



# VOCABULARY BUILDING

English for Academic Purposes  
OLive-Access 2020

Instructor: Cameron Wilson

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Teaching Units: 26

Course Dates: 3 February – 22 March (Module A), 23 March - 10 May (Module B)

Schedule: Mondays 09.00 – 10:30

Office Hours: Mondays 13:00 – 14:00

## Course Description

The aim of this class is to develop students' vocabulary in terms of range, accurate usage, spelling and pronunciation. The course will help students develop a level of equivalency between their reading, listening, speaking and writing vocabulary in terms of ability to activate and use accurately words and word phrases. Course materials reflect these improvement goals across skills areas. In addition, special emphasis is placed on academic vocabulary and vocabulary that is used in academic communication. The course will combine group, pair, and individual work in the classroom and facilitate the development of self-study vocabulary-building strategies that can be utilized in this course and beyond.

## Learning Outcomes

By the end of the course, students should:

- Be able to use in a fluent and accurate way a wide range of vocabulary in speaking and writing and understand a wide range of vocabulary in listening and reading.
- Have developed vocabulary building strategies that they can employ across the curriculum of OLive-UP and beyond
- Have built up a vocabulary size that can be developed independently of OLive-Access and be commensurate with the level needed for future studies

## Accessibility

I am committed to providing equal access to all students. Students with disabilities who require reasonable accommodations for this course *please speak to me or send me an email during the first two weeks of classes*. I will make every effort to create an accessible classroom.

## Requirements

Students are expected to actively participate in all classes and complete assignments on time.

### Academic Integrity

Bard College Berlin maintains the staunchest regard for academic integrity and expects good academic practice from students in their studies. Syllabi should note that, instances in which students fail to meet the expected standards of academic integrity will be dealt with under the Code of Student Conduct, Section III Academic Misconduct.

### Policy on Late Submission of Papers

As per Student Handbook guidelines, assignments that are up to 24 hours late will be downgraded one full grade (from B+ to C+, for example). Assignments that are more than 24 hours late may be rejected for grading, particularly if the explanation offered for the delay is not satisfactory. If a late assignment is accepted for grading, it must be submitted within four weeks of the deadline and cannot receive a grade higher than C. Thereafter, you will receive a failing grade for the assignment.

### Attendance

Attendance is expected at all classes. Students should consult the Student Handbook for regulations governing periods of illness. In cases of absence caused by illness, students must inform their instructor and the Program Director in advance of the scheduled class. Students are expected to make up for any work missed in arrangement with their instructor. Bard College Berlin cannot give a passing grade for any course in which a student has missed more than 30% of classes, whether the absences are on documented medical grounds or not.

Students are also expected to attend office hours as required. Absence from a scheduled meeting counts as an absence.

### Assessment

The course will be for letter grade and assessed through a combination of participation, assignments and quizzes.

- Participation

Regular attendance and active participation in class count as a large part (40%) of the final grade. More than 1 absence (missing 1 session of 90 minutes) will affect a student's participation grade for this class. Participation includes active attention and involvement in lectures, group and pair activities. It also includes listening to classmates and behaving according to the classroom norms that we collectively agree on.

- Assignments

Class project 20% – The group will maintain a class dictionary and develop materials on Quizlet for vocabulary practice, to be updated weekly. Individual students and pairs will rotate responsibility for updates, as indicated in the schedule (each student to be assigned a letter on first day of class).

Individual project 20% – Each student will develop a personal vocabulary list over the course of the semester based on their individual needs and academic interests, to be updated weekly.

- Quizzes

There will be a total of 11 vocabulary quizzes (i.e. almost weekly). Each student may drop 1 quiz grade, the average of the remaining 10 counts as 20% of the final grade for the course.

### Letter Grade calculation

The total grade out of 100% is calculated according to the weighting described above and listed below on the left. Letter grades are assigned as shown in the table below. Corresponding grade points are also shown. See the Bard student handbook for equivalencies to the German system. D is the minimum passing grade for any test or coursework. If a student receives a Failing F, an Incomplete I or a D grade in one or more courses, their record will be reviewed.

Letter Grade	Total %	Grade Point
A	93-100%	4.00
A-	90-92%	3.70
B+	87-89%	3.30
B	83-86%	3.00
B-	80-82%	2.70
C+	77-79%	2.30
C	73-76%	2.00
C-	70-72%	1.70
D	60-69%	1.00
F	Failure	0.00

### Weighting for this course

40% Participation  
20% Contribution to Class Project  
20% Individual Project  
20% Quizzes

### Classroom Norms

To be determined in class on first day.

## Schedule



(on next page)

\*Schedule is subject to change, students will be informed of any changes and the Google Classrooms page will always have the most updated syllabus.

\*\*No class March 9<sup>th</sup> (Instructor is at a conference). The make-up session is tentatively scheduled Friday March 13<sup>th</sup> at 14:00.

\*\*\*No class April 13<sup>th</sup> (Federal holiday). Make-up session tentatively scheduled for Friday, April 17<sup>th</sup> at 14:00.

Schedule\*

Module & Week	Class Dates	Themes	Quizzes	Assignments
MODULE A 1	3 Feb	Introductions & Metalanguage		Dictionary update: A & B Quizlet team: D & E due Wed 05.02
2	10 Feb	Teaching & Learning	Quiz 1	Dictionary update: B & C Quizlet team: E & F due Wed 11.02
3	17 Feb	Everyday Culture	Quiz 2	Dictionary update: C & D Quizlet team: F & A due Wed 19.02
4	24 Feb	Gender, Race & Identity	Quiz 3	Dictionary update: D & E Quizlet team: A & B due Wed 16.02
5	2 March	Everyday Economics	Quiz 4	Dictionary update: E & F Quizlet team: B & C due Wed 04.03
6	FRIDAY 13 March @ 14:00**	Healthcare	Quiz 5	Dictionary update: F & A Quizlet team: C & D due Wed 18.03
7	16 March	Review	Quiz 6 (Average of quizzes 1-6 used for midterm grade)	
MODULE B 8	23 March	Educational Systems Introduction to Corpora		 Dictionary updates & Quizlet construction -- ongoing (rotation to be determined) 
9	30 March	Economic Systems & Sociology	Quiz 7	
10	6 – 10 April Study Week	Corpus study & development of individual projects		
11	FRIDAY 17 April @ 14:00***	Human Rights & Legal Systems	Quiz 8	
12	20 April	Literature & Philosophy	Quiz 9	
13	27 April	Art & Music	Quiz 10	<b>Individual project presentations due in class 27 April</b>

14	4 May	Consolidation	Quiz 11 (Quiz 11 is cumulative)	
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