

Spring Camp: Academic English & Academic Skills 2017

The spring camp is designed for mainly KUPES and double-degree students to improve their English, academic skills, teamwork, and critical thinking. It also serves as intensive camp to improve the students' knowledge on the EU.

It is divided into two parts:

English skills/academic skills (Kobe University): February 13-17

EU intensive camp (Awaji island): March 27-28 (*leave Kobe in the morning of March 27, returning in the afternoon of March 28*).

Learning aims:

The course is designed to improve your English as well as your academic and study skills so that you can be better prepared for and more successful at your studies in Kobe and abroad. You will develop awareness of academic conventions and practices, learn about formal English and academic style, and get a better understanding of the requirements for term papers, presentations and literature reviews. Additionally, you will develop your academic listening strategies, practise giving academic presentations, and learn how to participate in seminars.

Structure:

The classes are split in **lectures and seminars**.

In the lectures, students get basic understanding of the gist of academic working. Lecturers will be given on the following topics:

- 1.) **Academic research** (*research question, literature research, literature reviews, critical thinking etc.*)
- 2.) **Academic presentations** (*Why do I present? What do I present? How do I present?*)
- 3.) **Academic papers** (*finding a topic, finding literature, using academic language, presenting coherent arguments etc.*)
- 4.) **Attending seminars and lectures efficiently** (*actively participating in class, preparing and asking questions, taking notes etc.*)

In the seminar, students will apply their newly acquired theoretical knowledge practically. The lecturers will be held for all students while for the seminars, students are split in three levels according to level.

Instructors:

You will be taught by a pool of 4 instructors (native speakers) with ample teaching experience.

Class times:

9.30 – 10.20

10.30 – 11.20

11.30 – 12.20

12.20 – 13.10: lunch break

13.10 – 14.00

14.10 – 15.00

15.10 – 16.00

16.10 – 16.40

Requirements: Frequent attendance; active participation

Placement test: to be sent out via email after your application form is submitted, and to be returned by the designated date (to be informed) per email to intl-prg@office.kobe-u.ac.jp, unless you wish to use your English score(s) that you provide on an application form for Spring camp, instead of a score on the placement test.

Schedule:

| | 2/13 Mon | 2/14 Tue | 2/15 Wed | 2/16 Thu | 2/17 Fri |
|--------------|--------------------------|-----------------------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------------------|--|
| 9.30 - 10.20 | Introduction + warm-up | Academic presentations | Academic Papers I | Academic Papers II | Attending classes efficiently |
| 10.30-11.20 | Academic research skills | Content & slides of presentations | Academic Language | Referencing | Asking/ answering questions; discussions |
| 11.30-12.20 | Evaluating sources | Content & slides of presentations | Academic Language | Writing a good introduction | Discussion (based on reading) |
| 12.20-13.10 | Lunch | lunch | lunch | lunch | lunch |
| 13.10-14.00 | Literature research | Reciting speeches | Structure & formatting of papers | Writing a good introduction | Library exercise: finding literature |
| 14.10-15.00 | Discussions | Listening | Elective I | Listening | Listening |
| 15.10-16.00 | Elective I | Elective I | Electives II | Electives II | Electives II |
| 16.10-16.40 | Speaking | Speaking | Speaking | Speaking | Farewell |

Electives I: (select one choice on the application form)

- 1) Problem-solving
- 2) Academic Writing
- 3) Speeches

Electives II: (select one choice, different from Elective I on the application form)

- 1) Academic Writing
- 2) Mastering Presentations
- 3) Debate on topics relating to the EU

EU study camp on Awaji Island:

Over two days (March 27-28) you will acquire general knowledge of the EU, its institutions and its policies.

You will be able to choose from three different seminars, offered by Prof. Kreck, Prof. Riminucci and Prof. Schrade, depending on your personal interest and knowledge.

You will discuss different aspects of the EU in small groups, thereby increasing your knowledge of the EU, your ability to express yourself in English, as well as your analytical skills.

Programme:

March 27:

AM: departure from Kobe (chartered bus)

Noon: lunch

PM: seminars: select one of three seminars below

- 1) What is the European Union? An Introduction to Different Perspectives and Approaches (by Prof. Kreck)
- 2) What is happening to the European Union? Brexit, Refugees and Sincere Cooperation (by Prof. Riminucci)
- 3) Recent Trends regarding Labour Mobility in the EU (by Prof. Schrade)

Evening: dinner, quiz night, entertainment

March 28:

AM: seminars (continues)

Noon: lunch

Return to Kobe (chartered bus)

Fees:

Participation, accommodation and transportation is free for Kobe University students (Accommodation to be covered by non-Kobe University students). Meals to be covered by all students.