

## **General Course Information**

**Course Title:** Study Skills

**Teaching Unit:** Methodology

**Target Audience:** 1<sup>st</sup> year LMD students of English

**Coefficient:** 02

**Credits:** 04

**Average Teaching Hours:** 45 hours (15 weeks)

**Number of Sessions per Week:** 2 sessions ( of one hour and a half per each week)

**Course Delivery Modality:** TD

**Follow-up and Evaluation Modality:** continuous assessment (formative assessment):50% + Written exam: 50%

# Course Description and Outline

## 1. Course Description

It can be argued that, regardless to one's age and experience, learning at university represents an exciting new phase in life. It is a time of anticipation and of new challenges. First year EFL students often encounter many obstacles that may hinder them from learning effectively such as, meeting and working with new people, managing time, planning studies, attending lectures and taking notes, gathering and filtering information, conducting research and learning autonomously.

*Study Skills* course aims to provide students with insights into the university experience and gives learners a number of useful tips to help them settle into the new rhythms of university life and learning to show them how to efficiently manage their studies at university. It attempts, therefore, to help freshmen gain and develop the needed skills, attributes and knowledge that would successfully help manage their studies.

This course is addressed first year LMD students majoring in English as a foreign language. The content of the course is designed in a way that would assist first year EFL students at university life. That is, the course of *Study Skills* aims to equip the students with a range of essential skills in order to improve their learning process, enhance their achievement and foster their autonomy.

The course is composed of four sections to be covered over a period of 15 weeks per each semester, i.e. a total of 30 weeks over the entire academic year wherein the course is taught twice a week and each session lasts for one hour and a half

## **1.2. Objectives of the Course**

This course aims to:

- Develop students' skills, techniques and strategies in order to carry out university studies in an effective way, which includes being as autonomous as possible.
- Build students' self-confidence and positive thinking to achieve success at university and after graduation.
- Enable students to deal with learning difficulties.
- Enable the students to accomplish their academic goals and achieve success in their courses.
- Help the students to become independent life-long learners and critical thinkers.
- Improve their reading, writing and research methodology skills.

## **1.3. Prerequisite of the Course**

Students should be aware of basic techniques of English use.

## **1.4. Methodology of Teaching**

Lessons are presented mostly in a form of teacher-student interaction based on discussion and students' engagement in lesson delivery. The lesson is followed by a set of activities that aim mainly to involve learners in the learning process and encourage them in knowledge construction by experiential participation and active collaboration in lesson presentation.

Different methods of teaching are employed by the instructor to attain the aforementioned objectives including:

- Class Discussion
- PowerPoint presentation
- Online (Moodle) course presentation (PDF handouts)
- Homework
- Mini research papers

Students' class presentation

## **2. Table of Contents**

### **Semester One: (15 weeks/ 45h)**

#### **Unit One: A General Introduction**

1. Getting Started: Understanding what university involves
2. The LMD System

#### **Unit Two: Personal Understanding and Management**

3. Characteristics of Good Language Learner
4. Learning Styles
5. Learning Strategies
6. Metacognition
7. Goal Setting

8. Studying Habits

9. Time Management

## **Semester Two: (15 weeks/ 45h)**

### **Unit Three: Developing Essential Study Skills**

1. Using the Library

2. Effective Reading

3. Summarizing and Paraphrasing

4. Note-Taking

5 Study Groups

### **Unit Four: Preparing for Exams**

6. Memorisation

7. Learning to revise

8. Examination Preparation