Exchange programme Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam

Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam - Exchange programme Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam - 2024-2025

Exchange

Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam offers many English-taught courses in a variety of subjects, ranging from arts & culture and social sciences, neurosciences and computer science, to economics and business administration.

The International Office is responsible for course approval and course registration for exchange students. For details about course registration, requirements, credits, semesters and so on, please [visit the exchange programmes webpages](#).

Minor English: Pronunciation and Presentation

Course Code	L_EABAALG006
Credits	6
Period	P2
Course Level	200
Language Of Tuition	English
Faculty	Faculty of Humanities
Course Coordinator	dr. L.M. Rupp
Examiner	dr. L.M. Rupp
Teaching Staff	A.J. Gambrel, dr. L.M. Rupp
Teaching method(s)	Lecture, Study Group, Seminar

Course Objective

Regarding pronunciation, you will be able to describe the most common difficulties in English pronunciation. You will also be able to describe the effects of particular pronunciation features on the intelligibility and credibility of English accents, as well as the importance of pronunciation features for identity construction in English. You will be able to able what you have learnt in analyses of your own English accent and the English accents of other speakers.

Regarding presentation, you will be able to strategically apply structural elements, prosodic features and conversational patterns in such a way that they will help you convey a clear message.

By the end of the course, you will be able to adapt pronunciation features in the English accent that you wish to develop and you are able to confidently give an oral presentation.

Course Content

In the pronunciation module:

1. We will set goals for the English accent that you wish to develop, both professionally and at a personal level.
2. We will look into he most common difficulties in English pronunciation and the effects that these difficulties may (inadvertently) have on the intelligibility and credibility of your accent. We will also take account of features that seem part of your identity.
3. You will conduct exercises, practise ear-training and be given tools that help you analyse English pronunciation features.

You will work on pronunciation features in your own English accent accordingly.

As far as the presentation component is concerned:

1) Students give presentations on academic topics. During these presentations they will show awareness and some mastery over the following elements:

- structure that conveys an academic idea and its relevance and adheres to a time limit
- prosodic features (intonation, voice, articulation, etc.)
- body language (posture, eye-contact, etc.)
- persuasive and conversational patterns (repetition, rhetorical questions, etc.)

2) Students engage in useful ways with their peers, offering feedback and working collaboratively

3) Students demonstrate awareness of their strengths and weakness with regards to the topics and skills addressed in the course.

Additional Information Teaching Methods

Pronunciation: weekly lectures (1,5 hour) and seminars (1,5 hours). Presentation: weekly seminars (3 hours).

Method of Assessment

Two recordings of your own English pronunciation (50%) and a presentation in English on an academic subject (50%). In order to successfully complete the course students must score a grade of ≥5.5 for each of the two components.

80% attendance and submission of the all of the course work by the set deadlines is conditional for being awarded a grade for the recordings and the presentation.

Literature

Literature and other materials will be made available in Canvas.
The pronunciation module is accompanied by online audio and video material (https://english-pronunciation.weebly.com).

Additional Information Target Audience

Students across the university who wish to work on their English pronunciation and presentation skills.