



Professor Kent Lee
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IFLS 004-91
 [국제어학원]
 Fall 2014
 Korea University

FLS 004-91: Academic English

For Mechanical Engineering majors [기계공학부]

Time & location	Tue/Thu 9.00-10.15, F 12.00-12.50, 국제관 511A
Office hour	Tue/Thu. 3-4pm; or by appointment
Email	kentlee@korea.ac.kr , kentlee7@gmail.com , kentlee7+91@gmail.com [for sending assignments]

1. Course description

This course deals with academic English for engineering majors, including

1. Better English learning strategies
2. The nature of your field, and how this shapes English style in your field
3. Academic English writing, speaking, and presentation skills, including basic writing structure, using sources, academic vocabulary and usage, and citation style

1.1. Readings and materials

Textbook: none; Other materials will be provided (via handouts, my website, and/or EKU)

2. Course outline & components

You will be graded according to the following criteria. See the website for grading rubrics with evaluation criteria for these components. Points are deducted for late assignments.

Attendance and participation	10%
Minor assignments (online)	10%
Homework assignments (HW)	20%
Midterm presentation	20%
Final presentation / discussion	20%
Final essay	20%

Minor assignments will mostly be Google Form or EKU assignments [GF]; homework assignments [HW] are usually short or medium-length written assignments.

2.1. Tentative schedule

This is tentative, so minor changes will be made, and other activities and assignments will be added. Assignments may include written homework [HW] assignments, Google Form [GF] assignments, and occasional reading or online assignments.

week	topics	assignments
01	01 Sept. Course intro; learning strategies Your major & career	GF
02	08 Sept. 추석; science / tech news discussion	HW
03	15 Sept. Scientific laws, theories, hypotheses Talking about your field	
04	22 Sept. Group activity; Pronunciation of academic English: Word stress; vowels & consonants	HW
05	29 Sept. Pronunciation of academic English	
06	06 Oct. Presentation & vocal delivery skills Lab reports	Ø
07	13 Oct. Discussion activities	HW: lab report
08	20 Oct. <i>Midterm presentations</i>	midterm
09	27 Oct. Source use & citations Paraphrasing	GF/HW?
10	03 Nov. Paraphrasing & source use; Using connectors Definite/indefinite articles	
11	10 Nov. Definite/indefinite articles	Ø
12	17 Nov. Other grammar & style issues (modals, perfect tense) Word choice issues: Avoiding Konglish	HW: Essay proposal & outline
13	24 Nov. Word choice issues	
14	01 Dec. Essay peer editing; other activities	essay draft [HW]
15	08 Dec. Discussion activities Final preparation	essay due
16	15 Dec. <i>Final presentation / discussion</i>	final

Holidays: 8-10 Sept. 추석 (□□) 03 Oct. 개천절(□□□) 09 Oct. 한글날

2.2. Midterm & final projects

You may need to read or watch assigned materials, and write and/or discuss them, such as articles or videos about current topics in science or engineering.

1. The midterm may be a short individual presentation, where students come in small groups, and each member takes turns to give a short presentation.
2. The final discussion may be a group discussion project, where students come in groups to engage in free discussion of assigned topics.
3. The final essay will be a relatively short persuasive essay on a topic related to your field, or a relevant issue in science or technology.

3. General policies

The schedule and readings are tentative and subject to change or adjustment at my discretion.

3.1. Assignments & grading

1. Paper format. Papers should have margins of 2-2.5cm, with 1.5-2× line spacing, in a normal font that looks like 12-point font (e.g., Garamond 13pt., Times 12pt., Arial 10-10.5pt.). Hard copies are generally preferred for drafts and certain assignments, and they may be printed double-sided [양면]. For the final paper, an electronic copy is fine, especially in PDF.
2. Late assignments will receive a penalty, depending on how late they are, and how often your assignments are late.
3. Relative grading is used, as you all know, so some final course grades may be adjusted in order to conform to this grade scale.

[1] A or A+ \leq 40% (of all grades); [2] C+ \geq 10% (of grades)

3.2. Attendance & participation

Not only is attending class important, but participating in class discussion and group activities; attendance and participation comprise one component of your course grade. This grade is based on active participation in class / group discussions and activities; the quality and quantity of your participation and contributions to discussions; and attendance. Please note the following.

1. You are allowed three free absences without any penalty. For excessive, unexcused absences, your participation grade will be penalized, and your final course grade can also be penalized.
2. Excused absences under KU policy are those with written documentation, namely, family emergencies, illness, or other documented absences (but not job interviews or purely personal matters).

3. Participation grades can be penalized for the following:

- using personal computers or mobile devices in class, except for class-related purposes
 - repeatedly coming to class late (e.g., more than 10 min. late)
 - not trying to speak in English in class, but using your native language too much
 - sleeping in class, or coming in with a hangover
 - not paying attention, or working on things unrelated to this class
 - coming to class without having done assignments or readings
 - disrespectful or rude behavior
 - regular interruptions from your mobile devices (these should be off or in silent mode)
 - not participating actively in class / group discussions & activities.
4. A student can receive an F for 7+ unexcused absences.
 5. If you miss a class, it is your responsibility to talk to your classmates about what you missed, and then to see me if you need to catch up on information or materials.
 6. In class, please do not wear strong or noticeable perfumes or colognes, as this affects my allergies, and such smells can bother others.

3.3. Academic integrity

Students are responsible for conducting themselves with integrity and academic honesty. Plagiarism consists of copying ideas, sentences, quotations, or whole portions of papers, and representing them as your own; not citing sources for others' ideas, data, or direct words; or not properly paraphrasing and summarizing when citing others' work. Penalties may include any of the following, depending on the type and degree of plagiarism:

1. Points may be deducted on an assignment, or the grade may be reduced.
2. Grades may even be reduced after the paper has been graded and returned, if I realize later after grading it how much plagiarism has occurred, or, if plagiarism still occurs on a later, revised version of the assignment.

3. Your final course grade may be lowered by one or more letter grades, regardless of the final average. For more serious cases, you may receive an F or 0 [zero] for the assignment, or even an F for the course.

3.4. Expectations

Professional performance is expected from all students; i.e., (1) assignments completed on time and in a thorough and quality manner; (2) regular attendance and class participation; (3) cell phones turned off or in silent mode during class; and (4) not being late for class.

3.5. Contacting me

I keep my cell phone number private, so I don't share my number with students (or most others); email is the best way to contact me. Please note:

1. Phone me at my office phone only in case of a real emergency (e.g., if you cannot come to class on the day you are to give a presentation).
2. You can email me regarding absences, questions, or other matters. It is generally best to email my KU account if you use a Korean email address (e.g., Naver, KU email), or my Gmail if you use a non-Korean email server (e.g., Gmail, Outlook).
3. Please email assignments to my Gmail+section number (see above), and/or my KU email.
4. I don't allow current students to connect with me via SNS services, though you could connect with me after you are no longer taking my courses.

4. Resources

4.1. Citation systems

IEEE ("I triple-E") = Institute of Electrical & Electronics Engineers;

ACS = American Chemical Society

1. IEEE guide: www.ieee.org/documents/ieeecitationref.pdf
2. IEEE guide #2: www.ijssst.info/info/IEEE-Citation-StyleGuide.pdf
3. IEEE guide #3: <https://wiki.engr.illinois.edu/download/attachments/31394450/IEEE-refguide.pdf>
4. ACS guide: <http://pubs.acs.org/doi/pdf/10.1021/bk-2006-STYG.ch014>
5. ACS quick guide: <https://www.libraries.psu.edu/content/dam/psul/up/pams/documents/QuickGuideACS.pdf>

4.2. Reference

1. Dictionary: www.dictionary.com
2. Thesaurus: www.thesaurus.com (synonym & antonym dictionary)
3. Urban Dictionary: www.urbandictionary.com (colloquial, slang & idiomatic expressions)
4. Oxford Phrasal Verbs Dictionary (Oxford Univ. Press)

4.3. Latin abbreviations in academic writing

e.g. (*exempliae gratia*) = for example

i.e. (*id est*) = that is, that is to say, in other words

cf. (*conferre*) = compare, compare(d) to

et al. (*et alia*) = and others, etc. (for source citations)