

# ADVANCED ENGLISH FOR SPEAKERS OF OTHER LANGUAGES (AESOL)

## Why AESOL?

This specialisation is offered to students whose first language is not English and who have not had the major part of their formal schooling conducted in the English language. It is designed for students who wish to undertake advanced study of the English language at University level. The specialisation is aimed to equip students with listening, speaking, reading and writing skills. It focuses on the systematic study of English with an emphasis on academic essay writing, synthesis and summary writing and overall analytical and research skills. Students also develop oral communication skills, gaining confidence in their ability to communicate in English.

## Vocational Opportunities

For students of non English language backgrounds, advanced studies in English language and communication will be an asset in pursuing careers in workplaces where English is the language of communication.

## Specialisation Units

### Communication for Academic Purposes A

Students will be introduced to the conventions of academic writing such as paragraph writing, unity and outlining, coherence, patterns of essay organisation and referencing. The unit focuses on the systematic study of English structures and their communicative functions within a range of text types. English phonetics and phonology are included.

### Communication for Academic Purposes B

In this unit interpretation of information from a variety of forms – newspapers, documents, tables, diagrams and graphs will be presented. The audience and purpose of writing will be examined, and information, persuasive and argumentative styles applied.

### Aspects of Language: Structure and Use

This unit emphasises linguistic description and analysis of oral and written language, with particular emphasis on those aspects most relevant to second language learners.

### Written Genres and Critical Literacy

This unit of study introduces students to theories and research concerning critical literacy and genre types.

### Communication & Cultural Diversity

This unit introduces students to theories and research concerning patterns of communication in multicultural and multilingual societies, with emphasis on language use.

### English as an International Language

Students will examine oral and literary text and discourse within an international perspective. It will examine the use of English as an international language in settings such as business, diplomacy, education and cyberspace.

## English in the Australian Media

This unit extends the academic skills of collecting, interpreting, collating and presenting oral and written information from a variety of sources within the context of the media in Australia. The unit will heighten students' knowledge of Australian society and culture.

## English in Spoken Interaction

This unit offers students the skills to speak English with greater confidence, fluency and intelligibility in a range of situations: both formal and informal. Tasks are designed to improve students' oral ability for self-expression.

## Language in Society

This unit introduces students to theories and research concerning the interaction between social variables and patterns of communication, particularly language use. A range of sociolinguistic research and analytical techniques will be introduced and used for assignments.

## Structure of the AESOL Specialisation

Students are required to complete SIX units including the two first-year units. Only a selection of the second and third-year units are offered each year.

## Core units

ACA1005 Communication for Academic Purposes A

ACA1006 Communication for Academic Purposes B

## Other specialisation units - students select four

ACA2005 Written Genres and Critical Literacy

ACA2006 English as an International Language

ACA2008 English in Spoken Interaction

ACA2010 English in the Australian Media

ACA3004 Aspects of Language: Structure and Use

ACC3041 Language and Society

ACC3052 Communication and Cultural Diversity

Units offered may vary each year. List of offerings in each academic year is published on the Faculty Student Website: [WWW.VU.EDU.AU/AEHD](http://WWW.VU.EDU.AU/AEHD)

Detailed unit outlines can be obtained from the Victoria University online handbook: [WWW.VU.EDU.AU/COURSES](http://WWW.VU.EDU.AU/COURSES)

## For further information on the AESOL Specialisation contact:

Paul Bronson

Email [Paul.Bronson@vu.edu.au](mailto:Paul.Bronson@vu.edu.au)

Footscray Park campus, Room E206,

Tel: +61 3 9919 4863

[WWW.VU.EDU.AU/AEHD](http://WWW.VU.EDU.AU/AEHD)

CRICOS Provider No. 00124K

