

DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH
RABINDRANATH THAKUR VISHWAVIDYALAYA

SYLLABUS
INTERDISCIPLINARY COURSE (IDC)

***INTERDISCIPLINARY COURSE (IDC) to be introduced from the Academic Session
2026-27 as per the Revised Integrated Course Structure notified vide Ref. No.
RTU/ACA/MISC/2024/1112; dated: 17/07/2026***

SEMESTER	CATEGORY OF THE COURSE	COURSE TITLE	CREDIT
I	IDC 101	Basic English Reading and Writing Skills	03
II	IDC 151	Advanced Academic Writing & Presentation	03
III	IDC 201	Professional Writing & Publication	03

INTERDISCIPLINARY COURSE (IDC)

SEMESTER I

Course Title: Basic English Reading and Writing Skills

Course Code: IDC 101

Total Credits: 3

Distribution of Marks: 45 (End-Semester) + 30 (Internal)

Introduction

This course aims to familiarise students with the subtleties of grammar and instil in them the belief that grammar is a skill that can be learnt and mastered for effective and appropriate use. It is also intended to raise students' awareness of language, its varieties, and the role of grammar in its skilled development. The course will be organised under the following four headings:

- Grammar
- Speaking and Listening
- Fundamentals of Reading
- Fundamentals of Writing

Learning Outcomes

The course will enable students to:

- Recognise instances of English usage in both spoken and written forms.
- Identify and correct errors in usage.
- Recognise and value English spoken by individuals from various geographical areas.
- Speak confidently and in a way that is intelligible and appropriate.
- Recognise the value of reading throughout life.
- Develop an interest in reading.
- Read unknown texts on their own while understanding them.
- Recognise the value of writing in the classroom.
- Write short sentences with grammatical and spelling accuracy.

Unit-I: Basics of Grammar

- Tense, Voice, and Narration
- Determiners and Prepositions
- Developing Listening and Speaking Skills through Peer Teaching, Debates and Presentations
- Error Correction

Unit-II: Introduction to Reading Skills

- Introducing Different Types of Texts: Narrative, Descriptive, and Expository
- Reading and Comprehension of the Different Types of Texts Stated Above

Unit III: Introduction to Writing Skills

- Story Writing: Expanding a Given Sentence without Affecting the Structure
- Reorganizing Jumbled Sentences into a Coherent Paragraph
- Drafting Different Types of Letters
- Drafting Personal Notes, Notices, Complaints, Messages of Appreciation, and Messages of Sympathy.

Suggested Reading

Acevedo, Mario, and Margaret Gower. *Reading and Writing Skills*. Longman, 1999.

Deuter, M., et al. *Oxford Advanced Learner's Dictionary of English*. 9th ed., Oxford UP, 2015.

Eastwood, John. *Oxford Practice Grammar*. 3rd ed., Oxford UP, 2008.

Hadfield, Jill, and Charles Hadfield. *Reading Games*. Longman, 2008.

Harrison, J. B., and R. K. Bansal. *Spoken English: A Manual of Speech and Phonetics*. 5th ed., Orient Blackswan, 2024.

O'Connor, J. D. *Better English Pronunciation*. 2nd ed., Cambridge University Press, 2009.

Osmond, Alex. *Academic Writing and Grammar for Students*. 3rd ed., SAGE Publications, 2024.

INTERDISCIPLINARY COURSE

SEMESTER II

Course Title: Advanced Academic Writing and Presentation

Course Code: IDC 151

Total Credits: 3

Distribution of Marks: 45 (End-Semester) + 30 (Internal)

Introduction

This course develops the advanced soft skills required for success in the workplace. It equips students to meet real-world challenges by focusing on leadership, teamwork, non-verbal communication, and presentation techniques.

Learning Outcomes

On completion of the course, students will be able to:

- Examine and interpret non-verbal cues in business communication.
- Create polished CVs/resumes and cover letters for a range of positions.
- Apply appropriate techniques of revising, rewriting and editing to improve their writing.
- Develop teamwork and leadership abilities.

Unit-1: CV & Letter Writing

- Writing an Advanced CV/Resume
 - Creating customised resumes for particular jobs and sectors
 - Using both quantitative and qualitative indicators, highlighting accomplishments
- Writing Cover Letters
 - Effective cover letter structure
 - Modifying cover letters to fit different job descriptions

UNIT II: Understanding Academic Writing

- Distinction between Academic and Non-academic Writing
- Key Elements of Academic Writing: Clarity, Coherence, and Precision
- Overview of the Writing Process: Planning, Drafting, Revising, and Editing Academic Essays
- Introduction to Essay Structure: Introduction, Body Paragraphs, Conclusion

UNIT III: Group Discussion

- Various Components of a Group Discussion
- Steps to Build up a Group Discussion
- Parameters of a Successful Group Discussion

- Barriers to Effective Communication
- Leadership Skills; Understanding Different Leadership Styles; Developing Decision-Making and Team Management Skills.
- Team Dynamics and Collaboration; Building Effective Team Strategies; Resolving Conflicts in Group Settings
- Imaginary Group Discussions with Topics and Characters

Suggested Readings

Anderson, Marilyn, and Nayar Sen. *Critical Thinking, Academic Writing and Presentation Skills: MG University Edition*. Pearson Education India, 2010.

Dutt, P. Kiranmai, Geetha Rajeevan, and C. L. N. Prakash. *A Course in Communication Skills*. 2nd ed., Cambridge University Press, Foundation Books, 2013.

Paul, D. S. *Advanced Writing Skills*. Reprint ed., Goodwill Publishing House, Aug. 2025.

Richardson, Lawrence. *How to Excel at CV Writing, Group Discussion & Interviews: Bag Your Next Dream Job!*. Notion Press, 2 Apr. 2024.

Schuman, Nancy, and Burton Jay Nadler. *The Resume and Cover Letter Phrase Book: What to Write to Get the Job That's Right*. Adams Media, 2010.

INTERDISCIPLINARY COURSE (IDC)

SEMESTER III

Course Title: Professional Writing and Publication

Course Code: IDC 201

Total Credits: 3

Distribution of Marks: 45 (End-Semester) + 30 (Internal)

Introduction

This course introduces students to the art and practice of creative writing across a range of literary and media forms. It provides opportunities to explore poetry, fiction, drama, and writing for the media through practical exercises, workshops, and critical discussions. Students will learn to develop ideas, experiment with language, form, and style, and refine their writing through revision, editing, and proofreading. The course also familiarises students with the basic processes involved in preparing and submitting manuscripts for publication.

Learning Outcomes

On successful completion of the course, students will be able to:

- Identify and apply the basic forms, techniques, and conventions of poetry, fiction, and drama.
- Develop and express creative ideas through poetry, short stories, and other forms of imaginative writing.
- Experiment with language, style, voice, and literary techniques to produce effective creative pieces.
- Recognise and explain the distinctive features of writing for print, electronic, and internet media.
- Apply appropriate techniques of revising, rewriting, proofreading, and editing to improve their writing.
- Prepare manuscripts in an appropriate form and follow basic procedures for submitting creative work for publication.

UNIT I: Modes of Creative Writing

- Writing Poetry: Form and Technique; Rhyme, Free verse
- Modes of Poetry: Lyric, Narrative, and Dramatic Voices
- Fiction: Fiction and Non-fiction; Literary and Popular Fiction
- Short Story and Novel
- Drama: Plot and Characterization; Verbal and Non-Verbal Elements

Unit II: Writing for the Media

- Print Media
- Electronic Media
- Internet Advertising

Unit III: Publication Tips

- Revising and Rewriting
- Proofreading
- Editing
- Submitting a Manuscript for Publication

Suggested Readings

Abrams, M. H., and Geoffrey Galt Harpham. *A Glossary of Literary Terms*. 11th ed., Cengage Learning, 2015.

Clark, Giles, and Angus Phillips. *Inside Book Publishing*. 6th ed., Routledge, 2020.

Cuddon, J. A., and Matthew Birchwood. *The Penguin Dictionary of Literary Terms and Literary Theory*. 5th ed., Penguin Books, 2013.

{The Syllabi for the Interdisciplinary Course for Semester I, Semester II and Semester III, to be introduced from the Academic Session 2026-27, as per the Revised Integrated Course Structure notified vide Ref. No. RTU/ACA/MISC/2024/1112; dated: 17/07/2026, have been approved by the Board of Studies in English (UG), RTV, on 18/08/2026, subject to approval of the Academic Council}

Dr. B. P. Varma
Chairperson
Board of Studies in English, RTV