



Course Name: English for Bsisi (Intermediate) Level

Name of Instructor:

E-mail:

A. Course purpose and overview:

The main objective of the Bsisi course is to improve students' reading comprehension of intermediate-level ("pre-academic") texts of approximately 1700 words, with passages increasing in difficulty and length throughout the course. To this end, a variety of reading, vocabulary, and language skills are taught and practiced throughout the course (see below). Speaking and listening are integrated into the class sessions and assignments, and basic writing skill is developed.

B. Teaching techniques, technology use, guest speakers:

- ✓ Frontal lectures
- ✓ Pair/group work
- ✓ Class discussions
- ✓ Moodle assignments (e.g. forum discussions, recordings, online quizzes, videos)
- ✓ Internet use: videos, supplementary material (in class/homework)
- ✓ Interactive class activities using mobile technologies

C. Language Skills and Strategies:

Below is a list of the reading and language skills and strategies practiced and taught in the course. The various components are taught and applied alone and in combination as needed (i.e. a skill/strategy may be taught in a focused lesson by itself, and then applied to various readings as appropriate).

- ✓ Basic academic vocabulary
- ✓ Vocabulary skills (e.g. guessing meanings of words from context, affixes)
- ✓ Parts of Speech (identifying type and function of words to facilitate comprehension)
- ✓ Sentence Structure (nominal phrases, simple, compound, and complex sentences)
- ✓ References
- ✓ Transitions and organizational markers
- ✓ Paragraph Structure (identifying main ideas and supporting details)
- ✓ Meta-cognitive awareness of reading strategies and processes
- ✓ Reading fluency and speed

- ✓ Speaking and listening practice
- ✓ Writing short paragraphs, answers and responses

D. Learning Outcomes (CEFR/CV-based):

Upon completion of this course, students will be able to do the following:

Reception

Listening

- ✓ Can understand enough to be able to meet needs of a concrete type provided speech is clearly and slowly articulated.
- ✓ Can follow a simple, well-structured presentation or demonstration.
- ✓ Can understand and extract the essential information from short, recorded passages that are delivered slowly and clearly.

Reading

- ✓ Can understand short, simple texts containing the high frequency vocabulary.
- ✓ Can understand the main points of short texts dealing with basic topics.
- ✓ Can identify specific information in simpler written material.
- ✓ Can use an idea of the overall meaning of short texts and utterances on everyday topics of a concrete type to derive the probable meaning of unknown words from the context.
- ✓ Can exploit his/her recognition of known words to deduce the meaning of unfamiliar words in short expressions used in routine everyday contexts.
- ✓ Can Read edited academic English texts at an intermediate level of approximately 1700 words
- ✓ Use reading strategies at word, sentence, and paragraph level (e.g. main ideas, transitions, sentence structure, context clues, affixes, and references) to facilitate comprehension
- ✓

Production

Spoken

- ✓ Can give a simple description or presentation as a short series of simple sentences.
- ✓ Can give short, basic descriptions of events and activities.
- ✓ Can present his/her opinion in simple terms.
- ✓ Can give a short, rehearsed, basic presentation on a familiar subject.

Written

- ✓ Can write a series of simple sentences linked with simple connectors.
- ✓ Can write short, basic descriptions of events, past activities and personal experiences.

- ✓ Can write simple texts on familiar subjects of interest, linking sentences with connectors.
- ✓ Can give his/her impressions and opinions in writing about topics of personal interest, using basic vocabulary and expressions.
- ✓ Write short answers ranging from a few words to a complete sentence in English

Interaction

Spoken

- ✓ Can interact with reasonable ease in structured situations and short conversations,
- ✓ Can understand enough to manage simple, routine exchanges.
- ✓ Can generally understand clear, standard speech on familiar matters.
- ✓ Can exchange relevant information and give his/her opinion on simple issues.

Written

- ✓ Can exchange information by text message or in short letters, responding to questions the other person had.

Mediation

- ✓ Can convey relevant information contained in clearly structured, short, simple, informational texts.
- ✓ Can convey the main point(s) involved in short, simple conversations or texts on everyday subjects of immediate interest.
- ✓ Can pick out and reproduce key words and phrases or short sentences from a short text.

Linguistic, vocabulary, grammar and orthographic control

- ✓ Has a repertoire of basic language, which enables him/her to deal with everyday situations with predictable content, though he/she will generally have to compromise the message and search for words.
- ✓ Can use basic sentence patterns and communicate with memorized phrases, groups of a few words and formulae.
- ✓ Has sufficient vocabulary to conduct routine, everyday transactions involving familiar situations and topics.
- ✓ Can perform and respond to basic language functions, such as information exchange and requests and express opinions and attitudes in a simple way.
- ✓ Can socialize simply but effectively using the simplest common expressions and following basic routines.
- ✓ Can use the most frequently occurring connectors to link simple sentences in order to tell a story or describe something as a simple list of points.

- ✓ Can communicate what he/she wants to say in a simple and direct exchange of limited information on familiar and routine matters.

E. Course requirements:

- ✓ Attendance and active participation in class sessions
- ✓ Successful completion of class assignments, quizzes and homework
- ✓ In class speaking assignments
- ✓ Writing exam
- ✓ Final exam

F. Components of the course grade:

The course grade is composed of a class grade (60%) and a final exam grade (40%).

The class grade includes:

- ✓ Reading comprehension: quizzes on vocabulary and reading strategies, sample "unseen" tests, homework, online assignments
- ✓ Listening and speaking: answering questions based on a video, recording short oral responses to reading
- ✓ Writing: writing short responses to reading

READING	
Several assignments: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Seens based on the texts read in class/at home ➤ Text-based quizzes ➤ Skill-based quizzes 	30%
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Vocabulary quizzes 	20%
Two sample unseen tests	20%
SPEAKING and LISTENING	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Speaking and listening assignments 	
WRITING	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Writing Exam: A paragraph of at least 50 words ➤ Other writing assignments 	15%

Final Exam: The final exam consists of an "unseen" text of approximately 1700 words accompanied by reading comprehension questions of various types (including open-ended, completion, and multiple-choice questions). Students are allowed to use a dictionary during the test. Duration: **2 hours**