

INTERNATIONAL STUDY AND LANGUAGE INSTITUTE

PRE-SESSIONAL ENGLISH PROGRAMME

Gain the academic and language skills needed
for university study in the UK

GIVING YOU THE BEST START AT THE UNIVERSITY OF READING

Develop your academic language and skills on the Pre-Sessional English (PSE) Programme and prepare for successful study at the University of Reading.

How you will learn:

On the PSE at Reading you will:

- develop your academic English skills in an integrated, task-based way, speaking and writing about ideas from your listening and reading.
- complete authentic university-style writing tasks using a range of academic genres such as Essays, Research Reports, Critical Reviews, Case studies, Proposals and Reflections.
- be supported to successfully adapt to UK academic culture and practices through work on areas such as autonomous learning skills, academic integrity and group-work skills.
- study topics related to the University of Reading, including aspects of campus life and Reading's research themes.

There is an expected study time commitment of 30-35 hours per week, including 15 hours of live lessons and 8 hours of guided asynchronous study tasks and independent study.

You will study in small classes of no more than 16 students, maximising group interaction and tutor feedback, and receive further individualised support via small group or 1:1 consultations.

Final assessment combining coursework and the Test of English for Educational Purposes (TEEP)

All assessment up until the last six weeks is formative and designed to help you learn and develop your academic language and skills, through practice and feedback.

At the end of the final 6-week modules, you are assessed by both the Test of English for Educational Purposes (TEEP) and written language and spoken language coursework assignments.

98% of our University of Reading PSE students in Summer 2022 met the language requirements to progress to their desired degree programmes.

Half-band credit

By taking one of our PSE courses, you may be able to enter your degree programme with half a band less than the stated English language entry requirement. Please check our website for details.

For further details and exceptions to the half-band discount, please check:

www.reading.ac.uk/isli/pre-sessional-english/how-long-to-study

Multiple entry points, two exit points

You can study Pre-sessional English at Reading for up to 29 weeks and start at six points across the academic year from September to July.

- There are options of 29 weeks, 19 weeks, 14 weeks, 10 weeks and 6 weeks
- Exit in December if you are starting your degree programme in January.
- Exit in early September if you are starting your degree programme in late September.

How long you need to study

The length of PSE course you need will depend on your entry English proficiency as well as the target proficiency level needed for your degree programme.

As an example, the table below outlines suggested lengths of PSE study for students with a target IELTS level of 6.5 for entry onto their degree course.

Your IELTS equivalent level now	Suggested length of study
4.5	29 weeks (PSE C)
5.0 (no skill less than 4.0)	19 weeks (PSE D)
5.0 (no skills less than 4.5)	14 weeks (PSE E)
5.5	10 weeks (PSE F)
6.0	6 weeks (PSE G or PSE A)

For more detailed information about what PSE course would be best for you, consult our webpages:

www.reading.ac.uk/isli/pre-sessional-english/how-long-to-study



SAMPLE STUDENT SCHEDULE - WEEK 2 PSE G

	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri
09:00-10:30	Integrated Academic Language Skills 4 Lesson 4: Language learning - Reading	Academic Practices & Genres Lesson 4: Focus on critical review (PG) or case study (UG)	Integrated Academic Language Skills 4 Lesson 6: Language learning - Writing & In-class submission 1	Integrated Academic Language Skills 4 Lesson 7: Language learning - Speaking	Academic Practices & Genres Lesson 7: Focus on critical review (PG) or case study (UG)
B R E A K					
11:00-12:30	Integrated Academic Language Skills 4 Lesson 5: Language learning - Listening	Academic Practices & Genres Lesson 5: Focus on critical review (PG) or case study (UG)	Academic Practices & Genres Lesson 6: Focus on critical review (PG) or case study (UG)	Integrated Academic Language Skills 4 Lesson 8: Introduction to and familiarisation with online testing 11:45 practice mini-tests	Academic Practices & Genres Lesson 8: Focus on critical review (PG) or case study (UG)
L U N C H		Visa talk 1 p.m [online students]	Academic Integrity talk 1 p.m.	L U N C H	
Guided Independent study SET [2 hrs] /Tutorials	GIS 2: Role of universities - Writing	GIS 3: Focus on critical review (PG) or case study (UG)	FREE	GIS 3: Language learning - LKT GIS 4: Evaluating a reflective presentation	GIS 5: Focus on critical review (PG) or case study (UG)
SUBMISSION AT 4.00 P.M					
RELEASE OF FEEDBACK AT 8.00 A.M					

Accommodation

At Reading we offer a wide range of accommodation options. Our halls provide you with a home away from home where you will find yourself part of a supportive community. Each hall has its own distinctive character offering a safe and secure environment in which to study, socialise and relax.

The benefits of living in halls accommodation include:

- accommodation located either on the main Whiteknights campus or within easy walking distance
- a range of accommodation choices to suit your needs. Choose from different room types, catered or self-catered options and residency periods
- 'Halls hotline' available 24/7, 365 days of the year ensuring any halls related issues are dealt with quickly and efficiently
- communal areas and hall committees which help create a sense of community and ensure a friendly and sociable environment – a great place to meet new friends!

Please contact accommodationonline@reading.ac.uk for more details.

“The Pre-session course has given me benefits far beyond just meeting requirement of Admission to university. It has given me invaluable skills such as understanding UK academic culture, and developing research skills and academic study strategies.”

Xinyi Liu

MSc International Business Management

“I expected to improve my English in the PSE in quite a traditional way: Instead, I studied by doing a survey and preparing a report, writing a case study, and reflecting on my learning process.”

Daria Svitailo

BA in Film and Theatre

“This course gave me training in different academic writing styles such as essay, critical review, and mini-research, which contributed to improving my master’s writing.”

Afnan Alsaleh

MA in Education



Pre-session programme in academic English and study skills

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 @UniRdg_ISLI
[reading.ac.uk/isli](https://www.reading.ac.uk/isli)

Quality assurance

‘Course design is principled and developed with care and understanding’

‘Continuous innovations ... demonstrate a commitment to the development of student autonomy’

2019 BALEAP Accreditation Report
www.baleap.org



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EAP professionals