

## **English Language Support from the Academic Skills Team:**

The Academic Skills staff and resources are available for UK, Erasmus and International students to access all year round. The service provides a broad and dynamic range of offerings including:

- **One-to-one and/or small group meetings with an Academic Skills Advisor.** Students are able to book their own individual or small group appointments with an advisor to suit their schedules. As mentioned above, the Academic Skills Team works all year round, not just in term time. We tailor our one-to-one and small group support to the needs of the students and will provide bespoke advice, guidance and skills development on any topic that relates to their studies. It should be noted that we do not provide a proofreading service, but we do work with students to develop strategies they can use to improve their own proofreading ability.
- **A range of online resources.** The Academic Skills Team has a webpage which hosts a wide variety of resources. Resources are organised by topic and students can easily navigate the site to find useful guides, videos, readings and activities, which they can engage within their own time.
- **A six-week workshop series called 'Improving your Verbal and Written Communication'** that is tailored to support the needs of students who have English as a second, or additional language. This course is delivered twice a year; once in the first trimester and once in the second trimester. Each session will be led by a qualified and experienced instructor. In these interactive sessions, students are encouraged to participate and engage in dialogue with the instructor and their peers; helping to foster new friendships, networks and build confidence around verbal and written English. Details of the course can be found below:

Session Title	Description
1. Understanding your Module Guide and Assessment Briefs	Guidance on how to navigate these important documents. Breaking down potentially challenging language and content to ensure that students feel confident that they know what is expected of them in each module.
2. Understanding individual and common inconsistencies	Written diagnostic to build individualised learning strategies where appropriate. A focus on common mistakes - verb-subject agreement, determiners, prepositions and tense.
3. Enhancing and varying language use	Discussing the use of synonyms and context to improve confidence in verbal and written communication.
4. Improving sentence structure, clarity and cohesion.	Using punctuation to portray and enhance meaning. Having an awareness of different types of sentences and connectives to improve composition and comprehension of written work. When used appropriately, punctuation is a powerful tool that strengthens communication, particularly the use of commas, colons, semicolons and apostrophes.
5. Compiling critical paragraphs and using academic research to support your own ideas.	Planning, developing and communicating your ideas in a logical sequence, and using linking words to develop an argument. Developing proofreading skills.
6. Applying what you have learned.	Recap of previous content. Quiz to identify further individual advice, guidance and skill development needs.