# Language Practice Project 'English for Special Purposes Seminar' (ESPS)

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# English for Special Purposes Seminar (ESPS): Students teach students

This semester, you will teach your fellow students. In an effort to simulate a real-world situation you will first submit a written proposal of what you plan to do. Upon approval, you will then plan, prepare, and hold an ESP seminar on a study-related and practice-oriented topic of your choice. Your efforts will deepen your understanding of the subject matter, help you acquire a range of technical terms and general vocabulary and enhance your reading and communication skills. Upon completion of the oral seminar, you will then create a written report covering the material which you chose to research and present, as well as a self-assessment of the success of your seminar. Attending your fellow students' seminars will widen your horizon. It will equip you with a useful selection of tips for further reading and handpicked vocabulary for experts-to-be. It will also improve your listening skills. Last but not least, it will make you talk. Go for it.

## Objective

In this semester we will focus on the complex development of language and communicative competence in a subject-related context. Particularly we want to train the following skills:

- researching, analysing, assessing and processing material
- presenting and discussing information in an academic context

#### **Procedure**

#### 1. Build teams:

2 students per team

## 2. Define your research topic:

Your teacher will suggest some relevant research topics; additionally you can also make proposals. Make sure you choose a topic which is challenging, interesting, and professionally relevant.

# 3. Find and process material:

Proceed as follows:

- Survey resource material online and/or in a library.
- Select one topic.
- Find 2 texts (min. 1000 words/text) per team member providing you with input on the topic. Use at least 3 different types of sources per team so that you get acquainted with various academic styles. Read and discuss the articles in your team.
- Based on your overall topic and the texts, brainstorm ideas which could help you prepare your seminar.

### 4. Written Proposal

Based on the handout guidelines, please include the following:

- a. Memo Heading + Introduction
- b. Background
- c. Proposal
- d. Benefits
- e. Results
- f. Projected Schedule
- g. My Qualifications
- h. Tentative Outline
- Tentative Bibliography

### 5. Oral Seminar:

Hold a 45-60 minute-seminar on your topic.

The seminar should be structured as follows:

- Presentation of research topic (topic, relevance of the topic, summary of research content, sources and tips for further reading) (ca. 15')
- Introduction of terms and collocations based on your glossary (ca. 05')
- Language practice (a mix of comprehension and content-based language exercises to be completed during the seminar) (ca. 15'-20')
- Discussion on the topic (ca. 10')

All components have to be included in your seminar, whereas their sequence can vary.

· Webpage · Conference · ... Can be all from the intone

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# Seminar Handout:

Contents including:

- Cover page
- Seminar outline (indicating the structure of your seminar)
- Abstract of ESP project (200 300 words) (cf. P2)
- Glossary of selected priority vocabulary (your top ten) (cf. P3)
- Mind map illustrating the complexity of the topic (cf. P4)
- Language practice exercises for your seminar (cf. P5)
- Discussion topic (cf. P5)

### 6. Written Follow-up Report:

Based on the handout guidelines, please include the following:

- Transmittal Letter
- 2. Title page with descriptive abstract
- 3. Table of Contents
- 4. List of Figures
- 5. Informative Abstract
- 6. Introduction
- 7. Body of the report
- 8. Conclusion
- 9. Bibliography (cf. P1)

Additionally you have to upload texts online.

## 6. Evaluation of project outcomes:

Assess your own performance and give feedback to other seminar presenters.

# Deadlines and technical requirements

- Seminar dates are determined at the beginning of the course.
- All texts from your team have to be made available on the e-learning platform OPAL, in the
   Virtual Seminar Room of your course (<a href="https://bildungsportal.sachsen.de">https://bildungsportal.sachsen.de</a>) one week before
   the seminar so that other course participants and your teacher can access your material. (cf.
   P6)
- The Seminar handout should be made available (printed out and copied) for every participant
  and for your teacher on the day of your seminar and uploaded in your Team Folder on OPAL
  so that your teacher has access to the digital version of your handout.

## **Project Assessment:**

The following criteria of your project will be assessed as follows:

Oral outcome:35% of Semester gradeTask presentation (content/structure):8 pointsLanguage (competence/correctness):8 pointsStimulating and managing conversation:5 pointsInteraction (audience participation):4 points

Written outcome: 35% of Semester grade

Proposal: 5 points Material in Virtual Seminar Room (texts and glossaries): 2 points

Seminar handout: 6 points Report: 12 points

# End-of-Semester Test: 30% of Semester grade

Language in Use: 80 minutes / written