



University College Dublin
Ireland's Global University

Pre-Sessional English for Academic Purposes (EAP) Programme

UCD's Centre for English and Global Languages provides a range of academic English language programmes for students who wish to improve their academic and language skills before commencing a UCD undergraduate or graduate programme.

The Pre-Sessional EAP Programme is suitable for students who:

- Need to improve their language skills as a condition of entry to their UCD degree programme.
- Have already met the English language conditions for entry but wish to improve their proficiency and acclimatise to life and study at UCD before the academic year begins.

Choosing the Right Course

The length and type of course you need will depend on your current level of English, and the language requirements for your chosen degree programme here in UCD. Our experienced team can advise applicants based on their individual profile and requirements.

Course Aims:

- Develop students' English for Academic Purposes skills so that they are confident in using English at university level.
- Develop students' academic communication, independent study and research skills.
- Develop students' learner autonomy so that they can undertake independent study and research for academic programmes.
- Introduce students to Irish culture and life at UCD in preparation for studying in Dublin.



Student Profile

Sarah Chen, Pre-Sessional EAP Programme 2024
Progressed to MSc Project Management

As a non-native English speaker, I anticipated attending the Pre-Sessional EAP course to better understand the foreign education system and enhance my English skills by familiarising myself with the English lecture environment.

The programme offered more than just academic preparation. The interactions with educators, the classmates I met, and the support from the Pre-Sessional management team made me feel that I was not alone while being away from home.

I acquired the skills to study autonomously, to analyse English academic articles from different viewpoints, and to write papers effectively. Becoming familiar with the UCD student system prior to starting my master's degree provided me with a significant advantage.

I highly recommend participating in the Pre-Sessional EAP courses if you want to gain insight into UCD master's life in Ireland before embarking on your new journey.

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

Programme	Duration	English language requirements*	Date
Standard EAP (DB02)	10 weeks	IELTS 5.5 (with no band less than 5.0)	June - August
Standard At-Distance EAP (DB01)	10 weeks (online)	IELTS 5.5 (with no band less than 5.0)	May - July
Intensive EAP (DB03)	6 weeks	IELTS 6.0 (with no band less than 5.5)	June - August
Intensive At-Distance EAP (DB08)	6 weeks (online)	IELTS 6.0 (with no band less than 5.5)	June - July

*Please note: Some programmes require higher English language scores for entry on the Pre-Sessional EAP Programme. For further information contact presessional@ucd.ie



HOW WILL I LEARN?

Classes are taught by highly qualified tutors through small groups, lectures, seminars and tutorials.

This is an intensive course, and students are expected to engage in guided self-study in the form of homework and assignments; such independent learning forms an essential element of this course.

COURSE CONTENT

A typical study week will include:

- 20+ hours of class per week (morning and afternoon)
- Academic reading and writing
- Listening and note-taking skills
- Oral discussion practice and presentation skills
- Critical thinking and research skills
- Social and cultural activities
- Collaborative projects and peer learning
- Individual and group tutorials

WHY STUDY AT UCD?



Tradition

Established 1854, with over 170 years of teaching & research excellence



Global Profile

UCD is ranked in the top 1% of higher education institutions worldwide



Global community

Over 11,510 international students from over 150 countries study at UCD



Global careers

Degrees with high employability; dedicated careers support; two-year stay-back visa



Safety

Modern parkland campus with 24-hour security, minutes from Dublin city centre

APPLY NOW Start your application at www.ucd.ie/apply

COURSE ASSESSMENT

Students are tested on entry and on a regular basis throughout the course. Ongoing feedback is provided. At the end of the course, there will be a final assessment: this includes a written examination, a written research project on a relevant academic subject with an accompanying oral presentation. A transcript of final results on the student's English language competence will be forwarded to the UCD Degree Programme to which the student is applying.

PROGRESSION REQUIREMENTS

Please note that progression requirements for UCD degree programmes may vary. Please visit <https://www.ucd.ie/cegl/programmes/pathways/pathways-presessional/>

ACCOMMODATION

Accommodation is not included in the tuition fees. Pre-Sessional students will have the option to book a room in UCD's self-catering on-campus accommodation. Please note that places are limited.



PROGRESSION

In 2025, **97%** of Pre-Sessional EAP students met the progression requirements for their programme in UCD.

INTERNATIONAL
PATHWAY
PROGRAMMES

CONTACT US

UCD Centre for English and Global Languages, Daedalus Building, University College Dublin. Dublin 4, Ireland

Email: presessional@ucd.ie **Telephone:** +35317167900

Web: <https://www.ucd.ie/cegl/programmes/pathways/pathways-presessional/>