[328014 - English Enrichment for Graduate Students – Spring](https://moodle.technion.ac.il/course/view.php?id=8003) 2024

**Group 10**

**Class meetings**: Monday **and** Thursday, 10:30-12:00, in theHumanities and Arts Bldg., **room 100 and the CALL Lab (Room 314)**.

**Teacher**: Dr. Michal Tal **e-mail:** **michalt@technion.ac.il** **Office**: Room 211 Telephone**: (829)3567**

# OBJECTIVES OF THE COURSE:

* Development of competence in reading scientific and technical literature
* Expansion of academic vocabulary
* Enhancement of English grammar use
* Practice in listening comprehension
* Improvement of English oral skills necessary for scientific communication in the following areas:

 Phrasing formal definitions

 Comparing and contrasting ideas

 Describing scientific processes

 Describing trends (graphs and charts)

 Extracting key components of scientific studies

# POLICIES:

1. Homework is assigned every lesson and is considered to be **obligatory**, as practice is an important part of language learning. All homework is checked either in class or online.
2. Students are recommended to use **English-English dictionaries** when they do homework because this dictionary is much richer in information than a bi-lingual one.
3. All students should actively participate in class discussions, express their opinion and comment on the opinions of others.
4. Along with the ongoing evaluation of communication skills through oral presentations, the students will be examined at the end of the semester on reading comprehension, grammar and academic vocabulary.
5. In addition to the oral presentations delivered by the students based on materials studied in class, they will have to present ‘scientific news’ at least once during the semester (to be further explained in future announcements).
6. **CALL LABORATORY**

The lab for computer-assisted language learning functions as a facility for group and individual studies. Interactive tutorials for reading comprehension, listening, vocabulary, and grammar practice cover a variety of fields in science and technology. The schedule of the lab is posted on the website of the Dept. of Humanities & Arts ([http://humanities.technion.ac.il](http://humanities.technion.ac.il/)). The CALL lab telephone is **8293567**.

# COURSE GRADE

Each oral presentation is carefully evaluated using pre-announced criteria.

The course grade is made up of the following components:

10% - one of the joint presentations

10% - individual presentation on scientific news

5% - active participation and constructive feedback on peers’ presentations

75% - final exam

In order to complete the course requirements, students should fulfill all tasks and pass the final exam. The passing grade **is 65**.

1. **MATERIAL:**

The course consists of modules, each focusing on specific communicative skills used in the academic discourse. Reading academic texts, enriching vocabulary and practicing grammatical structures will be complemented by watching and discussing videos on related subjects.

Following the learning phase of each module, the students will be required to express their opinions and develop and compare arguments on the topic of the module using the acquired skills, and will also learn how to describe scientific processes and trends.

Most of the course material can be found on the Moodle site:

* + Moodle, course **328014**

Students will be referred to additional online sources and handed practice exercises by the lecturer.

**Completion of the English requirements for MA students will grant you 2 credit points.**