

Identification	Subject	ENGL 216 ESP 3KU/6ECTS	
	Department	English Language and Literature	
	Program (Undergraduate, Graduate)	Undergraduate program	
	Term	Fall,2026	
	Instructor	Vafa Taghiyeva	
	Email:	Vafataghiyeva91@gmail.com	
	Classroom/hours	Monday: 08:30 – 11:40 Wednesday: 08:30 – 10:00	
Prerequisites			
Language	English		
Compulsory/Elective	Compulsory		
Textbooks and course materials	1. English for Biotechnology T.B. Маршева, Л.Н. Юзмухаметова, А.А. Богданова 2. Science, Career Path, Virginia Evans, Jenny Dooley, Elizabeth Norton, Express Publishing, 2015 (English for Specific Purposes) 3. Cambridge English for Scientists, Tamzen Armer		
Course description	This course is designed to develop the English language skills of students in the field of biotechnology. It focuses on the language, terminology, and communication skills required for academic study and professional contexts in biotechnology and related scientific fields. The course integrates reading, listening, speaking, and writing skills through biotechnology-related topics, scientific texts, and workplace situations. Students will develop their ability to understand and use technical vocabulary, interpret scientific information, discuss biotechnology-related issues, describe processes and procedures, and communicate effectively in academic and professional settings.		
Course objectives	1. develop their general and specialized English language skills in the context of biotechnology; 2. acquire and use essential terminology related to biotechnology and related scientific fields; 3. improve their ability to read and understand scientific and technical texts; 4. communicate clearly about biotechnology-related topics in discussions and presentations; 5. describe scientific processes, procedures, experiments, and technologies using appropriate language; 6. interpret and communicate basic scientific data, charts, graphs, and diagrams in English;		
Learning Outcomes	On successful completion of the course, students will be able to: 1. identify and use key terminology related to biotechnology and life sciences; 2. understand and summarize the main ideas and specific information in scientific and technical texts; 3. interpret scientific information presented in texts, charts, graphs, tables, and diagrams; 4. describe biological and biotechnological processes, procedures, and experiments using appropriate terminology; 5. discuss biotechnology-related topics and express opinions clearly in English;		
Teaching methods	Case analysis		x
	Group discussion		x
	Lecture		x
	Simulation		x
Evaluation Criteria	Methods	Date/deadlines	Percentage (%)
	Midterm Exam	TBA	30

			Quizzes		10
			Presentation		10
			Writing project		5
			Activity		5
			Attendance		5
			Final Exam	TBA	35
			Total		100
Class Policy			Attendance (Lateness): Attendance is important. Absences can be detrimental to one’s grade due to the number of class activities (presentations and class participation) and complexity of the subject. For every three unexcused absences one (1) point will be deducted from the grade point average. More than 10 unexcused absences are excessive. Free participation is discouraged. Missed exams or assignments: Advance notification should be given if the student is unable to attend a scheduled presentation or test. Full class participation and completion of assigned homework are necessary. Academic Dishonesty: Any plagiarism while studying will be severely penalized, including the possibility of receiving a non-pass for the course. Reference should be given to the sources used in one’s work. However, any research paper consisting of references and citations only, without further analysis by the student, will not be acceptable either. Cheating during the tests will be penalized including the possibility of a zero mark on the test.		
			Tentative Schedule		
Week	Date/Day (tentative)		Topics	Textbook/Assignments	
1			• Introduction to the course. Ice breaking activities • UNIT 1 WHAT IS BIOTECHNOLOGY? • Unit 1: Physics Reading: Identifying the main idea and specific information • Listening: Listening to a conversation about a physics course • Speaking: Discussing difficult course concepts • Asking for and giving help • Role-play: student–TA conversation • Writing: Scientific paragraph - Write a well-structured paragraph explaining how a physical principle is used in biotechnology.	English for Biotechnology Т.В. Маршева, Л.Н. Юзмухаметова, А.А. Богданова Science, Career Path, Virginia Evans, Jenny Dooley, Elizabeth Norton, Express Publishing, 2015 (English for Specific Purposes) Book 3	
2			• UNIT 2 BIOPHYSICS: THE BRIDGING SCIENCE • Unit 2 – Reading: Biology	English for Biotechnology Т.В. Маршева, Л.Н. Юзмухаметова, А.А. Богданова	

		• Listening: Conversation between a professor and a student about an upcoming biology exam and laboratory work • Speaking: Discussing preparation for an upcoming exam, biology concepts to review, and exam format • Writing: Process description - Describe a biological process step by step, e.g. mitosis, meiosis or cell division.	Science, Career Path, Virginia Evans, Jenny Dooley, Elizabeth Norton, Express Publishing, 2015 (English for Specific Purposes) Book 3
3		• UNIT 3 CAREER IN BIOTECHNOLOGY • Unit 3 Reading: Chemistry • Listening: Conversation about chemical bonds, reactions, energy transfer and an upcoming exam • Speaking: Discussing studying for an exam, types of chemical reactions, and similarities and differences between reactions • Writing: Comparison - Compare ionic and covalent bonds and explain why they are important in biological systems.	English for Biotechnology Т.В. Маршева, Л.Н. Юзмухаметова, А.А. Богданова Science, Career Path, Virginia Evans, Jenny Dooley, Elizabeth Norton, Express Publishing, 2015 (English for Specific Purposes) Book 3
4		• Revision Units 1-3 • Unit 4 Reading: Biochemistry • Listening: Conversation between a journalist and a biochemist about biotechnology and the role of biochemistry in the body • Speaking: Discussing biochemistry, types of biocompounds and the role of biochemistry in the body • Writing: Cause & effect - Explain how a biochemical process affects cells, e.g. cellular respiration and energy production.	English for Biotechnology Т.В. Маршева, Л.Н. Юзмухаметова, А.А. Богданова Science, Career Path, Virginia Evans, Jenny Dooley, Elizabeth Norton, Express Publishing, 2015 (English for Specific Purposes) Book 3
5		• UNIT 4 PHYSICS AND MEDICINE • Unit 5: Reading: Human Anatomy and Physiology • Listening: Conversation between a doctor and a nurse about a patient's diagnosis, scans and treatment • Speaking: Discussing a patient's diagnosis, symptoms and treatment, and explaining the doctor's advice	English for Biotechnology Т.В. Маршева, Л.Н. Юзмухаметова, А.А. Богданова

		• Writing: Descriptive scientific writing - Describe an organ/system and explain its structure and function using scientific terminology.	Science, Career Path, Virginia Evans, Jenny Dooley, Elizabeth Norton, Express Publishing, 2015 (English for Specific Purposes) Book 3
6		• UNIT 5 MEDICAL IMAGING TECHNOLOGIES • Unit 6: Reading: Botany • Listening: Conversation between two students about plant reproduction, seeds, bryophytes and gymnosperms • Speaking: Discussing a botany lecture and explaining a botany concept that a student finds confusing • Writing: Process + explanation - Explain photosynthesis and its importance for living organisms and biotechnology.	English for Biotechnology Т.В. Маршева, Л.Н. Юзмухаметова, А.А. Богданова Science, Career Path, Virginia Evans, Jenny Dooley, Elizabeth Norton, Express Publishing, 2015 (English for Specific Purposes) Book 3
7		Review lesson Quizzes, presentations and evaluation	
		Midterm exam	
8		• UNIT 6 MAGNETIC RESONANCE IMAGING • Unit 7: Reading: Zoology • Listening: Conversation between an interviewer and an applicant about education, experience and interests in zoology • Speaking: Conducting a job interview and discussing an applicant's background, particular interests and work experience • Writing: Scientific summary - write a concise scientific summary about an animal-related biological study	English for Biotechnology Т.В. Маршева, Л.Н. Юзмухаметова, А.А. Богданова Science, Career Path, Virginia Evans, Jenny Dooley, Elizabeth Norton, Express Publishing, 2015 (English for Specific Purposes) Book 3
9		UNIT 7 MOLECULAR BIOLOGY • Unit 10 – Reading: Environmental Science • Listening: Conversation between two environmental scientists about investigating the environmental effects of oil drilling	English for Biotechnology Т.В. Маршева, Л.Н. Юзмухаметова, А.А. Богданова Science, Career Path, Virginia Evans, Jenny

		• Speaking: Discussing an environmental investigation, its findings, environmental problems in a region, and possible causes • Writing: Problem–solution report - Identify an environmental problem and propose a biotechnology-based solution	Dooley, Elizabeth Norton, Express Publishing, 2015 (English for Specific Purposes) Book 3
10		• Unit 11: Reading: Geology • Listening: Conversation between two students about preparing for a geology exam, the rock cycle, types of rocks, and geological dating. • Speaking: Discussing the rock cycle, different types of rocks, how rocks are formed, and relative and absolute dating. • Writing: Scientific explanation - Explain how a geological process affects soil, water or the environment and why it may be relevant to biotechnology.	English for Biotechnology Т.В. Маршева, Л.Н. Юзмухаметова, А.А. Богданова Science, Career Path, Virginia Evans, Jenny Dooley, Elizabeth Norton, Express Publishing, 2015 (English for Specific Purposes) Book 3
11		• UNIT 8 NANOTECHNOLOGIES IN MEDICINE • Unit 12: Reading: Oceanography • Listening: Conversation between two professors about improving an oceanography department and making changes to its courses • Speaking: Discussing a current event in oceanography, possible improvements to the department, and how to make those improvements possible • Writing: Describing data - Describe a graph/table showing changes in an ocean-related environmental variable and explain the main trends.	English for Biotechnology Т.В. Маршева, Л.Н. Юзмухаметова, А.А. Богданова Science, Career Path, Virginia Evans, Jenny Dooley, Elizabeth Norton, Express Publishing, 2015 (English for Specific Purposes) Book 3
12		Presentation delivery lessons	
13		• UNIT 9 MEDICAL IMAGING AND PHYSICS • Unit 14: Reading: Genetics	English for Biotechnology Т.В. Маршева, Л.Н. Юзмухаметова, А.А. Богданова

		• Listening: Conversation between an intern and a geneticist about gel electrophoresis, gene sequencing, vectors, plasmids and cloning • Speaking: Discussing genetic processes, different types of processes, and the differences between them • Writing: Lab procedure - Write a step-by-step procedure for a genetic technique	Science, Career Path, Virginia Evans, Jenny Dooley, Elizabeth Norton, Express Publishing, 2015 (English for Specific Purposes) Book 3
14		• UNIT 10 PHYSICS AND NUCLEAR MEDICINE • Unit 15: Reading: Computer Science • Listening: Conversation between a student and an advisor about a computer science course, programming and computer hardware • Speaking: Discussing difficulties with computer science concepts and identifying resources that can provide additional help • Writing: Research abstract - Write a short abstract for a hypothetical biotechnology research project involving bioinformatics/data analysis.	English for Biotechnology Т.В. Маршева, Л.Н. Юзмухаметова, А.А. Богданова Science, Career Path, Virginia Evans, Jenny Dooley, Elizabeth Norton, Express Publishing, 2015 (English for Specific Purposes) Book 3
15		Review lesson Quizzes	
		Final exam	