An Introduction to
CAES1000 Core University English
CAES1000 Course Aims

• Introduce students to aspects of academic writing, speaking, reading, and listening

• A crucial stepping stone between the English students learnt in secondary school and our English-in-the-Discipline (ED) courses

• Help first-year undergraduates develop the academic English language skills they will need to complete their university degree

• Increase students’ confidence in completing their Common Core Curriculum
English Learning Pathway

Whole Language (Secondary School) → Core University English (Year 1) → English-in-the-Discipline (Year 2 or Senior Year) → Common Core Curriculum
Key Features of
CAES1000 Core University English

• A **6-credit** course for **first-year undergraduates**
• Over 12 teaching weeks in Semester 1 / Semester 2
• A course of **English for General Academic Purposes**
• **Stepping stone** between secondary school English and English-in-the-Discipline (ED)
• Supports students to learn the **Common Core Curriculum**
• Focuses on **academic Writing, Reading, Listening, Speaking, Grammar, and Vocabulary**
Course Textbook

Academic English: Skills for Success (Revised 2nd edition), HKU Press.
Structure of Core University English - In-class Learning

- **Weeks 1 and 2**
  - Introduction to university writing and speaking

- **Weeks 3 and 4**
  - Gathering and analysing academic texts

- **Weeks 5 and 6**
  - Expressing and critiquing stance

- **Weeks 7 and 8**
  - Synthesizing your own and others’ ideas into paragraphs

- **Weeks 9 and 10**
  - Structuring whole texts
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Weighting</th>
<th>Assessments</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>30%</td>
<td>Speaking Assessment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30%</td>
<td>Academic Essay</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>40%</td>
<td>Academic Report</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Non-assessed Moodle Modules (Independent Learning):</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>▪ <em>Citation &amp; Referencing Skills &amp; How to Avoid Plagiarism</em></td>
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<td>▪ <em>Academic Vocabulary</em></td>
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<td>▪ <em>Academic Grammar</em></td>
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<td>▪ <em>Academic Discussion Strategies</em></td>
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Learning Outcomes

• Developing the academic English skills you need for university studies:
  ✓ Identify and distinguish between main arguments and supporting details in spoken and written academic texts
  ✓ Express a critical academic stance, in written and spoken forms, through critical reading and listening
  ✓ Construct clear and structured arguments with skilful integration of academic sources through writing and speaking
  ✓ Demonstrate control of grammatical accuracy and lexical appropriacy in academic communication
A **stance** needs to be:

- **cautious** (use **hedging** e.g. ‘might’, ‘probably’, ‘possibly’ when appropriate)
- **well-justified** (use ideas from **academic sources** through citation and referencing to justify a stance)
- **critical** (acknowledge **counter-arguments** and **rebuttals** of those counter-arguments)
- **academic in tone** (not personal / emotional)
Scan the QR code on your flyer to go to the course website:
- a video showing former students’ views on CAES1000
- an online language quiz to test your current knowledge about academic texts
An Introduction to
CAES9820 and CAES9821
What course will I take?
• Students in the BSc (Actuarial Science) and BASc (Applied AI) programmes are required to take CAES9821.
• Students who are majoring in maths-related majors (i.e., decision analytics, mathematics, risk management and statistics) should take CAES9821.
• Students majoring in all other science majors should take CAES9820.

When will I take this course?
• 2nd year of study

What will you learn?
• use appropriate linguistic features in different texts in the science fields
• explain science to non-specialists in writing
• develop oral presentation skills
• learn English independently

Please scan the QR code on your flyer for more information!
The three components of CAES9820

- You will write a popular science article for a non-specialist audience
- This will be based on a research paper from your discipline
- You will research the topic and repackaging the information for the target reader

- You will design and carry out an oral presentation based on your popular science article
- The target audience will be your classmates
- The audience will have scientific knowledge but will be from other disciplines

- You will decide which area of English you would like to study
- You will design and carry out a self-study programme over the course
- You will write an honest reflection of your self-study experience
## The three components of CAES9821

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>You will be given a case study and some data</th>
<th>With your group you will analyse the data from the case study using statistical models.</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>You will work in groups and with your group you will carry out some background research on the case study topic</td>
<td>As a group you will write up the case study report</td>
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<td>Individually, you will write an introduction to the case study using the relevant literature</td>
<td>You will need to collaborate with your group and divide up the work fairly</td>
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<td>In groups you will choose a professionally published article for an oral presentation.</td>
<td>Your group will read the article and decide which parts to present.</td>
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<td>As a group you will present the article to your classmates.</td>
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An Introduction to **Elective Courses and SPOCs**

- **Elective Courses** that focus on experiential learning and digital literacy skills:
  - CAES2001 Nurturing Global Leaders
  - CAES2002 Online Digital Storytelling in English
  - CAES2003 Learning English through Audiovisual Books
  - CAES2004 Communication and Community Engagement through Podcasting*
  - CAES2005 Social Impact through Cultural Engagement*
  *pending for approval

- **Short blended learning courses** that combine online learning and face to face sessions to focus on specific areas of language usage:
  - Concise Writing
  - Impactful Presentations
  - Sentence Structure
  - Intercultural Communication
  *and many more ...
We help students become **better communicators** through workshops, discussions, and 1:1 consultations.

Consultants provide support throughout the **authoring process**.
How CSS 1:1 consultations, workshops, and discussion groups can help you

- 1:1 consultants help you resolve higher and lower-order issues in communication projects, from planning, to drafting, to polishing your work.

- English Language Advising consultations can help you set language learning goals, and identify resources that will help you achieve those goals.

- Consultants are communication experts who have specific disciplinary knowledge.

- Workshops and discussions cover a wide range of skills areas, including academic writing and speaking, exam preparation, and professional English.
Where should I go for help?

Go to:
https://caescss.hku.hk/

Workshops, discussion groups, and 1:1 consultations are delivered in Chi Wah Learning Commons and the HKU Main Library.
Wish you every success in your studies!