

Helping to fit everything together – improving your academic English and adding to your knowledge of the language and culture.

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# **Professional English**

A Programme of Academic English for postgraduate students and newly qualified academic staff.





# **₩** UNIVERSITY OF **Hull**

A summer programme run by the Utrecht Network and the University of Hull

# Professional English is both a language and culture programme

# In 1777 Dr Johnson, the father of modern English, wrote '... when a man is tired of London, he is tired of life; for there is in London all that life can afford.'

However, there is also a world outside of London and the south to which we would like to introduce you.

#### Our programme is designed:

- to enable participants to refresh and further improve their language skills. We use lectures from specialists in diverse subjects as a framework for discussions, presentations and further individual and group research.
- to focus on the use of the formal and informal language used in lectures, seminars, academic writing and meetings. Consideration is also given to how regional and informal styles serve to shape contemporary communications.
- to address specific issues such as oral or aural difficulties and weaknesses in formal, written communication. Time will be allocated on a one-to-one basis to consider elements of your own academic work.
- to provide participants with the opportunity to actively practise their English across a range of skills, and to use this opportunity to further develop any area(s) of specific interest.

Seminar sizes will be 15 or less with some smaller group sessions and some opportunities for one-to-one work. Participants will also have access to our Language Learning Centre facilities and individual sessions with our Language Learning Advisers. Lectures may contain larger numbers.

# Who is this programme intended for?

This programme is intended for individuals who already have a relatively good command of English, but who wish to up-date or further refine their language.

The programme will be of special interest to individuals working in educational environments who require increasing accuracy or fluency in English, or who require further exposure to varieties of English to satisfy their professional needs.

# This programme is open to:

Academic staff who have been appointed to Utrecht Network institutions within the last 24 months, and postdoctoral and doctoral candidates from these institutions.

Applicants should apply through the Utrecht Network office in their institution. Please note that there are only a limited number of places, so early application is recommended. Participants are expected to be able to work at a minimum of IELTS 6.5 /CEFR C1 /B2 from the start of the course.

We do not pre-test, but if you have any doubts about your level at a **minimum** of C1/B2/IELTS 6.5, please do contact the Programme Leader (c.mcpherson@hull.ac.uk) before enrolling.

# Content

- The programme consists of:
- a series of lectures by subject specialists.
- seminars in which you report on, discuss and evaluate the lectures. This is to confirm your understanding of the content, to evaluate vocabulary and to identify any grammar issues.
- individual and group work including participant-focused projects and presentation/lectures.
- Individual sessions to constructively evaluate your own academic writing.
- grammar sessions to consider weaknesses and linguistic ambiguities identified during the course of the programme.
- seminar sessions to consider issues of vocabulary and discussion etiquette.
- an opportunity to present your own academic work as a 'conference style' lecture and to receive constructive criticism on the language used.
- a series of academic lectures delivered by subject specialists which serve as the programme 'spine'.
- a social programme including day trips to enable you to enjoy, investigate and understand our historically significant and attractive region.
- \* one-to-one sessions to consider elements of your current writing about which you require guidance.

Class contact will be c. 20 hours per week. Participants will be expected to undertake some additional work outside of class.

#### Duration

This is a two-week programme. Some social activities are included in the price.

#### Dates

The programme starts on Monday 29 June and finishes on Friday 10 July 2015.

Participants should be at the University of Hull for 9.30 am on Monday 29 June, so that we can complete administrative procedures and start lectures punctually.

#### Fees

Applicants from Utrecht Network institutions pay 250 euros for the two weeks. This includes: lectures, seminars, lunch during the week when at the university, excursions, and a limited social programme.

Applicants may be eligible for a hospitality grant from the Utrecht Network. This will reduce the cost of the actual programme to zero. For information and to make an application, please email info@ utrecht-network.org

If you are not nominated for a hospitality grant by the Utrecht Network, we normally require full payment of the 250 Euros no later than 5 June 2015. We are able to accept applications until 22 June 2015, but we may have to charge a higher price at this late date.

Please email: pesp@hull.ac.uk for details if you are applying late.

Please note that places are limited and will be allocated on a first come, first served basis.

Financial support may be available from the applicant's home institution.

#### Accommodation

We have arranged a discounted rate with the following:

Basic accommodation: £25 sterling per night for single occupancy and a light breakfast at the Endsleigh Centre. This is about 10 minutes walk from the university.

www.endsleighcentre.org.uk/

Please quote 'Hull University Summer School' to obtain the special rate.

Superior accommodation: £45 sterling per night for single occupancy including full breakfast at the Ibis Hotel in the centre of Hull. This is a 20 minute bus ride from the university.

http://www.ibis.com/gb/hotel-3479-ibis-hull/index.shtml

Tel: (+44)1482/387500 Fax: (+44)1482/387510

Please quote 'Hull University Summer School' to obtain the special rate

#### Certification

This programme attracts 2 European Credit Transfer (ECT) on successful completion of all work.

We can offer an additional 1 ECT to individuals who wish to continue with additional work after the end of the programme. This will attract an additional fee of £90 sterling. Please inform us if you are interested in this possibility.

We can provide an statement of attendance on request.

For quality purposes, we will not normally issue certificates to participants whose attendance is less than 80% of the available contact time.

# Free time

We expect participants to fully engage in the programme and complete all work set. However, we also want the programme to be a pleasurable experience. Consequently, the programme is structured to allow you some free time at the weekends and some evenings. The Lake District, Scotland and Wales are easily accessible for weekend trips from the city of Kingston upon Hull. Hull lies on the north bank of the River Humber and offers ready access to both the ancient cities of York and Lincoln, and the beautiful Yorkshire Wolds and Dales.

You may wish to consider a holiday to link with your Summer School.

#### Transport

By train, Hull is approximately 2.5 hours from London, 1.35 hours from Manchester and 40 minutes from Leeds. The airports of London Stansted, Humberside, Doncaster, Leeds-Bradford, Manchester and East Midlands are all readily accessible. There are daily ferry services from Rotterdam and Zeebrugge to Hull.

Train and coach services can be very expensive in the UK unless you book in advance. Cheap tickets can be obtained by booking ahead on sites such as:

www.redspottedhanky.com www.nationalexpress.com http://uk.megabus.com

# To apply

Interested applicants should email pesp@hull.ac.uk for an application form.

All applications for a hospitality grant will be reviewed on 13 April 2015 and applicants will be notified of the outcome no later than 17 April 2015.

You should contact the Utrecht Network info@utrecht-network.org to identify if you are eligible for a hospitality grant.

Your home institution will also be able to provide you with details of other possible sources of finance.

# The Programme Leader

Campbell McPherson is responsible for this programme. Please email pesp@hull.ac.uk if you have any questions.

We look forward to hearing from you and to the opportunity to welcome you to this part of England.