

Course Aim

ASAS is the University of Sydney's recommended preparation for international students with unconditional offers for undergraduate or postgraduate study.

Advanced Skills for Academic Success (ASAS) is an intensive course for international students designed to provide an orientation to the learning styles encountered at Australian tertiary institutions. The primary objective is to develop a range of academic skills and to provide opportunities for practice in the medium of English. Particular attention is given to the facilitation of skills transfer for further study and career development.

Course Overview

The ASAS course is delivered using a practical, workshop-based methodology which is supplemented with e-learning and multi-media techniques. Above all, the learning and assessment tasks are designed to prepare international students so that they can more easily adapt to studying at an Australian university and achieve their full academic potential.

The program consists of an integrated series of lectures and practical skills workshops. The lectures and academic skills workshops are designed to develop the competencies that underpin study at the university across all fields of study. These lectures and workshops focus on the following areas:

Lectures

- Research skills
- Critical thinking
- Creativity and innovation
- Ethics
- Global Communication

Academic Skills Workshops

- Voices in academic texts
- Speaking in academic contexts
- Referencing and plagiarism
- Presentation skills
- Conference presentation skills

Course Outcomes

At the end of the ASAS course students will be able to –

Writing

- Write an essay of 1000 words in length in a genre of their choice
- Prepare reference notes for a 5-minute conference presentation

Speaking

- Deliver a 5 minute conference presentation related to their field
- Engage in academic tutorial discussions

Reading

- Read authentic academic texts, related to their field, and extract main ideas and specific information
- Expand on the ideas in authentic academic texts through tutorial discussions.

Listening

- Listen to extended (90minute) academic lectures, and extract main ideas and specific information.
- Take notes on information from academic lectures

ICT – Technology

- Use the Blackboard LMS to contribute to a discussion board
- Access resources via the LMS.
- Use the library database to conduct field-specific research.
- Use and understand the basic functions of referencing software.



ASAS Summer 2017 Program and Schedule – Week 1

Week 1	DAY 1 Monday 30 Jan	DAY 2 Tuesday 31 Jan	DAY 3 Wednesday 1 Feb	DAY 4 Thursday 2 Feb	DAY 5 Friday 3 Feb
Session 1 9.00 – 10.30	<p>ASAS Course Orientation</p> <p>Objective: Course objectives, assessment, set up groups - panels, & cultural performance</p> <p>New Law Lecture Theatre 106</p>	<p>Focus on Writing 1 “Is foreign aid dead?”</p> <p>Objective: Exposition genre structure & deconstruction.</p> <p>Home rooms</p>	<p>Focus on Writing 1 (continued)</p> <p>Objective: Exposition genre structure & joint construction.</p> <p>Home rooms</p>	<p>Lecture Research Skills</p> <p>Objective: Managing the research process</p> <p>New Law Lecture Theatre 106</p>	<p>Academic Skills Workshop (5) Research Skills</p> <p>Objective: The research – reading – writing cycle.</p> <p>Home rooms</p>
10.30-11.00	Break	Break	Break	Break	Break
Session 2 11.00 - 1.00	<p>Academic Skills Workshop (1) Tutorial skills</p> <p>Objective: Deconstruction of reading and tutorial skills.</p> <p>Home rooms</p>	<p>Activating Your Graduate Attributes (Pre-course Workshop)</p> <p>Objective: Introduce the graduate attribute competencies</p> <p>Academic Skills Workshop (2) “Is foreign aid dead?” Seminar discussion</p> <p>Objective: Seminar discussion</p> <p>Home rooms</p>	<p>Introduction to ICT and eLearning Skills</p> <p>Objective: Introduction to eLearning concepts, library research skills. Research faculty assignment questions. Discovering academic genres in your discipline.</p> <p>Eco & Business Lab 1</p>	<p>Academic Skills Workshop (3) Research Skills (11.00 – 12.00)</p> <p>Objective: Tutorial discussion & deconstruct lecture content</p> <p>Academic Skills Workshop (4) (12.00 – 1.00)</p> <p>Objective: Voices in Academic Texts</p> <p>Home rooms</p>	<p>Academic Skills Workshop (5) Research skills</p> <p>Objective: The research – reading – writing cycle & Joint construction</p> <p>Home rooms</p>
	<p>Welcome BBQ 1.00</p> <p>Merewether BBQ</p>			<p>Academic Skills Workshop (4) (12.00 – 1.00)</p> <p>Objective: Voices in Academic Texts</p> <p>Home rooms</p>	
Session 3 2.00 –4.00	<p>PRE-COURSE HMWK: Reading for Day 1</p> <p>HMWK: Diagnostic Essay due Friday Week 1</p>	<p>HMWK: Reading for Day 4</p>	<p>HMWK: Reading for Day 4, Day 5</p>	<p>HMWK: Reading for Day 5</p>	<p>Intercultural Practice Session</p> <p>Objective: Preparation for intercultural performance</p> <p>Home rooms</p> <p>**Diagnostic Essay due</p>

ASAS Summer 2017 Program and Schedule – Week 2

Week 2	DAY 6 Monday 6 Feb	DAY 7 Tuesday 7 Feb	DAY 8 Wednesday 8 Feb	DAY 9 Thursday 9 Feb	DAY 10 Friday 10 Feb
Session 1 9.00 - 10.30	Lecture Critical Thinking Objective: Introduce the concept of critical thinking. New Law Lecture Theatre 106	Focus on Writing 2 Explanation essay Objective: Explanation genre structures (factorial and consequential) Home rooms	Focus on Writing 4 The literature review Objective: Literature review genre structure Home rooms	Lecture Creativity and Innovation Objective: Introduction to creativity and innovation theory and practice New Law Lecture Theatre 106	Intercultural Performance (Dress Rehearsal) Rehearsal Rooms: Eastern Avenue Room 115 Eastern Avenue Room 116
10.30-11.00	Break	Break	Break	Break	Break
Session 2 11.00 - 1.00	Academic Skills Workshop (1) Critical thinking Objective: Tutorial discussion & deconstruct lecture content Academic Skills Workshop: Introduction to Referencing Software Home rooms	Focus on Writing 3 The critical review Objective: Critical review genre structure Home rooms	ICT and eLearning Skills Essay research session Objective: Library research skills. Research articles for essay. Eco & Business Lab 1	Academic Skills Workshop (1) Creativity and Innovation (11.00 – 12.00) Objective: Tutorial discussion & deconstruct lecture content Home rooms	Intercultural Performance Objective: A fun activity to encourage cross-cultural communication and learning Light lunch provided Eastern Avenue LT 315
Session 3 2.00 - 4.00		Bringing Your Family to Australia (Session run by the Australia Awards Unit)	Intercultural Practice Session Objective: Preparation for intercultural performance Eastern Avenue Room 115 Eastern Avenue Room 116	HMWK: Reading for Day 11	HMWK: Reading for Day 11

ASAS Summer 2017 Program and Schedule – Week 3

Week 3	DAY 11 Monday 13 Feb	Day 12 Tuesday 14 Feb	Day 13 Wednesday 15 Feb	Day 14 Thursday 16 Feb	Day 15 Friday 17 Feb
Session 1 9.00 - 10.30	Lecture Ethics Objective: Introduction to ethics, theory and practice. New Law Lecture Theatre 106	Academic Skills Workshop (1) Ethics Objective: Referencing and plagiarism Home rooms	Writing Workshop Objective: Editing skills, targeted language focus Home rooms	Conference Preparation Workshop Objective: Develop conference presentations Home rooms	Academic Skills Workshop (3) Objective: Synthesising information into presentation notes * ESSAY DUE 9 AM* Home rooms for today: New Law Seminar 340 New Law Seminar 022 New Law Seminar 028
10.30-11.00	Break	Break	Break	Break	Break
Session 2 11.00 - 1.00	Academic Skills Workshop (1) Ethics 11.00 – 12.00 Objective: Tutorial Discussion & Deconstruct lecture content Focus on Writing 5 The discussion essay Objective: Discussion genre structures Home rooms	Writing Workshop Objective: Researching articles & writing essay Eco & Business Lab 1 and Home rooms	Academic Skills Workshop (2) Creativity and innovation Objective: Brainstorming techniques, unpacking assignment questions Home rooms	Activating Your Graduate Attributes (Mid-course Workshop) Objective: Review the graduate attribute competencies using a collaborative and supportive workshop- based approach & multi-media New Law Annex Seminar Room 440	Academic Skills Workshop (4) Objective: Introduction to academic culture Home rooms
Session 3 2.00-4.00		Introduction to the Learning Centre (Session run by Learning Centre) New Law Lecture Theatre 106	International Food Festival (1.00 – 2.00) New Law Annex SR 340 HMWK: Reading for Day 16	Development Goals and Your Career (Session run by Careers Centre) New Law Lecture Theatre 106	HMWK: Reading for Day 16

ASAS Summer 2017 Program and Schedule – Week 4

Week 4	DAY 16 Monday 20 Feb	Day 17 Tuesday 21 Feb	Day 18 Wednesday 22 Feb	DAY 19 Thursday 23 Feb	Day 20 Friday 24 Feb
Session 1 9.00 - 10.30	Lecture Global Communication Objective: Introduce concepts of communication across contexts New Law Lecture Theatre 106	Academic Skills Workshop Presentations Objective: Giving Effective Presentations Home rooms	ASAS Conference New Law SR 340 New Law SR 342 New Law SR 344	Staying Healthy Seminar New Law Annex SR 340	Australia Awards Weekend Away
10.30-11.00	Break	Break	Break	Break	
Session 2 11.00 - 1.00	Academic Skills Workshop (1) Global Communication Objective: Tutorial Discussion & Deconstruct lecture content. Home rooms	Conference Preparation Workshop Objective: Practise delivering conference presentations Home rooms	ASAS Conference New Law SR 340 New Law SR 342 New Law SR 344	End of Program Presentation Light refreshments provided New Law Lecture Theatre 106	
Session 3 2.00 – 4.00			Course Consolidation Objective: Reviewing and reflecting on the topics covered throughout the course & course Evaluation and Assessment Feedback Evaluation Survey Home Rooms		