



## Academic Year

Spending time learning English abroad is an *incredible experience*. With this programme, you will achieve genuine fluency, *challenge* yourself and become more *independent*. Your English level will improve greatly, helping you to broaden your horizons and giving you an *advantage* in all areas of your life.

### What can you expect on this course?

Upon joining the Academic Year programme you will:

- › Sit a placement test to determine your current level of English
- › Join a class with others of the same level
- › Meet your teachers, mentor and academic year co-ordinator
- › Receive your language portfolio, tailored to your own personal needs, goals and motivation for learning
- › Embark on a first-class English language course, to develop fluency, accuracy and appropriate uses of English across all four language skills
- › Be provided with excellent guidance, monitoring and feedback throughout your course
- › Receive continual assessment through class tutorials, homework and regular progress and level tests
- › Have confidence that your learning is on track and you are fulfilling your English language potential

### Leave EC with a qualification

Academic Year 30 students are awarded an EC Diploma at the end of their course, and Academic Year 20/24 students receive an EC Certificate of Merit. The grade you are awarded will depend upon the quality of the work you have produced throughout your course. In addition, you will also have the opportunity to prepare for and sit an internationally-recognised Exam, such as IELTS, TOEFL, or one of the Cambridge Exams:

## **TOEFL (Test of English as a Foreign Language)**

Taken by over 25 million English language learners, the TOEFL test is the most widely respected English-language test in the world. It measures your ability to use English at university level and is recognised by over 8,000 institutions in more than 130 countries, including the majority of North American universities.

## **IELTS Academic (International English Language Testing System)**

An IELTS qualification is required by most British, Australian, Canadian, Maltese and South African universities, and in some cases, American academic institutions. IELTS is often required by professional bodies and is even needed for immigration to Canada and Australia.

## **Cambridge ESOL Exams (FCE, CAE, CPE)**

### **FCE (First Certificate in English)**

An exam of upper intermediate level English – suitable for you if you can confidently deal with a wide range of spoken and written English.

### **CAE (Certificate in Advanced English)**

An exam for advanced users of English. This exam is aimed at people who can use written and spoken English for most professional and academic purposes. It is widely recognised for work or study purposes.

### **CPE (Certificate of Proficiency in English)**

Cambridge ESOL's most advanced exam is aimed at students who have a high level of English and are able to function effectively in almost every English speaking context.

## **Tutorials and support**

You will receive three levels of support to ensure your time at EC is as successful and rewarding as possible:

- Regular one-to-one meetings with your personal mentor, who will provide the academic support and advice you need to succeed. Your mentor will help to guide your learning by setting achievable long and short-term goals, and monitoring your progress throughout your course.
- Class tutorials, an additional, personalised layer to your classroom learning. Our teachers pride themselves on being helpful and approachable at all times, but these meetings provide you with a regular opportunity to discuss lesson items, review your private study, and receive specific advice from your class teacher. You will be set extra work to encourage you to address your weak areas, and a reading programme will be set and monitored.
- Your Academic Year Co-ordinator is dedicated to serving your academic needs, and to ensuring you are reaching your learning objectives and developing to your full potential.

## **Additional benefits**

As well as all the tuition, personal guidance and support our Academic Year students receive, EC also provides:

- General and nationality-specific pronunciation clinics
- P&M – Structured guidance to help with participation and motivation
- Café Chat – a relaxed forum for students to practise their spoken English in a social context
- Library stocked with books and other resources, for private study time, personal research and reflection
- Full calendar of social and leisure activities

## **Electives**

### **Tailor Your Learning**

Academic Year 30 students are also able to choose from a varied selection of electives for their 3rd module, and students will receive a certificate upon completion. Each elective is four weeks long and builds up to an assessed task or project. Choices include:

- Comparative Culture and Communication

- › Write Now
- › Basic Writing Skills
- › Media Studies
- › The Language of Music
- › Film Studies
- › A World of Words
- › Get Talking

## Personal Language Portfolio

At the beginning of your programme, you will receive this unique study pack. With the guidance of your teachers, your Language Portfolio will help you to maximise your language development by:

- › assessing your personal learning style and offering strategies to build on your strengths
- › evaluating your progress in tests and assignments
- › recording your needs and wants as a learner, alongside the skills, experiences and achievements you have gained whilst on the programme

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## Facts

<b>Level</b>	All levels
<b>Course Duration</b>	Minimum 24 weeks; (Multi-destination minimum 12 weeks per centre)
<b>Course start dates</b>	> Every Monday
<b>Lessons per week</b>	20 lessons per week = 15 hours per week (not available in the USA) 24 lessons per week = 18 hours per week (available in the USA) 30 lessons per week = 22.5 hours per week (available in all centres)
<b>Lesson Available In</b>	1 lesson = 45 minutes > EC Boston > EC Brighton > EC Bristol > EC Cambridge > EC Cape Town > EC London > EC Los Angeles > EC Malta > EC Miami > EC New York > EC San Diego > EC San Francisco
<b>Maximum in Class</b>	Malta, Cape Town, San Diego: max 12 in class London, Cambridge, Brighton, Bristol, Boston, New York, San Francisco, Miami: max 14 in class

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## This course is suitable for students

- > who want to achieve fluency, accuracy and an active understanding of English across the four skills
- > who want to move into an Exam Class or the Business Year programme after reaching the required level
- > who want to sharpen their critical and presentation skills
- > wish to gain experience living and learning in an English speaking country

