Syllabus: “Academic Reading”
Intercultural Courses for International Students
Summer Semester 2020, 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.
- Regular attendance (at least 80% of all sessions) as well as completion of assignments are required for exam admission.
- 3 ECTS credits are granted for successful completion of the course. Therefore, students should be prepared to spend at least twice as much time on preparatory and follow-up work as in the classroom.
- It is recommended (though not obligatory) to attend this course alongside the “Academic Writing” course on Tuesday afternoon.
- Participants are required to buy the script for the course at “buch + druck” copy shop next to campus a few days prior to the first session.
- The script contains the following 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

- 2 contact hours per week
  - Wednesday 8.30 – 10.00 H 0115

(d) Kontakt | Contact

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(e) Studien- und Prüfungsleistungen | Course Assessment

- Written examination (90 min)
- 3 ECTS