LANG 5000 Foundation in Listening and Speaking for Postgraduate Students

1.Course Information LANG 5000 is a one-credit course offered to full-time RPG students who have not fulfilled the University's RPG English Language Requirement (i.e. failed to attain Level 4 in one or more criteria in the Speaking Test in ELPA). Most students taking the course are in their Year 1 of RPG studies. Students attend three hours of class and complete up to six hours of out-of-class work, per week. The course is offered in Fall and Spring semesters. Assessment of the course is 100% coursework and on a pass/fail basis. The course focuses on helping students develop their Listening and Speaking skills, thus making it possible for them to cope with the linguistic demands of everyday oral communication in an English-medium university.

2.Pre—requisite: none

3. Aims of the course: Intended Learning Outcomes

1. use accurate pronunciation and appropriate features of connected speech for effective English communication
2. speak about academic and social topics with appropriate and coherent development
3. listen for phonetic and discursive features in English texts and show awareness of their own development of such in their speaking

4. Course assessment

Assessment	Weighting	ILOs
A 3-3.5-minute talk about the importance of the student's field of study and its contribution to society	15%	1, 2
A Language Learning Portfolio which contains a language learning plan and three 2-minute verbal reports on learning progress	20%	1, 2, 3
A 2-2.5-minute impromptu talk to analyse a given problem and suggest solutions	15%	1, 2
ELPA Speaking Assessment	50%	1, 2

5.Course Content

Pronunciation Skills
1. Understanding use of speech organs
2. Understanding vowels, consonants and syllables
3. Practising short and long vowels
4. Practising diphthongs
5. Practising other onset / final vowels that are commonly mispronounced
6. Practising word stress
7. Practising how to use schwa and weak forms
8. Practising sentence stress
9. Practising phrasing and chunking

Topic Development / Conversation Skills
1. Introducing oneself
2. Describing goals and future plans
3. Giving opinions with reasons
4. Describing a problem
5. Making and evaluating recommendations
6. Making comparison and contrast
7. Organising and signposting ideas
8. Speculating and making predictions
9. Structuring a short talk

Listening to Improve Speaking
1. Listening to authentic speaking samples and comparing pronunciation features
2. Listening to authentic speaking samples and identifying organisation pattern

Learning to Learn
1. Identifying learning needs
2. Identifying useful learning resources
3. Making a realistic and effective learning plan
4. Reporting on learning progress
5. Assessing learning progress