



General English Course Syllabus

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1. Faculty Contact Information

- Office Location:** Floor 4, Ebn-e Sina
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Office Hours: Saturdays and Mondays

2. Course Description

This course is developed for B.Sc. science and engineering students at Sharif University of Technology who intend to improve their general English knowledge and as a pre-requisite to their technical English courses offered afterwards. The classes meet **three hours two times per week**.

3. Course Objectives

The main purpose of this course is to boost up the students' language proficiency with regard to reading skill and vocabulary. However, due attention is given to speaking, listening and writing as well. In short, the students are expected to:

- acquire a good knowledge of vocabulary through word roots, prefixes and suffixes in order to better enrich their lexical repertoire.
- improve their knowledge of grammar contained in the passages through implicit or explicit communicative instructions.
- expand their reading strategies introduced in each chapter of the book. These skills include skimming, scanning, inferencing, previewing, identifying meaning from context, etc.
- improve their speaking competence through related discussions on the passage and in the pre-reading/post-reading activities and also giving lectures.
- improve their listening skills through the related audio-visual tasks and exercises assigned in the classes.

4. Course Requirements

All students are required to have an active participation in classes and bring their questions to their classes and seek their pertinent responses. The major concerns are as follows:

1. Read the suggested reading passages and be ready for class discussion and active participation.
2. Develop thought provoking questions to be discussed in the class.

Note: *The instructor reserves the right to adjust, add to, or rescind the policies during the term as needed for more efficacy.*

5. Student Attendance and Participation Policy

• Student Attendance and Participation:

1. **Three or more unexcused absences** will result in the **failure of the course!** Also, absences/tardiness will negatively affect your classroom participation scores!
2. Late assignments are penalized unless under certain extenuating circumstances or the instructor's own extension!
3. Regular, active, and meaningful participation in all class meetings and online learning activities is a critically important component of this course and is essential to your success.
4. Attend classes regularly, arrive on time, and come prepared with all required course materials.
5. Active participation is expected of all students in this course.

6. Required Course Materials

• Course Books and Resources (for class and homework):

You will need certain materials to complete this course successfully. In addition to loose-leaf paper for notes and assignments and a folder in which to collect your work for this course, you must have the following textbook:

Student Textbook: Anderson, N. J. (2009). *Active skills for reading: Book 4* (3rd Ed.). Boston: Thomson, Heinle. [with audio CD]. **Units to Be Covered: 1, 3, 5, 7, 9**

Various handouts: provided by the instructor as the need arises.

7. Scoring Criteria

Your course grade will be assigned based on the following measures of your skills and performance:

1. Classroom

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| a) Active participation, doing the exercises in class, quizzes, etc. | 1 point |
| b) Reading and paraphrasing the texts in class | 2 point |
| c) Speaking task: Giving a short talk (10 minutes) | 3 points |

2. Midterm & Final Exams

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| a) Midterm exam | 6 points |
| b) Final exam | 8 points |

8. Course Important Dates

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|-------------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------------|
| ❖ Mid-Term Examination: | to be announced later | Units: 1, 3, 5 |
| ❖ Final Examination: | 1403/11/3 at 13:00 | Units: 1, 3, 5, 7, 9 |

Important Note: *Instructors reserve the right to change the above schedule with due notice to the students. Additional quizzes and assignments may be given during the class sessions.

