

## Liverpool John Moores University

Title: Academic English and Research Skills (AERS)  
Status: Definitive  
Code: **6600PMBML** (124398)  
Version Start Date: 01-08-2021

Owning School/Faculty: Business and Management  
Teaching School/Faculty: Study Group

Team	Leader
Corina Doran	Y

**Academic Level:** FHEQ6  
**Credit Value:** 20  
**Total Delivered Hours:** 79.5  
**Total Learning Hours:** 200  
**Private Study:** 120.5

### Delivery Options

Course typically offered: Semester 2 and Summer

Component	Contact Hours
Lecture	55
Practical	6
Seminar	6
Tutorial	5
Workshop	6

**Grading Basis:** 40 %

### Assessment Details

Category	Short Description	Description	Weighting (%)	Exam Duration
Presentation	ASS1	Researched PowerPoint Presentation - 10 minutes and Follow Up Reflective Task	25	
Essay	ASS2	2000 words	25	
Exam	ASS3	Academic Reading Exam 1.5 hours	25	1.5
Test	ASS4	Academic Listening Exam 1.5 hours	25	1.5

### Aims

*To develop English reading, writing, listening and speaking skills to an IELTS equivalent of 6.5.*

*To develop critical awareness, analytical and evaluative study skills in order to prepare students for Master's level study.*

*To familiarise students with the general academic expectations placed upon postgraduate students attending UK universities, and to train them to deal with the requirements of postgraduate study.*

*To equip students with the necessary secondary research skills to undertake a critical literature review and develop an extended piece of writing that relates to the postgraduate degree that a student is aiming to progress to.*

*To experience supervision of a project from a tutor who is familiar with the subject area.*

## **Learning Outcomes**

After completing the module the student should be able to:

- 1 Demonstrate the ability to use receptive language skills which will be considered sufficient for master's level study and comparable to IELTS 6.5.
- 2 Demonstrate the ability to use productive language skills which will be considered sufficient for master's level study and comparable to IELTS 6.5.
- 3 Critically evaluate and analyse both written and spoken texts, in terms of reliability, relevancy and argumentation.
- 4 Evaluate own learning via the use of reflective strategies and actively engage with reflective feedback, including from a project supervisor, to enhance understanding and ability.
- 5 Demonstrate critical engagement with a topic by developing and presenting a coherent proposal.

## **Learning Outcomes of Assessments**

The assessment item list is assessed via the learning outcomes listed:

Presentation	2	3	4	5
Research Project	2	3	5	
Reading exam	1			
Listening exam	1			

## **Outline Syllabus**

- *reading strategies for academic study*
- *academic writing and style*

- *interpreting and analysing visual and discursive data*
- *abstracts, introductions, conclusions and main body paragraphs*
- *listening and note taking skills*
- *identifying and evaluating support for arguments*
- *paraphrase, summary and synthesis writing*
- *critical thinking skills*
- *project design and planning*
- *introduction to qualitative and quantitative research*
- *critically reviewing related literature*
- *the supervisor/supervisee relationship*
- *NVIVO and SPSS*
- *Resources available for the researcher*
- *How to present findings from qualitative and quantitative research*

## **Learning Activities**

Original projects, behavioural modelling, brainstorming, case studies, coaching, cognitive modelling, debate, discussion, role play, facilitation, group work, information gap, jigsaw, lecture, LJMU research week, on the spot questioning, peer exchange, performance modelling, problem solving, reasoning gap, research café, scaffolding, simulation, Socratic instruction, task completion, IT applications, individual supervision.

Self-directed study will support these activities.

## **Notes**

English language will be assessed against UKVI requirements to enable students to demonstrate competencies at B2+ of the Common European Framework of References (CEFR) for Languages.

English language assessment will also be benchmarked against the International English Language Testing System (IELTS), such that a grade of 65% at ESUS is equivalent to IELTS 6.5.

Such mapping requires an increased number of learning outcomes to be met by students and assessment of all four language skills: speaking, reading, writing and listening.

Students will be supported in choosing an appropriate research area by a tutor with relevant subject knowledge. The module will introduce students to the process of a supervised project and management of a relationship with a supervisor.

The module will require students to source and interpret quantitative and/or qualitative secondary sources. They will receive training in NVIVO and SPSS. They will be introduced to a wide range of resources. Students will also be taught referencing skills, abstract writing, how to avoid plagiarism and write literature reviews.

The assessment of both English language skills and the ability to complete a research project will be reflected in the grading criteria for each assessment. There will be criteria designed to test for English language ability alongside criteria designed to test subject knowledge and task achievement.

The pass mark for this module is 40%; however, students must achieve the equivalent of 6.5 IELTS (65%) to progress onto their chosen programme of study at LJMU.