**University of Tartu**

# ENGLISH FOR ACADEMIC TEACHING PURPOSES II

Wednesdays 4:15-5:45 p.m. Ülikool 17, Room 321



| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Instructor**: | Jennifer Uhler | **Course Website:** | eatp2.jennu.net |
| **E-mail**: | uhler@ut.ee | **Office:** | Õpeosakond, (Küütri 2) Room 223 |
| **Phone**: | 737-6210 | **Office hours**: | by appointment |



## Course Description

This is course is a continuation course built upon English for Academic Teaching Purposes I, and its primary goal is to provide university teaching staff with numerous opportunities to develop effective communication skills in English in academic settings. During the next semester, you will work on listening and speaking skills and become more fluent and accurate in formal English, especially in terms of your ability to teach in English. Through interactive tasks, topic-specific readings, and speaking assignments you will develop an awareness of international teaching/learning issues and academic discourse that will prove essential toward building confidence in spoken academic English. We will primarily explore the appropriate use of English as it exists within the academic community; class time will be spent examining authentic language in context, particularly as it applies to participants' experiences as English-speaking lecturers in the Estonian academic community.

## Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of this course, you will

- demonstrate increased confidence communicating in English, especially in academic settings;
- organize effective classroom presentations/discussions both in our English class and beyond;
- distinguish between different patterns of spoken academic and social English in order to effectively communicate in diverse discourse communities;
- increase your understanding of international students and multicultural teaching;
- actively apply this new understanding of teaching/learning methods to your work settings;
- illustrate increased fluency and accuracy in oral and aural English;
- identify gaps and "trouble spots" in the areas of pronunciation, oral interaction, and listening comprehension; and
- develop pro-active habits of self-study beyond the parameters of our course.

## Classroom Activities

The content for this course will be explored within the context of the international academic community. You will participate in daily communicative tasks, including structured listening and response activities, small and large group discussions, and speaking activities. The course materials will be developed from your own personal experiences and needs, UT courses, audio/video clips of lectures, English-media news broadcasts, interaction with native speakers, and topic-specific readings. Activities and major assignments will be designed in conjunction with your academic areas of interest as much as possible.

Instructor: J. Uhler

## Course Assignments

**Weekly Academic Vocabulary Exercises**: You will be given an exercise focusing vocabulary at the end of each lesson. These exercises are to help you amplify your active vocabulary as well as solidify your grammatical knowledge and accuracy.

**Listening summaries:** We will share our out-of-class listening experiences with those in class (Feb. 27, April 16, and May 14). Independently, you will listen to one lecture or radio program available on-line in English (a list will be made available on the course website). Orally, you will summarize the program for the benefit of sharing the opportunity with your classmates, and we will create a collective list of recommended listening based on your experiences.

**Speaking practice:** Throughout the semester you will have mini-speaking assignments, including giving your own hallway talk, describing a process, defining a term and so on. These speaking assignments are designed to mimic language commonly used in academic speaking settings, whether they be in lectures, presentations, small group discussions, or meetings. You will be expected to prepare your materials outside of class to participate and learn from our course meetings. Peer and instructor feedback on your speeches will be provided.

## Classroom Policies

**Participation**: Active participation is highly encouraged. Questions, opinions, and ideas are welcomed, and the respect and support of your peers in classroom discourse is expected.

**Course Website:** We will actively use a course website located at eatp2.jennu.net to communicate about course assignments and activities. Please mark the course website in your browser so you can monitor the page frequently.

## Assessment

Active class participation and completion of all assignments is an integral part of successful completion of this course. Please avoid missing classes; the presence and participation of all class members enhance and ensure the best possible learning experience for all of us. *If you know you are going to be absent from a class, please let me know ahead of time*. Overall course evaluation will be based on the following:

- Successful completion of assignments
- Demonstrated progress in accuracy and fluency
- Active class participation and thorough class preparation

Participants who prepare the required materials for class and attend 75% course hours will receive a certificate of completion recognizing your time and the types of activities covered.

## Course Schedule

| Date | Topic | Preparation required |
|---|---|---|
| February 13 | Six word memoirs & course introductions | |
| February 20, February 27 | Hallway Talk | Listening summary 1 2/27/08 |
| March 5, March 12 | Describing an object: Pointing with words | |
| March 19, March 26 | Explaining a process or procedure | |
| April 2, April 9 | *No class* | |
| April 16 | Focus on pronunciation, stress, and intonation | Listening summary 2 4/16/08 |
| April 23 | Film & discussion: *Two million minutes* | |
| April 30, May 7 | Defining concepts and terms | |
| May 14, May 21 | Problem-solution talks | Listening summary 3 5/14/08 |
| May 28 | Evaluations, wrap-up, celebrating successes | |