Programme Specification

6100: English Plus Study Year Abroad 2020-21

This study year abroad programme is of particular interest to students from S.E. Asian countries such as Japan where the academic year begins in April; but it may be of interest to students from other regions where the academic year begins at this time e.g. South America. To accommodate these students, the intended start date of this programme will be mid- February every year. Prospective students need to ensure that they are compliant with the UKVI Tier 4 Visa requirements; please see the following link:

http://www.southampton.ac.uk/humanities/international/visas.page?

https://www.gov.uk/study-visit-visa/overview

Awarding Institution	University of Southampton
Teaching Institution	University of Southampton [full-time]
Mode of study	Full Time
Duration in years	Not applicable
Accreditation details	Not applicable
Final award	Not applicable
Name of award	Not applicable
Interim Exit awards	Not applicable
FHEQ level of final award	Not Applicable
UCAS code	Not applicable
QAA Subject Benchmark or other external reference	Not applicable
Programme Code	6100
Programme Leads	Wendy Jones
Date specification was written	30 November 2018
Date Programme was validated	January 2019
Date specification last updated	January 2019

Programme Overview

Brief outline of the programme

The English Plus: Study Year Abroad programme is for international students whose first language is not English. If you are an international student with a minimum IELTS score of 5.5 with no less than 5.0 in all components, currently following an undergraduate degree programme in a recognized institution overseas, you can apply to join the English Plus: Study Year Abroad programme. (This programme is designed to help students improve their language skills as a condition of entry to the University of Southampton, or for those who have already met the English language conditions for entry to the University, but who want to find out more about the use of English in academic study and expectations relating to academic life in the UK).

The programme will help you to:

- develop the English language skills needed for academic study at a British university as a visiting international student on your study year abroad (there will be automatic progression from part 1 when you arrive in mid – February – June ; Part 2 in July- September and Part 3 in October – February)
- develop the necessary study skills for effective learning through the medium of English
- learn about life in Britain and British culture
- give you the opportunity to experience the British academic environment (as a visiting international student

on a study year abroad at the University of Southampton) and learn what it means to be part of the global student community in the 21st century.

If you have any questions regarding entry requirements, please contact our Admissions Team (elaccess@southampton.ac.uk) for advice on your entry requirements. For a full list of English language qualifications accepted by the University of Southampton, please visit our International website http://www.southampton.ac.uk/studentadmin/admissions/admissions-policies/language.page

Your contact hours will vary depending on your module/option choices. Full information about contact hours is provided in individual module profiles.

Learning and teaching

During the period of February- September, you will be adapting to studying through the medium of English at a British University & English skills will be taught together, as they are rarely used in isolation. Your classroom sessions therefore focus on vocabulary development, reading and writing; listening and speaking. In addition, you will further develop your study skills through online resources e.g. Prepare for Success- http://www.prepareforsuccess.org.uk/ .

Your knowledge and understanding is further enhanced through the use of communicative teaching activities such as seminars, presentations, guided independent study and the preparation for written assignments. You also attend lectures of academic interest, and all modules use a variety of online materials such as The EAP Toolkit- http://www.elanguages.ac.uk/eap_toolkit.php
Depending on the assignment type, written, in-class and tutorial feedback is given to enable you to identify your strengths and weaknesses, and continue to develop your language and academic skills effectively. Tutors give extensive guidance, especially through recommendations of reference and source materials. You will learn to take more responsibility for your own learning as you move through the programme.

Learning activities typically include:
· Seminars
· Lectures
· Discussions – group work
· Presentations
· Conducting surveys outside the classroom & interviewing native speakers

Assessment

Formative assessment
· wider reading tasks
· writing tasks-short essays
· presentations
· wider listening tasks
· mini research tasks
· written examinations

Summative assessment
- writing tasks e.g. film review 850-950 words; magazine article 1,200-1,500 words
- oral presentation based on project work connected to a theme of local/cultural interest

Special Features of the programme

You will have the opportunity to have a number of one-to-one tutorials during the first part of this programme (February – June) when your tutor will be able to tailor the tutorial to suit your needs. There also may be the opportunity to visit local sites of cultural & historical interest. You will also have access to e-learning resources via VLEs (Virtual Learning Environments) such as the EAP (English for Academic Purposes) Toolkit to help you improve your Academic English skills.

To aid your learning, in the second part of your programme the Pre-sessional Course A (July-September) includes compulsory weekly independent learning workshops and academic advising sessions. This feature of the programme has been recognised as a particular strength by our external examiners and is not yet standard

practice at other academic establishments. Furthermore, you attend weekly lectures on subjects of academic interest, which are delivered by guest speakers from across the University. The weekly lecture you attend is either viewed 'live' or 'streamed live' using Panopto (the University lecture streaming system).

We recognise the importance of learning through social activities and the University of Southampton Students' Union (SUSU) provides you with a varied social programme. This includes onsite activities such as a welcome event, farewell party, film screenings, sports activities, and social events such as games and quiz nights, and karaoke. There are also trips to other cities, some of which are subsidised by the University. SUSU also provide student helpers, whose role entails helping you to settle into life in the UK and at the University. Language cafes and other language 'taster' sessions are also offered.

Furthermore, we offer you a collection service from Heathrow Airport in London the day before your programme begins. You will be met at London Heathrow Airport and will be directed to a coach service which will take you to your accommodation in Southampton. Please see the 'Meet and Greet' information at: http://www.southampton.ac.uk/humanities/international/study.page?

Finally, when we confirm your place on the English Plus: Study Year Abroad programme, you will automatically be allocated a room in the University Halls of Residence for the period of the English Plus: Study Year Abroad programme.

Please note: As a research-led University, we undertake a continuous review of our programmes to ensure quality enhancement and to manage our resources. As a result, this programme may be revised during a student's period of registration; however, any revision will be balanced against the requirement that the student should receive the educational service expected. Please read our Disclaimer to see why, when and how changes may be made to a student's programme.

Programmes and major changes to programmes are approved through the University's programme validation process which is described in the University's Quality handbook.

Educational Aims of the Programme

 The aims of the programme are to:
-        consolidate and extend your existing English language knowledge and skills in order to facilitate under-graduate and post-graduate academic study
-        develop the academic study skills required for study in higher education in the UK and familiarise yourself with the learning and teaching strategies used in higher education in the UK
-        facilitate acculturation to life in Britain, both within and beyond the academic environment
-        ensure that you develop the skills and abilities for future studies

Programme Learning Outcomes

Knowledge and Understanding

On successful completion of this programme you will have knowledge and understanding of:

A1.   The relevant conventions followed in academic English (both written and spoken) e.g. referencing

A2.   What is expected of you as a student in British higher education, especially in terms of approach to studying and learning e.g. active and independent learning

A3.   How to efficiently identify and use reliable sources appropriate for your discipline e.g. use of library sources

A4.   How to read texts such as journal articles in which writers adopt particular attitudes or viewpoints

A5.   How academic texts are coherently constructed e.g. abstracts

A6.   How to read efficiently in order to complete necessary research e.g. skimming and scanning

A7.   How to construct an academic essay, which involves the use of sources

A8.   How to write clear, detailed text supporting your points with academic evidence e.g. in text citation

A9.   How to write essays of different styles e.g. compare and contrast

A10.   How to identify the structure of lectures and produce well-organised presentations e.g. introduction

A11.   How to identify the main and supporting points in lectures e.g. signposting language, discourse markers

A12.   How to process extended speech and follow fairly complex lines of argument

A13.   How to take an active part in discussions and to sustain a point of view e.g. seminars

A14.   How to deliver academic presentations e.g. preparation, structure, flow.

Teaching and Learning Methods

This will include lectures, seminar and tutorials depending on the module selected.

Assessment Methods

The form of assessment will depend on the module selected. The challenging and varied range of assessment methods may include presentations, group projects, research logs, dissertations, essays and exams

Part Two: June- September:

http://www.southampton.ac.uk/humanities/international/language_support/presess.page

Part Three: October-January:

You will be assessed by more than just essays and exams. Depending on the undergraduate (level 4 or 5) modules you choose, you will work in teams, give presentations, submit group projects and develop websites. The nature of the assessment task is appropriate to the issues you are studying and the range of tasks allows you to develop the skills you need for further study or the world of work.

Subject Specific Intellectual and Research Skills

On successful completion of this programme you will be able to:

B1.   Recognise and understand academic vocabulary

B2.   Identify appropriate sources of information for your subject area

B3.   Locate resources for your subject area in the Hartley Library, Avenue Library, Avenue Learning Resources Centre (LRC) and online

B4.   Interpret and analyse a range of information from different sources

B5.   Extract, paraphrase and synthesise key information from written and spoken sources

B6.   Present reasoned and structured arguments, both orally and in written form

B7.   Express facts, concepts and arguments clearly using appropriate language

B8.   Understand and present detailed reasoning

Teaching and Learning Methods

The structure and content of the programme gives you the opportunity to develop a range of cognitive skills as you are introduced to the academic rigours of higher education in the UK. From the outset of

the programme, cognitive skills are developed in communicative learning activities such as seminars, presentations, and discussions. Lectures develop the skills of processing and summarising information (internally and through note-taking and discussion). Critical thinking skills will be developed as you learn how to recognise subjectivity, analyse arguments objectively and to apply these skills in your own work. You further develop cognitive skills through researching and writing essays throughout the programme.

Depending on the assignment type, written feedback, oral in-class feedback and tutorial feedback is given to help you to identify any gaps in your cognitive skills. This allows you to develop your skills effectively by building on your strengths and addressing weaknesses or gaps in conveying subject specific knowledge, or processing relevant research.

Transferable and Generic Skills

On successful completion of this programme you will be able to:

C1. Produce writing in appropriate academic genres and follow required conventions, including referencing

C2. Employ a range of general and academic vocabulary appropriately

C3. Apply a range of reading strategies to help you to read efficiently

C4. Listen to, understand and take notes in lectures

C5. Actively participate in discussions and tutorials

C6. Prepare and deliver oral presentations, both individually and as part of a group

C7. Work as a member of a team by cooperating with others, negotiating, listening to others in a group, sharing responsibilities and tasks and meeting deadlines

C8. Adhere to guidelines and meet relevant deadlines

C9. Set and monitor individual goals, reflect on your own learning and feedback, and have the confidence to seek help when needed

C10. Use ICT to produce documents and other material using a computer

Teaching and Learning Methods

Each Pre-sessional Course A module (academic reading, academic writing, academic listening, academic speaking and independent learning) identifies specific linguistic and study / learning skills to be achieved. As the skills are rarely used in isolation, reading and writing modules are integrated within the Pre-sessional Course A syllabus as are the speaking and listening modules.

The reading and writing modules are structured to ensure the development of important transferable academic skills for both reading and writing, with tasks set to provide you with practice of the skills being covered in class. To aid you in your future studies, you will attend a library induction at the start of the programme.

The first part of the reading and writing modules focuses on how to find information, how to read efficiently and to take notes, how to write structured paragraphs and essays, how to incorporate information from outside sources in the form of paraphrase, summary and quotation and how to recognise different academic genres. The second part of the reading and writing modules aims to develop and refine those skills already learnt and focuses on critical thinking skills, improving accuracy and increasing awareness of academic demands and expectations. These skills are essential for study on future university programmes.

The listening and speaking modules are also integrated and are structured so that you focus on developing your listening and speaking skills simultaneously. Activities include preparing for and attending a weekly lecture in which you learn to listen effectively and to take appropriate and useful notes while listening; these notes are used later in classroom discussions. Your speaking skills are further enhanced through the development of your presentation and seminar skills. You will also focus

on improving your pronunciation. All these skills are highly transferable.

The Independent Learning module supports the academic reading, academic writing, academic listening and academic speaking modules and is designed to equip you with the transferable study skills that you need to be successful in your future studies. The module is designed to work in partnership with the reading and writing and listening and speaking syllabi.
In short, all the skills you develop on Pre-sessional Course A are transferable to your future studies and employment if you are in an English-speaking environment.

The effectiveness of your communication, learning and research skills is tested through both assessed coursework and examinations, which involve writing of different kinds, group and individual projects, oral presentations and other interactive tasks.

Your use of ICT implicitly contributes to your assessment since it is a necessary condition for presenting much of your work.

Programme Structure

The programme structure table is below:

Information about pre and co-requisites is included in individual module profiles.

Part I

This is a full time programme. You will be expected to carry out 40 hours of study over 52 weeks in total throughout the programme. This will include face- to -face contact hours with your tutor and independent study in your own time outside class. The amount of teaching contact hours and hours spent on independent study will vary from module to module.

Modules studied over the year include:

February-June: An example of modules currently studied:

Code	Module Title	ECTS	Type
ENGL3067	English for Study Year Abroad	7.5	Compulsory
ENGL9012	English Language Stage 3B	7.5	Compulsory
IFYP0014	Global Society	0	Compulsory
IFYP0022	Introduction to Liberal Arts	0	Compulsory

Part II

July – September: Students follow Pre-Sessional Course A

http://www.southampton.ac.uk/humanities/international/language_support/presess.page

https://www.southampton.ac.uk/courses/pre-sessional-language-courses.page

Part III

October – January: Semester 1 of the new academic year, students study the module LANG 1005 and in addition, after consultation with their Personal Academic Tutor, select three level 4 or 5 undergraduate modules:
http://www.southampton.ac.uk/humanities/undergraduate/courses.page

Code	Module Title	ECTS	Type
LANG1005	Introduction to British Life and Institutions	7.5	Compulsory

Progression Requirements

The programme follows the University's regulations for *Progression, Determination and Classification of Results : Undergraduate and Integrated Masters Programmes* and *Progression, Determination and Classification of Results: Postgraduate Master's Programmes* as set out in the University Calendar: http://www.calendar.soton.ac.uk/sectionIV/sectIV-index.html

Support for student learning

There are facilities and services to support your learning some of which are accessible to students across the University and some of which will be geared more particularly to students in your particular Faculty or discipline area.

The University provides:
- library resources, including e-books, on-line journals and databases, which are comprehensive and up-to-date; together with assistance from Library staff to enable you to make the best use of these resources
- high speed access to online electronic learning resources on the Internet from dedicated PC Workstations onsite and from your own devices; laptops, smartphones and tablet PCs via the Eduroam wireless network. There is a wide range of application software available from the Student Public Workstations.
- computer accounts which will connect you to a number of learning technologies for example, the Blackboard virtual learning environment (which facilitates online learning and access to specific learning resources)
- standard ICT tools such as Email, secure filestore and calendars.
- access to key information through the MySouthampton Student Mobile Portal which delivers timetables, Module information, Locations, Tutor details, Library account, bus timetables etc. while you are on the move.
- IT support through a comprehensive website, telephone and online ticketed support and a dedicated helpdesk in the Hartley Library.
- Enabling Services offering support services and resources via a triage model to access crisis management, mental health support and counselling. Support includes daily Drop In at Highfield campus at 13.00 – 15.00 (Monday, Wednesday and Friday out of term-time) or via on-line chat on weekdays from 14.00 – 16.00. Arrangements can also be made for meetings via Skype.
- assessment and support (including specialist IT support) facilities if you have a disability, long term health problem or Specific Learning Difficulty (e.g. dyslexia).
- the Student Services Centre (SSC) to assist you with a range of general enquiries including financial matters, accommodation, exams, graduation, student visas, ID cards
- Career and Employability services, advising on job search, applications, interviews, paid work, volunteering and internship opportunities and getting the most out of your extra-curricular activities alongside your degree programme when writing your CV
- Other support that includes health services (GPs), chaplaincy (for all faiths) and 'out of hours' support for students in Halls and in the local community, (18.00-08.00)
- In-sessional course, providing assistance in the development of English language and study skills for non-native speakers.

The Students' Union provides
- an academic student representation system, consisting of Course Representatives, Academic Presidents, Faculty Officers and the Vice-President Education; SUSU provides training and support for all these representatives, whose role is to represent students' views to the University.
- opportunities for extracurricular activities and volunteering

- an Advice Centre offering free and confidential advice including support if you need to make an academic appeal
- Support for student peer-to-peer groups, such as Nightline.

Associated with your programme you will be able to access certain programme –specific Blackboard sites & other websites to assess your learning.

Methods for evaluating the quality of teaching and learning

You will have the opportunity to have your say on the quality of the programme in the following ways:

- Completing online student evaluation questionnaires at the end of the programme
- Acting as a student representative on various committees, e.g. Staff-Student Liaison Committees, Faculty Programmes' Committee OR through providing comments to your student representative to feedback on your behalf.
- Serving as a student representative on Faculty Scrutiny Groups for programme validation

The ways in which the quality of your programme is checked, both inside and outside the University, are:

- Regular module and programme reports which are monitored by the Faculty
- Programme validation, normally every five years.
- External Examiners, who produce an annual report
- BALEAP support through departmental links
- A national Research Assessment Exercise (our research activity contributes directly to the quality of your learning experience)
- An Institutional Review by the Quality Assurance Agency

Further details on the University's quality assurance processes are given in the *Quality Handbook.*

External Examiner(s) for the programme

Name: Mr Richard Hitchcock - University of Portsmouth

Students must not contact External Examiner(s) directly, and external examiners have been advised to refer any such communications back to the University. Students should raise any general queries about the assessment and examination process for the programme with their Course Representative, for consideration through Staff: Student Liaison Committee in the first instance, and Student representatives on Staff: Student Liaison Committees will have the opportunity to consider external examiners' reports as part of the University's quality assurance process.

External examiners do not have a direct role in determining results for individual students, and students wishing to discuss their own performance in assessment should contact their Personal Academic Tutor in the first instance.

Please note: This specification provides a concise summary of the main features of the programme and the learning outcomes that a typical student might reasonably be expected to achieve and demonstrate if s/he takes full advantage of the learning opportunities that are provided. More detailed information can be found in the programme handbook.

Appendix 1:

Students are responsible for meeting the cost of essential textbooks, and of producing such essays, assignments, laboratory reports and dissertations as are required to fulfil the academic requirements for each programme of study. In addition to this, students registered for this programme also have to pay for:

Additional Costs

Type	Details
Software Licenses	All software is provided
Hardware	It is advisable that students provide their own laptop or personal computer, although shared facilities are available across the University campus.
Computer discs or USB drives	Students are expected to provide their own portable data storage device.
Stationery	You will be expected to provide your own day-to-day stationary items, e.g. pens, pencils, notebooks, etc.). Any specialist stationery items will be specified under the Additional Costs tab of the relevant module profile
Textbooks	Where a module specifies core texts these should generally be available on the reserve list in the library. However due to demand, students may prefer to buy their own copies. These can be purchased from any source. Some modules suggest reading texts as optional background reading. The library may hold copies of such texts, or alternatively you may wish to purchase your own copies. Although not essential reading, you may benefit from the additional reading materials for the module.
Placements (including Study Abroad Programmes)	Students on placement programmes can expect to cover costs for health and travel insurance, accommodation and living expenses; travel costs; visa costs. This will vary depending on which country you are travelling to. Specific details on what additional costs there will be are detailed in the individual module profiles which can be found under the modules tab of the programmes details of your programme.
Printing and Photocopying Costs	Where possible, coursework such as essays; projects; dissertations is likely to be submitte However, there are some items where it is not possible to submit on line and students will provide a printed copy. A list of the University printing costs can be found here: http://www.southampton.ac.uk/isolutions/students/printing/

In some cases you'll be able to choose modules (which may have different costs associated with that module) which will change the overall cost of a programme to you. Details of such costs will be listed in the Module Profile. Please also ensure you read the section on additional costs in the University's Fees, Charges and Expenses Regulations in the University Calendar available at www.calendar.soton.ac.uk