

In the Name of God

Semnan University
Department of English Language and Literature
Advanced Study Skills (BA)
Instructor: Dr. Z. Mirsanjari

Class Meeting Times: Saturdays (10:30 – 12:15)
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Course Description and Objectives:

This 13-week course aims to enhance non-native B.A. students' advanced study skills through active engagement with various language learning themes. Students will develop basic skills in critical reading, understanding research writing structure, cultural language aspects, translation, technology use in language learning, discourse analysis, paraphrasing, idiomatic expressions, and error analysis.

Class Structure:

In each session, students are responsible for presenting a lecture on the assigned theme and leading a discussion with their classmates. The instructor will provide additional explanations, examples, and insights to enrich the learning experience.

Course Schedule:

Session	Content
1	Introduction to the course and expectations
3	Critical Reading Skills: Presentations on identifying main ideas, arguments, and biases, followed by discussion
4	Developing Paraphrasing and Summarizing Skills: Presentations and class practice on paraphrasing techniques and summarizing skills
5	Understanding Research Papers Structure: Student presentations on various academic article structures and their functions
6	Cultural Aspects of Language: Exploring how culture affects language use; students present and discuss examples
7	Idiomatic and Colloquial Language: Presentations on common idioms and slang; discussion on enhancing fluency
8	Translation and Interpretation Skills: Students present challenges and strategies for translation; practical discussion

Session	Content
8	Error Analysis and Correction: Identifying common errors; presentations followed by group discussion on correction techniques
9	Technology and Language Learning: Discussion on tools and apps; students present how technology aids language acquisition
10	Discourse Analysis: Students explore language use in different social contexts; class discussion on genre-specific features
11	Language Testing and Assessment: Presentations on exam structures (e.g., IELTS, TOEFL); strategies for advanced assessments
12	Review Session: Students present their progress and discuss their learning experiences
13	Final Presentations and Portfolio Submission: Students present their portfolios and reflect on their learning journey; final feedback from the instructor

Assignments:

1. **Active Participation:** Students are expected to come prepared, actively engage in discussions, and offer constructive feedback to their peers. Additionally, each student is responsible for presenting a lecture on one of the themes outlined above during the term.
2. **Study Skills Portfolio:** Weekly assignments should be submitted, incorporating a report on the class lecture and discussion. The portfolio is due at the end of the course.

Grading:

- **Class Participation and Peer Feedback:** 3 points
- **Lecture:** 5 points
- **Study Skills Portfolio:** 4 points
- **Final Presentation:** 8 points

© **Note:** The syllabus is subject to modification based on class progress and needs.

Sources:

This course will draw materials from various books, articles, and websites. Some resources will be provided by the instructors, while students are encouraged to research and find reliable sources on their own.