



Language Institute Thammasat University
EL 341 English for Economists II
Course Syllabus Semester 1/2023

LITU Facebook



Course Description

This course aims to further expand students' understanding of the English used by professionals in the field of economics and develop their higher-level academic skills. It begins with a review of basic macroeconomic and academic concepts before exploring a range of economic situations with both a local and global focus. Throughout the course students are provided with stimulating and diverse text types to develop their reading and comprehension abilities, while listening to talks, discussions, lectures, radio shows, and presentations. Students are encouraged to engage with pressing economic issues as well as learn how to communicate their own points of view in group discussions. Advanced academic skills are expanded and evaluated in the form of an essay and academic presentation.

Course Objectives and Learning Outcomes (COLOs)

Objective 1: To engage with pressing economic issues and critically evaluate their solutions.
Learning Outcome 1.1: Identify and comprehend main ideas in listening and reading texts. Learning Outcome 1.2: Participate in discussions sharing ideas and asking for clarification. Learning Outcome 1.3: Evaluate pressing economic issues and suggest solutions to problems.
Objective 2: To develop a comprehensive understanding of the English used in the field of economics.
Learning Outcome 2.1: Demonstrate an understanding of the core language functions and grammars used in communicating in their field. Learning Outcome 2.2: Complete notes and write descriptions from various input texts.
Objective 3: To write coherent summaries and academic essays.
Learning Outcome 3.1: Design, investigate and produce a group newspaper. Learning Outcome 3.2: Fully engage in the academic writing process developing own academic style. Learning Outcome 3.3: Research and draft a 500-word argumentative essay complete with references.
Objective 4: To advance high level oral communication skills.
Learning Outcome 4.1: Discover the components of effective oral communication. Learning Outcome 4.2: Explore the value and varying types of evidence used to support claims. Learning Outcome 4.3: Deliver a well-structured and engaging academic presentation.

Course Contents





1. Exploration of contemporary economic themes & trends
2. Development of competence in key vocabulary and language used in economics
3. Review of academic reading & writing skills
4. Note-taking, paraphrasing and summarizing for essays
5. Presentation skills development

Course Materials

Moore, B. (2022). *Academic English Skills for Economists*. Thammasat University Press. (Available from the TU Book Store and m.se-ed.com).

Course evaluation

Grading criteria

   	Assignment 1	10	points	A = 80% and above
	Poster Presentation			
	Assignment 2	30	points	B+ = 75% - 79%
	Newspaper Project			
	Assignment 3	30	points	B = 70% - 74%
	Economics Essay			
	Assignment 4	30	points	C+ = 65% - 69%
Academic Presentation				
	Midterm Quiz	40	points	C = 60% - 64%
	Final Exam	60	points	D+ = 55% - 59%
				D = 50% - 54%
	Total	<u>200</u>	points	F = Below 50%

Instructor, time and venue

Section/Group	Day	Time	Room	Instructor
820001	Mon	1330-1630	SC 2 - 210	Aj. Benjamin Moore
820002	Mon	1330-1630	SC 2 - 210	Aj. Benjamin Moore

Assignments

Tasks	What to do	What to submit
Assignment 1 (5%) (Poster Presentation) COLO: 1.1, 1.2 SDG: 4, 8, 9, 16	Investigate the key economic measures of your assigned country. Present your information as a poster. Scoring: Task response, Language, Creativity, Clarity, Originality	Economic Indicators Poster
Assignment 2 (15%) (Newspaper) COLO: 1.1, 1.2, 2.1, 2.2, 3.1, SDG: 1-17	Submit a group newspaper to the class consisting of a variety of articles both international and domestic, informative and opinion. Scoring: Lay-out, readability, criticality, content, originality.	Group Economics Newspaper

Assignment 3 (15%) (Essay) COLO: 2.1, 2.2, 3.2, 3.3 SDG: 1-17	Follow the academic writing process to complete a 500-word essay, complete with citation and referencing. Scoring: Task response, Language & style, Accuracy, Cohesion & Coherence, Referencing	Individual Academic Essay
Assignment 4 (15%) (Presentation) COLO: 4.1, 4.2, 4.3 SDG: 1-17	Design and deliver an engaging & dynamic presentation on an economics topic of interest. Scoring: Content, Structure, Data & Visuals, Message, Style	Individual Economics Presentation

Active/Autonomous Learning Activities

The textbook for EL341 is written in a way that should guide students through different topics and skills in a sequential manner, providing a basis for productive academic skills. Students will be instructed on some of the core themes as they progress through the course with particular relevance to assignments, quizzes and exams. However, the course book contains a great deal of information which would be impossible to cover in the allotted class time. For this reason, students are required to complete self-study activities and follow the scheduled activities as specified in the timetable below to ensure that they maximize their learning and are sufficiently prepared for assessments and exams. This will require a certain amount of organization and self-discipline, and students should not rely solely on classes to complete their learning. Activities will include:

1. Practice exercises and group discussions
2. Brainstorming and problem-solving activities
3. Lectures and videos
4. Online research assignments
5. Live presentations and debates
6. Self-study from textbook

Important dates

Add/Drop: 15 - 30 August 2023
 Drop W : 4 September – 22 October 2023

Holidays

Monday 23rd October: Chulalongkorn Memorial Day

Examinations and Quizzes

Midterm Exam	Topics Assessed (20%)
Week 8 1 st October 0900-1100	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Writer's purpose • Participating in discussions • Academic style • Describing trends • Comparing data • Identifying opinions in a text • Cause and effect structures
Final Exam 19 th December 1300-1600	Topics Assessed (30%) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Listening and identifying main themes and supporting details • Vocabulary/Grammar from the textbook • Seen/unseen readings • Writing skills: Cause/effect, making predictions, reported speech, conditionals, using caution, writing essays, summary writing process, problems & solutions

Attendance

Students who miss **more than three** classes must withdraw from the course as it demonstrates a lack of discipline needed to fully commit to EL341. They will not be permitted to take the final exam.

Plagiarism policy

Thammasat University students are required to refrain from any kind of plagiarism. This is especially true with EL341 because it requires students to research information for their essays and presentations. For this reason, techniques of citation and referencing will be taught extensively throughout the course. Please read the Thammasat University plagiarism policies [here](#).

Tentative schedule

Session	Learning outcomes/ activities	Topics/ contents
1). 21 st August	Meet the course, teacher, and friends Use synonyms to expand vocabulary & note-taking skills	Unit 1: Macroeconomics & The Business Cycle
2). 28 th August	Review core academic reading skills – scanning, skimming, and understanding main ideas Learn how to listen actively during a discussion	Unit 1: Macroeconomic Indicators. Style & features of academic work
3). 4 th September	Assignment 1 – Poster Presentation (5%) Understand a writer’s purpose for writing Discuss problems with debt & possible solutions Learn how to adopt an academic writing style Give opinions in a class discussion	Unit 2: Levels of household debt Different text types. Tips for academic writing Problems with GDP as an economic marker
4). 11 th September	Critically analyze the merits of different text types Review different ways to describe trends	Unit 3 – Market Trends Economic bubbles
5). 18 th September	Write paragraph descriptions of economic trends Compare and contrast different economies	Unit 3 Describing timelines
6). 25 th September	Globalization in light of the Covid-19 pandemic Learn how to construct coherent paragraphs	Unit 4 Writing definitions and constructing paragraphs
Midterm Examination (1st October 0900-1100)		
7). 9 th October	Identify different opinions towards a topic Construct cause and effect connections in writing	Unit 4 – Globalization Economic Impacts
8). 16 th October	Create an advertising campaign for a country Video: Modern Families	Unit 5 – The secret to happiness Unequal Thailand
9). 23 rd October	Identify plagiarism and learn how to avoid it. Evaluate the quality of student summaries. Summarize an academic paper conclusion.	Unit 5 – Summary writing process Paraphrasing techniques.
10). 30 th October	Practice paraphrasing main ideas with sentence completion activities. Analyze an argument essay and use discourse markers. Assignment 2 – Economics Newspaper (15%)	Unit 6 – The digital economy Arguments for & against. <i>Essay Topic Outlines</i>
11). 6 th November	Make predictions about the future. Examine presentation techniques in a TEDs talk.	Unit 6 – Predicting Future Jobs. Presentation Principles
12). 13 th November	Investigate a model presentation and identify main points Debate whether it is right to legalize cannabis Explore options to reduce Thailand’s informal economy	Unit 7 – The underground economy. Presentation skills. Types of evidence.

13). 20 th November	Investigate how human behaviour is impacting the environment Learn how to use citation & referencing	Unit 8 – Economics & the Environment Impact of modern life on fertility.
14). 27 th November	Assignment 3 – Economics Essay (15%) Investigate global warming’s problems and solutions. Learn how to deal with questions in presentations	Unit 8 - Reducing Air Pollution Thailand’s road to net zero.
15). 4 th December	Assignment 4 – Economics Presentation (15%)	Final Student Presentations
Final Examination (19th December 1300-1600)		