



UK

## SYLLABUS 2025-2026

### Business English (U1 S2)

#### MODULE SPECIFICATION

<b>Module Code</b>	2526_PGE_U1_OX_ANG_S02
<b>Campus</b>	Oxford
<b>Department(s)</b>	English as a Foreign Language
<b>Level / Semester</b>	Undergraduate Year 1 (U1); Equivalent to FHEQ level 4 Semester 02
<b>Language of Instruction</b>	English
<b>Teaching Method</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> In-person (face-to-face) <input type="checkbox"/> Distance learning (live online) <input type="checkbox"/> e-Learning (asynchronous) <input type="checkbox"/> Hybrid: _____
<b>Pre-requisite(s)?</b>	None
<b>ECTS</b> <i>Reminder: 1 ECTS = between 20 and 30hr- student workload</i>	2
<b>Equivalent FHEQ credits</b>	4
<b>Study Hours</b>	100 hours which comprise of 28 directed learning and 72 independent learning/assessment hours

#### MODULE DESCRIPTION

<b>Module Aims</b>	<p>This module prepares students to effectively communicate in business contexts and enhance reading and language use through product pitches, data-driven writing, and vocabulary related to markets and trends. It builds skills in presenting business ideas and identifying key ideas/supporting details, analysing product features, practicing effective reading strategies, interpreting/paraphrasing figurative/contextual expressions, and describing market movements, aligned with IELTS Task 1 writing.</p>
--------------------	---

<b>Teaching Arrangement</b>	The module will be delivered as 8 classes of 3 hours and 2 classes of 2 hours over 10 weeks. Assessments are done during class time, and a workshop style will be incorporated for writing and speaking.
<b>Learning Outcomes</b>	By the end of this module, students should be able to: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Deliver a clear and persuasive pitch for a product or service using appropriate business language and presentation techniques</li> <li>2. Analyse and describe data in charts and graphs using accurate and varied written English.</li> <li>3. Use a range of business-related vocabulary to discuss topics such as products, markets, and investment</li> <li>4. Apply language and structure appropriate to IELTS Task 1 and professional business presentation formats, such as Dragons' Den.</li> <li>5. Identify key ideas and supporting details in a business text.</li> <li>6. Interpret and paraphrase figurative and contextual expressions accurately</li> <li>7. Apply effective reading strategies, such as skimming, scanning, and inferring meaning.</li> </ol>
<b>Competency Goals</b> <i>(Knowledge, expertise and interpersonal skills)</i>	PGE_U_CG02 – Communicate effectively in professional contexts PGE_U_CG04 – Demonstrate intercultural and international awareness PGE_U_CG06 – Think critically and structure arguments effectively
<b>Alignment with Programme Learning Goals</b>	PGE_U_CG01 – Use English language confidently in academic settings PGE_U_CG02 – Communicate effectively in professional contexts PGE_U_CG03 – Apply theoretical concepts to practical situations PGE_U_CG04 – Demonstrate intercultural and international awareness PGE_U_CG06 – Think critically and structure arguments effectively

## SESSION TOPICS / MODULE SCHEDULE

*(Please note, a session/sequence may be more than one scheduled class)*

<p><u>Session 1: Introduction</u></p> <p><i>Content:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Module orientation, learning goals, and assessment overview</li> <li>● Introduction to business communication contexts (startups, pitches, reports)</li> <li>● Student expectations and participation guidelines</li> </ul> <p><i>Assignments:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Self-introduction paragraph using business profile format</li> </ul>
--

*Last reviewed: 06/11/2025*

- Reflective journal entry:
  - Question: “What makes a successful business communicator?”

---

### Session 2: Grammar Review – Future Forms

*Content:*

- Overview of future tenses:
  - Future simple, future continuous, future perfect
  - “Going to” vs. Present continuous
- Contextual usage: planning, predictions, schedules
  - Practice with paraphrasing and rephrasing contextual expressions

*Assignments:*

- Grammar worksheet (guided practice + error correction)
- Create 5 business predictions for the next 5 years using different future forms

---

### Session 3: IELTS Task 1 Writing – Describing Data

*Content:*

- Introduction to IELTS Academic Task 1
- Types of visuals (bar charts, line graphs, pie charts)
- Sentence structures for comparisons, trends, and summarising

*Assignments:*

- Continuous assessment – written description of a given chart
- Peer review activity using assessment criteria

---

### Session 4: Vocabulary – Trends and Data & Reading Strategies

*Content:*

- Vocabulary:
    - Describing movement (rise, fall, remain steady, fluctuate)
    - Degree and speed (sharply, slightly, gradually)
    - Grammar of trends (verbs vs. nouns, using adverbs and adjectives)
  - Reading strategies:
    - Continue improving on effective reading techniques, such as skimming, scanning, and inferring meaning
- Further develop skills in identifying key ideas and supporting details in business texts

*Assignments:*

- Fill-in-the-blank worksheet
- Create 5 descriptive sentences from real market data

---

### Session 5: Product Vocabulary and Product Pitching

*Content:*

- Product vocabulary:
  - Describing products (features, specifications, benefits)
  - Useful adjectives (innovative, durable, cost-effective, compact)
  - Practice: comparing competing products
- Product pitching:
  - Elements of a strong pitch (hook, problem, solution, USP, call-to-action)
  - Persuasive language
    - Modals (should, could)

- Conditionals (if/when)
- Rhetorical questions
- Tone and body language in presentations

*Assignments:*

- Matching product descriptions to visuals
- Write a product fact sheet (bullet points)
- Continuous assessment – product pitch presentation (3-5 minutes)
- Practice session with peer feedback using a checklist

Session 6: Business Concepts & Market Study – Case Analysis

*Content:*

- Business concepts:
  - Introduction to financial and marketing concepts (ROI, venture capital, stakeholders, market share)
    - How to explain these concepts in plain English
  - Video or article discussion: Elevator Pitch + Shark Tank clip analysis
- Case analysis:
  - Introduction to SWOT and 4Ps frameworks
  - Case study walk-through: analyse a real or fictional company
  - Group discussion: strengths and challenges in real business

*Assignments:*

- Quiz (definitions and usage)
- Create a short glossary with personal examples
- Fill in SWOT + 4Ps templates
- Prepare group mini presentation of findings

Session 7: Review & Recap

*Content:*

- Grammar wrap-up (future tenses, conditionals, comparative forms)
- Vocabulary review (business, trends, and product-related terms)
- Group game or quiz (e.g. Kahoot, Upward)

*Assignments:*

- Continuous assessment – Upward quiz (30 minutes):
  - 40 questions covering vocabulary, grammar, and usage

Session 8: Mock Exam & Feedback

*Content:*

- Full practice exam (IELTS-style writing, grammar, and reading comprehension)
- Self and peer marking using rubrics
- Teacher feedback session and Q&A

*Assignments:*

- Submit final reflective log (“What did I improve?”, “What do I need to work on?”)
- Complete post-module self-assessment form

## KEY TEXTS

1. Cullen, P., French, A. and Jakeman, V. (2025) *The official Cambridge guide to IELTS: For academic or general training*. Cambridge, United Kingdom: Cambridge University Press.
2. Oshima, A. and Hogue, A. (2006) *Writing academic English*. 4th edn. Pearson Education.
3. McCarthy, M. and O'Dell, F. (2016) *Academic vocabulary in use: Vocabulary reference and practice*. 2nd edn. Cambridge, United Kingdom: Cambridge University Press.
4. Hewings, M. (2023) *Advanced grammar in use: A self-study reference and practice book for advanced learners of English*. 4th edn. Cambridge, United Kingdom: Cambridge University Press.

## SUPPLEMENTARY TEXTS

1. Locker, K.O. and Kaczmarek, S.K. (2013) *Business communication: Building critical skills*. 6th edn. New York, NY: McGraw-Hill.
2. Bovee, C.L. and Thill, J.V. (2023) *Business communication today*. 15th edn. Pearson.
3. Reynolds, G. (2019) *Presentation Zen: Simple ideas on presentation design and delivery*. 3rd edn. New Riders.
4. Gallo, C. (2014) *Talk like TED: The 9 public-speaking secrets of the world's top minds*. Macmillan.
5. Kotler, P., Armstrong, G. and Balasubramanian, S. (2023) *Principles of marketing*. 19th edn. Pearson Education.
6. Mullins, L.J. and Rees, G. (2023) *Management and organisational behaviour*. 13th edn. Harlow, United Kingdom: Pearson.

## MODES OF ASSESSMENT

<b>Continuous Assessment</b> (40% - equal weighting between assessments)	Grammar + vocabulary quiz
	Product pitch presentation
	Writing task
<b>Final Exam (60%)</b>	Written exam

## MODULE DESIGN TEAM

- Author: *Duncan Jamieson*
- Reviewer: *Michael Surguy*
- External Reviewer: *Martin Jenkins*