

## Syllabus: “Academic Reading“

International School  
Summer Term 2021, Kevin Rausch, M.A.

### (a) Inhalt und Ansatz | Content and Approach

- This course is designed to prepare students for typical reading tasks set in university seminars. Different reading tasks (such as analysing a scholarly paper for a seminar discussion, preparing a report on a journal article, or merely reading a novel for private entertainment) require different reading techniques; hence, we will practise appropriate techniques for the extensive, selective and detailed reading of texts. Relevant techniques include dealing with unknown vocabulary, search-reading, skimming, close reading, understanding logical organization and evaluating arguments.
- Students require at least an upper-advanced level of English in order to follow the lessons.
- This course is designed as an online seminar.
- Completion of assignments and regular attendance (at least 80% of all sessions) are required for exam admission.
- 3 ECTS credits are granted for successful completion of the course. Therefore, students should be prepared to spend considerable time on working with the study content.
- It is recommended (though not obligatory) to attend this course alongside the “Academic Writing” course offered in the International School.
- Participants are required to register for the course via StudIP, where all teaching resources will be made available. Students that are not enrolled yet and therefore do not have access to StudIP are asked to send an e-mail to [k.rausch@hs-sm.de](mailto:k.rausch@hs-sm.de).
- The script contains the following (exam-relevant) self-study material which students need to complete independently during the semester:  
Michael McCarthy & Felicity O’Dell (2016): Academic Vocabulary in Use. Cambridge University Press. Second edition.

### (b) Qualifikationsziele | Learning Objectives

- The course aims at improving students’ reading comprehension in an academic context.
- Students will become familiar with various extensive and selective reading techniques.
- Students will enhance their academic vocabulary, including typical Latin and Greek roots for English words.

### (c) Kursstruktur | Course Structure

- Students will work independently at one topic each week. Each following Monday we will discuss the topic, compare all assignments and address any questions online.
- The course schedule is as follows:
  - 05/04–11/04: Cultural Studies: The Lessons of Travel I  
**12/04, 17:15–18:45 Online Follow-up**
  - 12/04–18/04: Cultural Studies: The Lessons of Travel II  
**19/04, 17:15–18:45 Online Follow-up**
  - 19/04–25/04: Multicultural Literature: Writing about Cultural Identity I  
**26/04, 17:15–18:45 Online Follow-up**

- 26/04–02/05: Multicultural Literature: Writing about Cultural Identity II  
**03/05, 17:15–18:45 Online Follow-up**
- 03/05–09/05: Psychology: Theories of Intelligence I  
**10/05, 17:15–18:45 Online Follow-up**
- 10/05–16/05: Psychology: Theories of Intelligence II  
**17/05, 17:15–18:45 Online Follow-up**
- 17/05–23/05: Business: The Changing Workplace I  
**24/05, 17:15–18:45 Online Follow-up**
- 24/05–30/05: Business: The Changing Workplace II  
**31/05, 17:15–18:45 Online Follow-up**
- 31/05–06/06: Public Speaking: Messages and Messengers I  
**07/06, 17:15–18:45 Online Follow-up**
- 07/06–13/06: Public Speaking: Messages and Messengers II  
**14/06, 17:15–18:45 Online Follow-up**
- 14/06–20/06: Urban Studies: Living Together I  
**21/06, 17:15–18:45 Online Follow-up**
- 21/06–27/06: Urban Studies: Living Together II  
**28/06, 17:15–18:45 Online Follow-up**
- 28/06–04/07: Revision and Exam Preparation  
**05/07, 17:15–18:45 Online Follow-up**

#### **(d) Kontakt | Contact**

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- +49 3683 688 1014

#### **(e) Studien- und Prüfungsleistungen | Course Assessment**

- Written examination (date/deadline to be announced)
- 3 ECTS