MISSION, VISION AND VALUES

VISION

The Foundation Program aspires to occupy a distinctive position amongst the Sultanate’s GFPs by imparting quality education.

MISSION

The Foundation Program strives to equip students with quality, outcome-based education in a rich teacher-learner environment conducive to academic excellence and life-long learning.

VALUES

1. Academic excellence
2. Individual responsibility
3. Continuous improvement
4. Active citizenship
5. Life-long learning
COURSE DESCRIPTION

FPE 103 C is an Intermediate Level Intensive English course that provides students with an opportunity to engage in the development of English language skills as well as good study habits. The main skills are taught in integration. Reading and writing are integrated. Similarly, listening and speaking are integrated. Both the books lead to productive skills writing and speaking. By completing this course the students are expected to have a smooth transfer into university courses.

LEARNING OUTCOMES (*in line with Oman Academic Standards*)

SPEAKING

S1: Provide organized and complete answers to questions.
S2: Participate in a discussion by initiating, clarifying and concluding a conversation. (Portfolio)
S3: Participate in face-to-face conversations on familiar topics such as personal and current local and world events. (Portfolio)
S4: Speak in complex sentences using adjective and noun clauses (e.g. I liked the story we read yesterday; I don’t know what you mean by that)
S5: Use a variety of language functional strategies (e.g. ask for and give clarification, ask relevant questions) by participating in formal and informal class discussions and group activities.
S6: Initiate simple conversation using appropriate forms of address and register (formal or informal) (Portfolio)
S7: Paraphrase information from a simple written text/a spoken text/ various graphic materials (pie chart, line graph, complex tables).
S8: Prepare and deliver an organized presentation based on a variety of sources for 5 minutes (lectures, readings, library, TV or personal experience).
LISTENING
L1: Activate schema with visual or textual clues to predict content.
L2: Varied listening strategies for different tasks and purposes (e.g. guessing, predicting, relating new information to prior knowledge, using imagery)
L3: Use contextual clues to make inferences.
L4: Identify the opinions of speakers. (Unit 1)
L5: Distinguish fact from opinion (Unit 3)
L6: Recognize signpost phrases.
L7: State in their own words essential information from a short recorded lecture.
L8: Transfer specific information from a listening text to a table / diagram.
L9: Use speaker’s facial expressions, body language, and intonation to identify context of message (e.g. a question, frustration) (Portfolio).
L10: Take notes and respond to questions about the topic, main idea, details and opinions from a brief listening (e.g. lecture, news broadcast).
L11: Follow moderately complex instructions.
L12: Listen to a conversation between two or more speakers and be able to answer questions in relation to context, relationship between speakers, register (e.g. formal or informal) (Portfolio)

READING VOCABULARY
R1: Use text features to predict general idea of a text (e.g. visuals, title, headings)
R2: Scan a text to identify and explain specific information.
R3: Skim a passage to determine the organization, general ideas, and scan the passage for relevant details.
R4: Draw conclusions from authentic materials and reading passages on familiar topics.
R5: Reflect on a text in order to give brief explanations (prediction/deduction/inference), make associations (from personal experience) and comparisons (Portfolio).
R6: Identify organizational features of written texts (e.g. sequence of points, sentences, and paragraphs) and their purpose, fact and opinion.
R7: Identify main idea, supporting details, sequence, and common transitions (e.g. first, next) in simplified or adapted short texts on a familiar topic.
R8: Read and interpret data in line/bar graphs, pie /flow charts.
R9: Organize information in charts.
R10: Recall important points and interpret text by answering factual questions.
R11: Compare and contrast relationships/summarize/paraphrase information from text (Unit 5 and portfolio).
R12: Recognize the format and purposes of various types of texts (genres); (narrative, informational text, request and complaint)
R13: Reflect on the passages they have read and write in a journal entry. (Portfolio)
R14: Read an extensive text broadly relevant to the student’s area of study (minimum three pages) and respond to questions that require analytical skills, e.g. prediction, deduction, inference. (Portfolio)
R15: Identify vocabulary including common roots and prefixes/suffixes, transition words. (Listening & Speaking book – unit 5 page 39; unit 5 page 93; unit 8 page 148)
R16: Use context clues to derive meaning of words.
R17: Record new vocabulary in organized form (e.g. personal dictionary, index cards) and use as a resource when writing. (Portfolio)
WRITING

**W1:** Reflect on the passages they have read and write in a journal entry. (Portfolio)

**W2:** Identify main idea, supporting details, sequence, and common transitions (e.g. first, next) in simplified or adapted short texts on a familiar topic

**W3:** Interpret graphic data in line graphs/pie charts/tables; write short reports

**W4:** Develop ideas through pre-writing activities (e.g. free writing, mind mapping)

**W5:** Analyze paragraphs as models for writing

**W6:** Create well developed and unified paragraphs that support topic sentences.

**W7:** Sequence steps or events, to give instructions, tell a story, or explain a process (level 2 listening & speaking, unit 5, pages 96 to 102) covered in Level 2

**W8:** Write a process/opinion paragraph with a topic sentence, supporting details, and a conclusion. (up to 250 words)

**W9:** Write appropriate topic, supporting and concluding sentences in paragraphs and introduction, body and conclusion in compare/contrast as well as cause/effect essays.

**W10:** Use correct spelling.

**W11:** Use simple revision strategies to monitor effectively during the writing process

**W12:** Write argumentative essays.

**W13:** Write cause/effect and comparison/contrast essays.

**W14:** Produce a written report of a minimum of 500 words showing evidence of research, note taking, review and revision of work, paraphrasing, summarising, use of quotations and use of references (Research Booklet).

STUDY SKILLS AND OTHERS

**SS1:** Work in pairs or groups and participate accordingly i.e. take turns, initiate a discussion, interrupt appropriately, express an opinion. *(Every day lessons)*

**SS2:** Describe learning experiences, challenges, insights in a daily journal *(Portfolio)*.

**SS3:** Organise and maintain a system of recording vocabulary (keep a vocabulary log) *(Portfolio)*.

**SS4:** Use an English-English dictionary;

**SS5:** Make decisions about their priorities, time, and resources;

**SS6:** Set realistic and manageable goals;

**SS7:** Create a timetable for their study *(Portfolio)*

**SS8:** Maintain a language portfolio that reflects progress *(Portfolio)*
1. General Requirements

For the benefits of the group, all students are asked to participate actively in all aspects of the course. Those wishing to receive credit must:

- Arrive on time and attend all classes.
- Complete all readings on assigned dates.
- Complete all writing assignments on assigned dates.
- Take part in oral discussion and make presentations as assigned.
- Participate in class on a regular basis.

*Note: Mobile phones should be switched off in class as a courtesy to the teacher and fellow students.*

2. Assessment Policy

Assessment of student performance in the course relies on tests and alternative assessment schemes (such as Portfolios, Continuous Assessment).

**Assessment: Distribution of grades for Level 3**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Skill</th>
<th>Mid-term Test</th>
<th>Spelling Test/Portfolio</th>
<th>Extensive Reading/Progress Tests</th>
<th>CA</th>
<th>Final Exam</th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>Actual Weigh ting</th>
<th>Course Work</th>
<th>Exit Exam</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Reading</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>Spelling Test 10</td>
<td>Extensive Reading Test 10</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>30 %</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Writing</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>Portfolio 10</td>
<td>Research Report 10</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>30 %</td>
<td>80%</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Listening</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>------</td>
<td>FA (Conversations) 10</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>20 %</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Speaking</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>------</td>
<td>FA (Conversations) 10</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>20 %</td>
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* All exams are marked by two teachers other than the section teachers (double blind marking), according to set rubrics, to ensure fair grading.*

Continuous Assessment: Continuous Assessment includes **class attendance, participation in class, homework completion** and **attitude**.

Portfolio Assessment and Continuous Assessment Rubrics are provided in the portfolio.
3. Attendance Policy and Regulations

a) Attendance is taken in the beginning of each session.

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<table>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>First warning</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final warning</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Withdrawal</td>
<td>25%</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

b) Students are expected to familiarize themselves with the university regulations found in the DU Catalogue and the Student Handbook.

4. Academic Honesty

Students are expected to complete all work with the highest standard of honesty and integrity. Plagiarism, forgery, cheating or any form of academic misconduct will not be tolerated. Any of the above may cause a student’s final course grade to be lowered significantly or the student may receive a failing grade, depending on the severity of the offence.

Plagiarism is the presentation of the work of another as one’s own work (Refer to DU catalogue 2009-2010 p. 35).

5. Important Information to Note

Promotion from Level 3 to University courses: If your Cumulative Final Grade is 50 or above (together with Course Work and Exit Exam), you are promoted to University courses.

If you miss any test, you will only be given a make-up test if you have a valid excuse approved by the Director, Mr. Faisal Hamadi.

All tests and other assessed assignments are kept in your portfolio with your instructor as evidence of your progress.

6. Teaching Resources


Portfolio (in-house)

Research Report Writing Booklet prepared by Mr. Syed Arshad Ali and Dr. Rao