

**Course Outline**  
**EL341 English for Economists 2 ( section 046401-04 )**  
**Semester 2/2024**

**Number of Credit:** 3 credits

**Prerequisite:** EL241 English for Economists 1

**Course Description:**

This course aims to build on the skills learnt in EL241 towards a higher-level understanding of how professionals communicate about economics. Students are encouraged to be critical of current global events and decision making as well as learn how to communicate their own opinions. Advanced speaking and writing skills are developed and evaluated in the form of an essay and academic presentation.

**Course Objectives and Learning Outcomes (COLOs)**

|   |
|---|
| <b>Objective 1:</b> To engage with pressing economic issues and critically evaluate their solutions.  |
| <b>Learning Outcome 1.1:</b> Identify and comprehend main ideas in listening and reading texts.<br><b>Learning Outcome 1.2:</b> Participate in discussions sharing ideas and asking for clarification.<br><b>Learning Outcome 1.3:</b> Evaluate pressing economic issues and suggest solutions to problems. |
| <b>Objective 2:</b> To develop a comprehensive understanding of the English used in the field of economics.   |
| <b>Learning Outcome 2.1:</b> Demonstrate an understanding of the core language functions and grammar used in communicating in their field.<br><b>Learning Outcome 2.2:</b> Complete notes and write descriptions from various input texts.  |
| <b>Objective 3:</b> To write coherent summaries and academic essays.  |
| <b>Learning Outcome 3.1:</b> Design, investigate and produce a group newspaper.<br><b>Learning Outcome 3.2:</b> Fully engage in the academic writing process developing own academic style.<br><b>Learning Outcome 3.3:</b> Research and draft a 500-word argumentative essay complete with references.     |
| <b>Objective 4:</b> To advance high level oral communication skills.  |
| <b>Learning Outcome 4.1:</b> Discover the components of effective oral communication.<br><b>Learning Outcome 4.2:</b> Explore the value and varying types of evidence used to support claims. <b>Learning Outcome 4.3:</b> Deliver a well-structured and engaging academic presentation.                    |




## Course Contents

1. Exploration of contemporary economic themes & trends
2. Development of competence in key vocabulary and language used in economics
3. Review of academic reading & writing skills
4. Note-taking, paraphrasing and summarizing for essays
5. Presentation skills development

## Course Materials

Moore, B. (2022). *Academic English Skills for Economists*. Thammasat University Press. (Available from the TU Book Store and m.se-ed.com).

## Course evaluation

| Course evaluation   |  |                   | Grading criteria  |
|---|--|-------------------|-------------------|
|  | <b>Attendance &amp; Participation</b>        | 10 points         | A = 80% and above |
|   | <b>Assignment 1</b><br>Newspaper Project     | 30 points         | B+ = 75% - 79%    |
|   | <b>Assignment 2</b><br>Economics Essay       | 30 points         | B = 70% - 74%     |
|  | <b>Assignment 3</b><br>Academic Presentation | 30 points         | C+ = 65% - 69%    |
|   | <b>Midterm Quiz</b>                          | 40 points         | C = 60% - 64%     |
|   | <b>Final Exam</b>                            | 60 points         | D+ = 55% - 59%    |
|  | <b>Total</b>                                 | <u>200</u> points | D = 50% - 54%     |
|   |  |                   | F = Below 50%     |

## Instructor, time and venue

| Section/Group | Day | Time        | Room                       | Instructor                 |
|---------------|-----|-------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|
| 046401        | Mon | 1300 – 1600 | Conference Room, 5th floor | Asst. Prof. Benjamin Moore |
| 046402        | Mon | 1300 – 1600 | EC 303                     | A. Steven B. Smith         |
| 046403        | Mon | 1300 – 1600 | EC 304                     | A. Tyler A. Charles        |
| 046404        | Mon | 1300 – 1600 | EC 101                     | A. Jonathan W. Jones       |

## Assignments

| Tasks   | What to do   | What to submit  |
|---|--|---|
| <b>Assignment 1</b> (15%)<br>(Newspaper)<br>COLO: 1.1, 1.2, 2.1, 2.2, 3.1,<br>SDG: 1-17 | Submit a group newspaper to the class consisting of a variety of articles both international and domestic, informative and opinion.<br>Scoring: Lay-out, readability, criticality, content, originality. | Group Economics Newspaper                                 |
| <b>Assignment 2</b> (15%)<br>(Essay)<br>COLO: 1.3, 2.1, 2.2, 3.2, 3.3<br>SDG: 1-17      | Follow the academic writing process to complete a 500-word essay, complete with citation and referencing.<br>Scoring: Task response, Language & style, Accuracy, Cohesion & Coherence, Referencing       | Essay Outline<br>First Draft<br>Individual Academic Essay |

|   |   |                                   |
|---|---|-----------------------------------|
| <b>Assignment 3</b> (15%)<br>(Presentation)<br><b>COLO: 4.1, 4.2, 4.3</b><br><b>SDG: 1-17</b> | Design and deliver an engaging & dynamic presentation on an economics topic of interest.<br>Scoring: Content, Structure, Data & Visuals, Message, Style | Individual Economics Presentation |
|---|---|-----------------------------------|

## Active/Autonomous Learning Activities

The textbook for EL341 is written in a way that should guide students through different topics and skills in a sequential manner, providing a basis for productive academic skills. Students will be instructed on some of the core themes as they progress through the course with particular relevance to assignments, quizzes and exams. However, the course book contains a great deal of information which would be impossible to cover in the allotted class time. For this reason, students are required to complete self-study activities and follow the scheduled activities as specified in the timetable below to ensure that they maximize their learning and are sufficiently prepared for assessments and exams. This will require a certain amount of organization and self-discipline, and students should not rely solely on classes to complete their learning. Activities will include:

1. Practice exercises and group discussions
2. Brainstorming and problem-solving activities
3. Lectures and videos
4. Online research assignments
5. Live presentations and debates
6. Self-study from textbook

## Examinations and Quizzes

|                     |  |
|---------------------|--|
| <b>Midterm Exam</b> | <b>Topics Assessed (20%)</b>   |
|                     | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Vocabulary from the textbook</li> <li>• Seen/unseen readings</li> <li>• Language skills: Active/Passive, making predictions</li> <li>• Writing skills: Paraphrasing techniques, summary writing process, discourse markers, essay structure</li> </ul>  |
| <b>Final Exam</b>   | <b>Topics Assessed (30%)</b>   |
|                     | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Vocabulary from the textbook</li> <li>• Listening and identifying main themes and supporting details</li> <li>• Seen/unseen readings</li> <li>• Language skills: approximation, conditionals, using caution, asking &amp; giving opinions, agreeing/disagreeing, reported speech</li> <li>• Writing skills: writing essays, summary writing process, problems &amp; solutions, citation, quotation &amp; referencing</li> </ul> |

## Attendance

Students who miss **more than three** classes must withdraw from the course as it demonstrates a lack of discipline needed to fully commit to EL341. They will not be permitted to take the final exam.

## Plagiarism policy

Thammasat University students are required to refrain from any kind of plagiarism. This is especially true with EL341 because it requires students to research information for their essays and presentations. For this reason, techniques of citation and referencing will be taught extensively throughout the course. Moreover, the use of AI (e.g. Chat GPT) to write essays is considered cheating and will be dealt with in the same way as plagiarism. For both plagiarism and AI generated text a score of over **20%** will be deemed unacceptable (obtained from [www.turnitin.com](http://www.turnitin.com)).

## Tentative schedule

| Session                          | Learning outcomes/ activities  | Topics/ contents  |
|----------------------------------|--|---|
| 23 <sup>rd</sup> January         | Meet the course, teacher, and friends<br>Create an <b>advertising campaign</b> for a country<br>Video: Modern Families                           | Unit 5 – The secret to happiness<br>Unequal Thailand                |
| 30 <sup>th</sup> January         | Identify plagiarism and learn how to avoid it.<br>Evaluate the quality of student summaries.<br><b>Summarize</b> an academic paper conclusion.   | Unit 5 – Summary writing process. Language Focus.                   |
| 6 <sup>th</sup> February         | Identify main ideas from a text & take notes<br>Adopt paraphrasing techniques.   | Unit 5 - Money and Happiness  |
| 13 <sup>th</sup> February        | <b>Paraphrasing</b> main ideas<br>Analyze an argument essay and use discourse markers.   | Unit 6 – The digital economy<br>Arguments for & against.            |
| 20 <sup>th</sup> February        | Organize an argumentative essay.<br>Use discourse markers.   | Unit 6 – The Impacts of Social Media on the Economy                 |
| 27 <sup>th</sup> February        | Make predictions about the future.<br>Examine <b>presentation techniques</b> in a TEDs talk.   | Unit 6 – Predicting Future Jobs.<br>Presentation Principles         |
| 6 <sup>th</sup> March            | <b>Assignment 1 – Newspaper (15%)</b>  | Group Economics Newspaper   |
| <b>Midterm Examination (20%)</b> |  |   |
| 20 <sup>th</sup> March           | Introduction to Assignments 2 & 3<br><b>Topic selection &amp; Essay outline</b>  |   |
| 27 <sup>th</sup> March           | Investigate a model presentation and identify main points  | Unit 7 – The underground economy. Presentation skills.              |
| 3 <sup>rd</sup> April            | <b>Debate</b> whether it is right to legalize cannabis<br>Types of evidence.   | Unit 7 – Prohibition and the Legalisation of Cannabis               |
| 10 <sup>th</sup> April           | Explore options to reduce Thailand’s informal economy<br>Employ academic skills through hedging and caution<br><b>Assignment 2 – First Draft</b> | Unit 7 – Economic Surveys on Reducing Inequality.<br>Language Focus |
| <b>SONGKHRAN</b>                 |  |   |
| 17 <sup>th</sup> April           | Investigate how human behaviour impacts the environment. <b>Citation &amp; referencing.</b>  | Unit 8 – Economics & the Environment                                |
| 24 <sup>th</sup> April           | <b>Assignment 2 – Economics Essay (15%)</b><br>Investigate global warming’s <b>problems and solutions.</b>                                       | Unit 8 - Reducing Air Pollution<br>Thailand’s road to net zero.     |
| 1 <sup>st</sup> May              | <b>Assignment 3 – Economics Presentation (15%)</b>   | Final Student Presentations:<br>Group A                             |
| 8 <sup>th</sup> May              | <b>Assignment 3 – Economics Presentation</b>   | Final Student Presentations:<br>Group B                             |
| <b>Final Examination (30%)</b>   |  |   |

