



University of Waikato College

Online General English

Course Outline

1. Introduction

University of Waikato College (UWC) is composed of the University's foundation and diploma programmes, English language programmes for students with English as an additional language, international study groups and entrepreneurial programmes for international vocational, professional and academic individuals and groups. The college has a key role in contributing to the distinctiveness, excellence and international connectedness of the University.

2. Programme Objectives

The purpose of the General English programme is to support English language learning in authentic contexts for English Speakers of Other Languages. This includes listening, speaking, writing and reading.

Students who join this programme develop their English language skills in the following key areas:

- To improve their capability to write familiar and/or unfamiliar texts.
- To improve their ability to read and understand texts.
- To improve speaking and be able to communicate in different contexts and talk about various topics.
- To improve their ability to listen and understand spoken texts.
- To improve their ability to use and understand grammar, vocabulary and functional language.
- To assist students to adjust to the learning styles and language situations expected in an English speaking country.
- To encourage increased autonomy in language learning and to develop skills to enable students to make future learning choices.
- To develop learning strategies and techniques appropriate to everyday situations. To develop social/functional language to be used in everyday situations.

- To develop both receptive and productive English language skills across a range of contemporary contexts, both social and thematic.

3. Online Option

The College will be offering an online General English programme from the 9 August 2021 to 17 September 2021. Students can enrol for any number of weeks they wish between these dates. For every two weeks that students enrol and pay for they will receive one online Student Exchange free of charge.

The course will cost NZ\$350.00 per week. Students will receive a free 5th week if they pay for four consecutive weeks. A graded report is optional for NZ\$100.

Application deadline: Monday 28 June 2021

Online placement test deadline: Friday 9 July 2021

4. Online Placement Test

All students are required to take an online placement test before the placement test deadline in order to determine the level at which a student enters the General English programme. Online placement tests need to be supervised. Details of placement test will be provided after the College receives application forms.

5. Design

Learners concurrently undertake a programme that includes learning outcomes focused on reading, writing, speaking and listening.

The courses offered are:

- Elementary General English
- Pre-Intermediate General English
- Intermediate General English
- Upper-Intermediate General English

- Advanced General English

6. Content Summary

This programme focuses on the English language skills: reading, writing, listening and speaking; including pronunciation, grammar, and vocabulary in authentic contexts.

Authentic language learning includes examining texts from a variety of perspectives, formal and informal academic texts, writing across a number of genres, oral presentations and conventions, listening to materials, reading and writing texts, as well as exploring and developing English language capability in the students in areas of specific interest. The content used is derived from the Life textbook (Publisher: National Geographic) and supplemented by teachers.

7. Methodology

7.1 Teaching Pedagogy

Our programmes revolve mainly around a communicative approach for teaching and learning in order to create an environment conducive to learning especially in today's times where the onus is on how well an individual is able to interact and communicate in an academic and professional setting. Second language acquisition can be quite challenging for learners, therefore our sole purpose is to make this journey for them as smooth as possible by constantly interacting with each student and by creating an engaging and fun environment for our learners where they would feel secure and comfortable to interact with both the teacher and other students.

7.2 Structure of Programme

This is a full-time course with up to 12.5 face-to-face online classroom hours each week via Zoom. In addition, independent classwork will be assigned and can be expected to take up to 3 hours per day. Independent learning is an important part of the learning process.

7.3 Learning Management System

Classes will be delivered via Zoom and Google Classroom (G Suite). No prior knowledge of either system is required.

7.4 Class Materials

Course Materials will be provided to all students via Google Classroom. All materials are based on the LIFE series for General English.

7.5 Workload

Classes will be interactive and held online for 2.5 hours each day over Zoom. Students will also be expected to do up to 3 hours of self-study/homework each day.

7.6 Proposed Timetable (to be confirmed)

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Zoom 1	12.30pm-2:00pm NZT (9.30am-11.00am JST)	12.30pm-2:00pm NZT (9.30am-11.00am JST)	12.30pm-2:00pm NZT (9.30am-11.00am JST)	12.30pm-2:00pm NZT (9.30am-11.00am JST)	12.30pm-2:00pm NZT (9.30am-11.00am JST)
Zoom 2	3:00pm-4:00pm NZT (12.00pm-1.00pm JST)	3:00pm-4:00pm NZT (12.00pm-1.00pm JST)	3:00pm-4:00pm NZT (12.00pm-1.00pm JST)	3:00pm-4:00pm NZT (12.00pm-1.00pm JST)	3:00pm-4:00pm NZT (12.00pm-1.00pm JST)

8. Requirements

8.1 IT Requirements

- Good stable internet. At least 1.5 Mbps download and 1.5 Mbps upload speed.
- A desktop or laptop computer, or a large tablet that is connected to the internet (a webcam and microphone if using a desktop computer).
- Headphones (optional but recommended).
- Install the free Zoom app. Do not access Zoom sessions via a browser.
- Web browser: Google Chrome or Microsoft Edge (Chromium version).
- Microsoft Office 365 and Adobe Reader. All students can get Microsoft Office 365 ProPlus free of charge. Go to <https://login.microsoftonline.com> and login using your Waikato username and password.
- A quiet room to study from.

8.2 Waikato Username and Password

All students will receive an automated email message from the University of Waikato advising them of their username and a link to set up a password to activate their MyWaikato account. Students are required to set their own password as soon as they receive the email. Students can access their MyWaikato student portal with their username and password, as well as Zoom and Google Classroom. See the separate document “ワイカト大学のユーザーネームとパスワード Waikato Username and Password Instructions”. If you have not received this automated email, please check your email boxes including the Spam folder or contact us at pathwayscollege@waikato.ac.nz for assistance.

8.3 Attendance

Attendance is compulsory and will be monitored. If students are unable to attend a session then they should let their teacher and Student Advisor know.

8.4 Course Completion

Students must attend at least 85% of this course in order to pass. Students who successfully complete this course will receive a Certificate of Attendance. A graded report can be made available at the conclusion of the course (optional for NZ\$100). Please request for it at the time of application.

9. NZ Content

Throughout the programme, the following New Zealand content will be taught:

- All public holidays and celebrations e.g. Waitangi day.
- Maori Language week will be acknowledged with Maori greetings, numbers, and days of the week covered.
- Aspects of NZ culture will be introduced where appropriate e.g. If the unit is on food then the Hāngi (is a traditional New Zealand Māori method of cooking food) would be included.

10. Online Student Exchanges

There will be opportunities to engage with University of Waikato students during the course. These online exchanges will provide students with the opportunity to practise their English in an informal setting with an emphasis on cultural exchange. Students can take part in a complimentary Online Student Exchange activity every two weeks. Each Online Student Exchange session is for 60 minutes and delivered in groups. Online Student Exchange schedule will be confirmed after receiving all applications. Sessions are usually delivered the second Zoom class. The College works on a ratio of approximately 10 online students with 2 Waikato students (subject to change depending on final numbers).

11. Course Reflection

In order to ensure that the course is fit for purpose, all students must attend a compulsory orientation session before the course starts. An online survey will also be sent out at the end of the course and student representatives may meet regularly with the Student Advisor.

12. Programme Overview

The following map provides an example of how the programme links to the learning outcomes. This programme overview, which is based on the Elementary level, clarifies the function, skills, and subskills covered in each unit. Though information on 12 units is included, students may only take a limited number of units (depending on their course duration) and may start at any unit.

13. Cancellation and Refund Policy

There is no cost to lodging an application for this course. Full payment of fees is required within two weeks of the start date of the programme. Students can cancel the course and receive a full refund of fees up until the start of the programme. If they cancel within the first week, then they will receive the balance of fees, less a \$500 administration charge. There is no refund of fees if students cancel after the first week.

14. Questions and Application Process

If you have any questions or would like to apply for this course please contact the University of Waikato College on pathwayscollege@waikato.ac.nz.



14. Samples of Course content at various levels

Course Name		Learning Outcomes:	
Elementary General English Duration: Up to 12 weeks CEFR Level: A2 Aim: The aim of this course is to introduce learners to basic English communication in a highly structured and supervised environment.		LO1: Apply familiar everyday expressions and basic phrases in very simple conversations LO2: Recognise cognates and basic phrases in conversations LO3: Extract and understand simple information in basic scripts LO4: Communicate in basic written English to introduce themselves to others using polite language LO5: Recognise and apply personal judgement and basic English structure and form to relevant scenarios	
Unit 1			
Topic	Functions/vocab	Grammar	Language skills
People	Meeting people for the first time Vocab: Personal information, family, Wordbuilding: word roots, everyday verbs Word focus: in	Be (am/is/are) Possessive 's and possessive adjectives	L: a photographer talking about a diver, an interview with an explorer, people starting university R: an article about a family of explorers, an article about world population S: asking questions, friends and family, facts about countries W: text type: a personal description, writing skill: and, but

Unit 2			
Topic	Functions/vocab	Grammar	Language skills
Possessions	Shopping Vocab: colours, furniture, useful objects, countries and nationalities, Wordbuilding: suffix, prices and currencies Word focus: one/ones, adjectives	There is/are Preposition of places Plural nouns This, that, these, those	L: someone talking about a family's plastic possession, an interview with Andy Torbet R: an article about four apartments in Seoul, an article about a global product S: a room in your home, your possessions, where things are from W: a description of a room in your home, text type: advert, writing skill: describing objects with adjectives
Unit 3			
Topic	Functions/vocab	Grammar	Language skills
Places	Giving directions Vocab: telling the time, describing cities, places of work, ordinal and cardinal numbers, wordbuilding: adjectives + noun collocations, places in a city	Present simple (I/you/we/they) Present simple (he/she/it)	L: someone talking about a famous place in Melbourne, an interview with a student living in London, three people talking about their jobs R: an article about no-car zones, an article about languages spoken around the world S: your life, a National Geographic photographer, your languages

			W: text type: a description of a place, writing skill: capital letters
Unit 4			
Topic	Functions/vocab	Grammar	Language skills
Free time	Talking about abilities and interests Vocab: wordbuilding: verb + noun collocations, everyday activities, sports	Like/love + noun/-ing form Adverbs of frequency Expressions of frequency Can/can't (+ adverb)	L: three people talking about their free-time activities, an interview with Nobert Rosing R: an article about identical twins, an article about extreme sports, gap year volunteer work S: likes and dislikes, how often you do things, your abilities W: test type: short emails, writing skills: punctuation
Unit 5			
Topic	Functions/vocab	Grammar	Language skills
Food	Ordering a meal Vocab: food verbs, food, quantities and containers Word focus: menus	Countable and uncountable nouns with a/an, some and any A lot of and much/many How much/how many	L: someone talking about street food in Oaxaca, people describing famous dishes from their countries, a conversation at a market R: an article about food markets around the world, an article about labels on food S: famous dishes from different countries, planning a special meal, buying food at a market, advice about healthy eating W: advice for a healthy eating block, text type: instructions, writing skill: punctuation

Unit 6			
Topic	Functions/vocab	Grammar	Language skills
Past lives	Asking what people did Vocab: periods of time, time expressions Word focus: write opinion adjectives	Was/were Past simple regular and irregular verbs, negative and questions	L: someone talking about photographs showing how lives have changed, a documentary about a woman lived in a cave, three people describing their evenings R: an article about famous people from the past, an article about lifelogging S: past lives, talking about what you did yesterday, a survey about lifelogging W: text type: thank you messages, writing skill: formal and informal expressions
Unit 7			
Topic	Functions/vocab	Grammar	Language skills
Journeys	Requesting Vocab: journey adjectives, wordbuilding: collocations, ways of travelling, money Word focus: time	Comparative adjectives Superlative adjectives	L: someone talking about the journey of a ladybird, a documentary about a journey to the deepest place on earth R: an article about animals, an article about Colombia's cities S: your opinion, places you know W: a paragraph about your town, text type: a travel blog, writing skills: so and because

Unit 8			
Topic	Functions/vocab	Grammar	Language skills
Appearance	Talking about pictures and photos Vocab: adjectives about festivals, clothes, face and body Word focus: like	Present continuous Present simple and present continuous Have got	L: someone describing the Dinagyang Festival, a description of two photos of a festival R: an article about a fashion business, an article about boys' and girls' colour choices S: what are you doing, people's appearance, opinions of an article W: text type: short messages, writing skill: the KISS rules
Unit 9			
Topic	Functions/vocab	Grammar	Language skills
Entertainment	Inviting and making arrangements Vocab: places for entertainment, films, see or watch?, talking about TV, nature	Be going to (for plans) Infinitive of purpose	L: someone talking about an unusual video, two people at a film festival, changing TV habits, two people discussing a Broadway show R: an article about the Tallgrass Film Festival, an article about nature in art S: deciding which film to see, your future plans, explaining preferences W: text type: reviews, writing skill: your opinion with sense verbs

Unit 10			
Topic	Functions/vocab	Grammar	Language skills
Learning	Checking and clarifying Vocab: school subjects, learning, wordbuilding: synonyms and antonyms, daily habits, email addresses and websites Word focus: up	Present perfect Present perfect and past simple	L: someone talking about a place for learning, a news report about a memory champion, someone phoning his office R: an article about what scientists have learned, explaining memory techniques, an article about good habits S: experiences with learning, explaining memory techniques, talking about learning, giving advice about good habits W: advice about good habits, text type: a telephone message, writing skill: imperatives
Unit 11			
Topic	Functions/vocab	Grammar	Language skills
Tourism	Making suggestions Vocab: types of holiday, tourism, wordbuilding: word families Word focus: take	Have to/I don't have to Can/can't Should/shouldn't Something, nobody, anywhere	L: someone talking about their holiday, a podcast from a travel programme, two friends discussing a trip to South America R: a tourist information leaflet, a questionnaire from a travel magazine, a travel article S: rules, advice for a tourist, a tourist destination W: a description of a tourist destination, text type: a questionnaire, writing skill: closed and open questions on questionnaires

Unit 12

Topic	Functions/vocab	Grammar	Language skills
The earth	Giving a presentation Vocab: parts of the Earth, measurements, wordbuilding: word forms, land and water Word focus: how	Will/won't Articles	L: a documentary about a photographer, a programme about unexploded places on Earth R: maps showing climate change, an article about a new planet, an article about Earth Day S: your future places on Earth, life on another planet, places you'd like to visit W: your future text type: an announcement, writing skill: important words and information