American University of Central Asia

New Generation Academy

Syllabus Spring Semester 2017

Prep 023 Course ID 2834

**Course Name:** English for Academic Purposes EAP (LS)

**Level:** Intermediate

**Credit Hours:** 6

**Meeting Times:** Tuesdays 12:45 – 14:00, Fridays 12:45 – 14:00

**Instructor: Khurshedsho Qonunov**

**Material will be provided on a week-to-week basis!**

**I. Course description:**

This course is designed to develop students’ language skills and improve their English for Academic Purposes (EAP). The course focuses on Listening and Speaking skills in an active, student-centered class. The course will also complement students’ preparation for standard exam questions asked in TOEFL and other English language exams, as well as develop soft skills for university.

**II. Goals and Objectives:**

Upon the completion of this course you will be able to:

* Express yourself more elaborately in oral speech;
* infer word meaning from context;
* determine main ideas from live speech and audio material;
* introduce, defend, and express pro and con sides of an issue;
* use context clues to infer meaning, identify and use synonyms and commonly misused words, identify and use idiomatic expressions;
* understand standard and regional accents in English;
* make effective speeches and presentations;
* feel comfortable with media language;
* feel comfortable communicating in English with one another and with native speakers

Students in this course are expected to commit to active class participation, complete homework and come to class prepared.

**III. Course requirements:**

# *A. Attendance*

Class attendance is compulsory. If a student is absent for unavoidable reasons (illness or other), the instructor must be informed on the same day by e-mail. Punctuality is of the essence.

## B. Classroom Etiquette

Mobile phones must be switched off or put on “Silent” during the class. For everything else, such as sleeping or chit-chatting with others during class, students must follow common sense.

## C. Participation

Students are expected to take active part in all classroom activities: ask questions in English, answer questions of other students voluntarily, express viewpoints on subjects discussed, and take part in group activities. All this together makes up the grade for classroom activities. All subjects occurring in the course of this program are to be discussed only in English.

***D. Presentations***

Short speeches and presentations are to be held for 5 and 10 minutes respectively. It is recommended to prepare handouts which contain the essential information and the sources used. Requirements and fashion of presentations, as well as handouts will be discussed in class prior to individual and/or group presentations. Topics for the presentations are suggested in the syllabus but students are invited to choose their own as well. The subject of each presentation must be discussed and scheduled with the instructor beforehand.

***E. Class Exercises***

In addition to text-book based exercises, BBC, Euronews, VOA radio and video programs, as well as other podcast material will also be part of the class activity, engaging students in active listening, accompanied by note-taking, vocabulary definition, identification of the story line, argument, analysis and interpretation.

***F. Tests and exams***

Ongoing in-class discussions and homework assignments will be supervised and provided with feedback on both language and content, in order for students to learn and improve on a continuous basis. Final exam will constitute a speech/presentation with a thought-provoking topic of perennial and universal significance.

**IV. Grading**

|  | **Type of activity** | **Percent of Total Grade** |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 1 | Class Participation | 40% |
| 2 | Home Assignments | 30% |
| 4 | Student Presentations | 10% |
| 5 | Tests | 20% |

Grades are based on:

Grade/Percentage Ratio:

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **A** | 100-94 % | **C** | 73-68 % |
| **A-** | 93-90 % | **C-** | 67-64 % |
| **B+** | 89-86 % | **D+** | 63-60 % |
| **B** | 85-80 % | **D** | 59-54 % |
| **B-** | 79-77 % | **D-** | 53-50 % |
| **C+** | 76-74 % | **F** | 49% (or less) |

**V. Academic Honesty**

Course participants are expected to maintain academic honesty in their work. Participants should avoid plagiarism. Articles, books, films, TV/Radio programs and other resources (including Internet resources) employed in fulfilling assignments and presentations must be cited.

**VI. Lesson Schedule**

This syllabus and class schedule is subject to changes by the instructor.

Details about material will be provided on a week-to-week basis. This is in order to discuss up-to-date material as well as to respond to the needs of the students. Every week students will be expected to practice independently with exercises from NorthStar textbooks. In class the focus will be on vibrant original material that evolves through everyday life of human development. Each week students’ home assignment will be to listen to and view audio and video material respectively.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Week** | **Agenda Setting** | **Home Assignments** |
| 1 | Getting acquainted:  Students will respond to teacher’s questions about their experiences with listening and speaking, including their strengths and weaknesses in understanding spoken English and their ability to express themselves. | Make a list of your needs and expectations in regard to improving your listening and speaking skills. |
| 2 | Topic: World news  Class listens to BBC Radio 4, with everybody jotting down notes on new information, including vocabulary, ideas, concepts and questions. This is followed by class discussion and teacher explaining language and content. | Explore new information, vocabulary and concepts through internet search and practice pronunciation. |
| 3 | Topic: The war in the Middle East and the refugee crisis in Europe  Discussion: Definitions of such terms and concepts as Refugee, Displaced, Internally Displaced, Asylum, NGO, UN, MSF, Red Cross, Universal Declaration of Human Rights | Listen to BBC, VOA and Euronews for 10 minutes each and jot down the themes discussed there. |
| 4 | Topic: Civil Society | Search for a video in English on the internet, defining and discussing Civil Society and its role in the world of today. Bring your notes to class for discussion. |
| 5 | Topic: Changing Society  Debate on Loss, Transformation, Evolution or Development? | Essay: Cultural changes in your home country: Good or bad? Win or lose? |
| 6 | Topic: Ecological issues | Essay: Global warming: A distant debate or a threat at the doorstep? Watch a National Geographic documentary with DiCaprio. |
| 7 | Topic: Education | BBC 4: What should we teach our kids? |
| 8 | Topic: Learning and Earning  Follow up discussion on the program about education with periodic reference to the audio material. | Listen to Radiolab Podcast: Secrets of Success |
| 9 | Topic: The Story of Math | Listen to Jim Al-Khalili’s journey through the history of sciences, a BBC documentary |
| 10 | Topic: Technological advances  Viewing of a documentary with note-taking and ensuing discussion, with individual opinion input. | Radio 4: Book at Bedtime |
| 11 | Topic: Public Speaking  Viewing of a video on 5 principles of effective Public Speaking. Note-taking and question and answer exercise. | Follow up on the topic with vocabulary exploration through dictionary. |
| 12 | Topic: Public Speaking II:  Viewing of Toastmasters’ winner speeches. Compare with 5 principles. | Practice a speech with a course- mate/roommate. |
| 13 | Individual speeches: Each student is given 5-10 minutes | Viewing of College group presentations on a variety of topics on the internet. |
| 14 | Practice | Practice |
| 15 | Topic: Speak and Make a Difference! | Prepare for final group or individual presentation. |
|  | FINAL PRESENTATION |  |