



# OLive 05

## ACADEMIC ENGLISH

Instructor: Olga Brawanska

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Credits: 4 ECTS, 2 U.S. credits

Course Dates: September 2 - December 20, 2019

Schedule: Thursday, 09:00 - 10:30

Office Hours: 12:30 - 13:30

### Course Description

This course aims at getting students ready to study in an English-speaking environment. We will focus on developing reading, writing, listening and speaking skills to the level expected from graduate students. Students will also learn how to effectively use a range of language resources and how to deal with gaps in their knowledge. To better help with students' needs, the course includes both weekly classes and mandatory individual consultations.

#### Learning outcomes:

At the end of the course students should:

- be familiar with academic vocabulary,
- be able to understand and use advanced grammatical structures,
- be able to understand lectures and take effective notes,
- be able to express their opinions clearly in a discussion,
- be able to read academic publications and textbooks,
- be able to write cohesive and coherent texts,
- be familiar with language resources essential for further development of English competency.

### Requirements

Students are expected to actively participate in the classes and complete all the assignments on time. Students are also encouraged to use additional resources recommended for their linguistic needs.

#### 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.

#### Attendance

Attendance at all classes is mandatory. Repeated lateness or lack of active participation are considered an absence. In cases of illness or other situations that lead to unavoidable absences, the student must inform the instructor and Program Director in advance. Students are expected to do make up work for any such absence.

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

### Assessment

This course is for pass/fail. In order to pass the course, students will have to attend classes, participate in all classroom activities, complete all homework assignments and take three tests .

The students will take three competency tests to assess their level and track their progress: a need-analysis test (Week 1), a mid-semester test (Week 8), and a final test (Week 15).

### Schedule

- Sep 5 (1): Introduction & needs analysis test
- Sep 12 (2): Test feedback  
Writing: Foundations – Process writing and pre-writing, sentences and clauses, paraphrasing
- Sep 19 (3) Writing: Foundations – Paragraph structure, argument selection and transitions, parallel structures, peer review  
Reading: Identifying the main idea  
Speaking: Expressing opinion
- Sep 26 (4) Writing: Essay structure and outlining  
Reading: Scanning  
Speaking: Paraphrasing, dealing with unknown words
- Oct 3: Public holiday - no class
- Oct 10 (5) Writing: Introductions and conclusions  
Reading: Skimming  
Speaking: Expressing opinion
- Oct 17 (6) Writing: Body paragraphs and unity  
Reading: Increasing reading speed  
Speaking: Discussions
- Oct 24 (7): Mid-semester test

<u>Oct 31:</u>	Fall break - no class
<u>Nov 7 (8)</u>	Mid-term feedback Writing: Punctuation Reading: Author's position
<u>Nov 14 (9)</u>	Writing and speaking about data
<u>Nov 21 (10)</u>	Writing: Summary Reading: Author's attitude and bias, persuasive techniques
<u>Nov 28 (11)</u>	Writing: Enriching your language – descriptive writing Reading: Metaphors, analogies
<u>Dec 5 (12)</u>	Writing: Register; e-mails Reading: Irony and humour
<u>Dec 17 (13):</u>	Review
<u>Dec 19 (14)</u>	Final test