

## **COURSE SPECIFICATION DOCUMENT**

**NOTE:** ANY CHANGES TO A CSD MUST GO THROUGH ALL OF THE RELEVANT APPROVAL PROCESSES, INCLUDING LTPC.

<b>Academic School/Department:</b>	General Education Department
<b>Programme:</b>	ALP: English for Academic Purposes
<b>FHEQ Level:</b>	3
<b>Course Title:</b>	Fundamentals of Conceptual Thinking
<b>Course Code:</b>	EAP 3255
<b>Course Leader:</b>	Elizabeth Long
<b>Student Engagement Hours:</b>	120
Lectures:	
Seminar / Tutorials:	45
Independent / Guided Learning:	75
<b>Semester:</b>	Fall/Spring
<b>Credits:</b>	12 UK CATS credits 6 ECTS credits 3 US credits

### **Course Description:**

The focus of this course is on developing students' ability to deal with concepts. Students will be shown how concepts can be both assimilated and manipulated. This is an essential skill to master, as it lays the foundation for the critical thinking skills that form an integral part of degree level work. Practice will be given in using conceptual vocabulary in essays and discussions, and students will be expected to summarise different and sometimes contradictory theories and apply them critically. A minimum grade of C on this course and EAP 3260 and EAP 3265 is required for students to progress to GEP 3180, Research and Writing I.

**Prerequisites:** None

### **Aims and Objectives:**

The principal objective of this course is to enable students to understand and manipulate concepts as part of their learning. The key aims are to enable students to

relate a concept to an actual situation; to explain the concept using conceptual vocabulary; to compare views on a concept objectively; to use these skills both orally and in writing.

**Programme Outcomes:**

3Bi, 3Ci, 3Di

A detailed list of the programme outcomes are found in the Programme Specification.

This is located at the archive maintained by the Academic Registry and found at:  
<http://www.richmond.ac.uk/content/academic-schools/academic-registry/program-and-course-specifications.aspx>

**Learning Outcomes:**

By the end of this course, successful students should be able to

- understand selected concepts and apply them to a given situation
- use language relating to concepts, both orally and in writing
- prepare and produce a structured essay explaining and analysing a given concept
- demonstrate cross-cultural awareness and sensitivity by analyzing concepts and issues from an intercultural perspective

**Indicative Content:**

- What are concepts?
- Conceptual vocabulary
- Note-taking from a text
- Note-taking from an audio-visual source
- Active and appropriate participation in group discussions
- Explanation of key concepts contained in a text/audio-visual source
- Presentation of a concept based on personal knowledge/experience
- Cross-cultural comparison of a concept
- Critical use of the ideas of others objectively in essay writing

**Assessment:**

This course uses EAP assessment approved at Learning and Teaching Policy Committee on 27<sup>th</sup> June 2013.

**Teaching Methodology:**

Lectures, texts, films and video clips will all encourage group and class discussion leading to engagement with the topic and the related concepts. Written and oral tasks will be designed to provide opportunities for students to share their relevant personal experience based on their home culture.

**Bibliography:**

Reading texts will be handed out in class

**IndicativeText(s):**

An English/English dictionary such as *MacMillan English Dictionary for Advanced Learners*

Please Note: The core and the reference texts will be reviewed at the time of designing the semester syllabus

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Change Log for this CSD:

Major or Minor Change?	Nature of Change	Date Approved & Approval Body (School or LTPC)	Change Actioned by Academic Registry
Minor	No. of assessed items to follow EAP assessment norms		
Minor	Change to course code and name in course description: from "ARW 3195, Principles of Academic Research" to "GEP 3180, Research and Writing I".	19/5/2015 Chair's Action by Professor Mary Robert	