management

IT Skill

- Development of advanced IT research skills
- Completion of research exercise

Course-Work and Examinations

The coursework consists of attendance at all lectures and tutorials, as well as the completion of two assignments.

Assessment will consist of two elements. These will all take place in term 3. Students who are abroad in their third year will be expected to complete these exercises in term 1 of their fourth year:

An exercise to test library-based and IT based research skills;
Production of an outline of, and making a presentation on, the student's dissertation topic.

It is, however, envisaged that you will be synthesising and commenting upon the work of others. This is not only valid but is an intrinsic part of the exercise.

Relationship to other courses:

Progress to senior honours study is conditional on satisfactory performance in this course.

Prescribed text:

There are no prescribed texts.

Recommended texts:

The following texts are in the reference section of the main library and may be of use:

B. Allison, *The Student's Guide to Preparing Dissertations and Theses* (1997)

M. Coles, *A Student's Guide to Coursework Writing* (1995)

R. Fry, *Improve your writing* (1997)

3. Human Biology

Course Code: BI2130

Credits: 25

Prerequisites: BI1010 and BI1510

Description:

Lectures and seminars provide an introduction to the varied fields of study that relate to human biology. Initially lectures cover the basic structure (anatomy) and function (physiology) of the human body. Later topics include the ways in which humans evolved, how we think, how we reproduce and why and how we eventually die. Lectures also consider the ways in which we survive on this planet, and how our activities affect its functioning; and other organisms that interact with us and use us for their own survival, including consideration of human pathogens and disease.

Class hour: 9 am

Teaching: Four lectures, one 3 hour laboratory and weekly seminars and tutorials.

1 full-day field-trip (details to be announced in Week 3)

Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 30%, Class test = 10%,
3 Hour Examination = 60%

Reassessment: 3 Hour Examination and Oral if deemed necessary
= 100%