BIC5000-Z module descriptor

Module Title	Academic English and Skills
Credit Level	N/A credits (FHEQ Level 5)
Session	2026/7 academic year
BDA occurrence	Academic Year available at
BDA occurrence	Non Standard Year available at University of Bradford

Transparency notice

This specification for module code BIC5000-Z has been generated automatically in advance of the academic year 2026/7. Every effort has been made to ensure that the information is accurate at the time of publication, but changes permitted by our Student Contract Terms and Conditions could be made in the interval between publishing and commencement of teaching; where changes impact the terms and conditions of an applicant's or student's offer, these are communicated to them as soon as possible.

BIC5000-Z module aims

This module supports international students in developing advanced academic English and study skills required for success in final-year undergraduate study. Students refine their ability to read complex texts, write extended assignments, give confident presentations and engage critically with academic sources. The module emphasises independent learning, research, and effective communication in academic and professional contexts. Through structured tasks and formative feedback, students gain the linguistic competence and study strategies needed to meet Level 6 expectations and future employability goals.

BIC5000-Z module learning outcomes

No.	Students completing the module will be able to:
01	Demonstrate confident and accurate use of academic English across reading, writing, listening and speaking, equivalent to IELTS 6.0+.
02	Apply advanced strategies to understand, interpret and evaluate longer academic texts and spoken input.
03	Produce clear, well-structured written texts using appropriate style, referencing and academic conventions.
04	Present arguments and information clearly and persuasively in spoken form, demonstrating confidence and fluency.
05	Select, evaluate and synthesise academic sources to support structured research tasks.
06	Reflect on the role of effective teamwork, ethical practice and intercultural awareness in academic and business contexts.

BIC5000-Z module outline syllabus

* Advanced reading strategies: scanning, skimming, inference and synthesis
* Note-taking and summarising complex texts
* Academic writing: structure, argumentation and referencing
* Research and source evaluation
* Extended writing tasks (e.g. reports and essays)
* Listening to academic lectures and note-taking techniques
* Seminar participation and group discussions
* Presentation skills: planning, delivery and visual support
* Critical thinking and reflective writing
* Academic integrity, plagiarism and ethical use of sources
* Intercultural communication and professional language use

This module is aligned with the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR), aiming for B2+ equivalence in reading, writing, listening and speaking (comparable to IELTS 6.0+). It also reflects the QAA Subject Benchmark Statement for Business and Management in its focus on academic and professional communication skills relevant to the discipline.

For more information, visit the VLE (**Canvas**) page, go to our **Reading Lists webpage for this module** or search **https://bradford.rl.talis.com** for this module.

BIC5000-Z module notional learning hours

- 100 hours Tutorials
- 100 hours Directed Study

The overall expected hours may include contact time, scheduled learning activity, directed and independent study and any minimum expectations for placement learning. Most learning at the University of Bradford has some online content and sessions which are delivered fully by virtual means are labelled as "online".

BIC5000-Z module learning, teaching and assessment

Assessment is designed to reflect the integrated nature of academic English and to prepare students for the expectations of final-year undergraduate study. The module includes four evenly weighted components: listening and reading exams, a written assignment and an oral presentation. These assessments test students' ability to understand academic input, construct and support arguments in writing, and communicate ideas effectively in spoken form.
Formative assessment is embedded throughout the module, with regular practice tasks, peer feedback and tutor guidance provided during workshops and tutorials. Draft writing, mock exams and practice presentations help students to monitor their progress and refine their skills before submission. Feedback focuses on accuracy, fluency, structure and the use of academic conventions. Referral assessments mirror the original formats and offer a second opportunity to meet the learning outcomes.

Assessment in this module is designed to develop and evaluate students' proficiency in academic English across all four key skills: reading, writing, listening and speaking. All assessment components are marked on a Pass/Fail basis, and students must pass all components to successfully complete the module. Each assessment tests a specific language skill aligned with CEFR B2+ (IELTS 6.0+).
* The listening exam tests students' ability to follow extended academic discourse, identify key ideas and supporting detail, and take accurate notes - skills essential for lectures and seminars.
* The reading exam assesses comprehension of academic texts, including structure, argumentation and synthesis
* The written assignment enables students to demonstrate their ability to construct and support arguments in extended written form, incorporating referencing, source integration and academic conventions.
* The oral presentation develops and tests spoken fluency, organisation of ideas and the ability to communicate effectively with an academic audience.
Formative assessment is embedded throughout the module, with practice tasks, tutor feedback and peer review supporting students' preparation. Draft writing, mock exams and rehearsals build confidence and promote reflective learning.
Assessments in this module are marked on a Pass/Fail basis, and students must pass all four components (reading, writing, listening and speaking) to successfully complete the module. While no numerical marks are awarded, the assessments are aligned with CEFR and IELTS equivalencies to support student understanding of their English proficiency. A pass in each component indicates performance at CEFR B2+, broadly equivalent to IELTS 6.0 or above, which is the minimum level required for progression to Level 6 study at the University of Bradford.
Where appropriate, referral assessments may be scheduled during the module rather than at the end. For instance, if a student fails a Term 1 component, the resit can be arranged in Term 2. Referral assessments follow the same formats to ensure consistency and fairness in meeting learning outcomes.

BIC5000-Z mode of assessment			
Type	**Mode**	**Assessment description**	**Weight**
Summative	Examination - Closed Book	Listening exam (30 min). Demonstrate understanding of extended academic spoken texts through note-taking	25%
Summative	Examination - Closed Book	Reading exam (60 min). Students interpret and analyse academic texts, identifying key arguments, structure and evidence.	25%
Summative	Coursework - Written	INdividual written assignment (1500 words)	25%
Summative	Presentation	Oral presentation (10 min+ slides). Deliver a structured presentation on an academic topic, demonstrating fluency.	25%

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