



ENGLISH ONLY - ENGLISH PROFICIENCY POLICY

Policy Purpose

This policy sets out the principles that ALRA follows in developing English language proficiency in courses.

English language proficiency is the ability of students to use the English language to make and communicate meaning appropriately in spoken and written contexts. Proficiency in English language is critical for academic success and the

development at ALRA and for students wishing to further their studies at a post-secondary institution.

Background

ALRA has a mission to provide quality education to our student body. We recognise and respect the value of the rich linguistic diversity of all the students at ALRA.

ALRA has a responsibility to students in all courses, to ensure they achieve a level of English language proficiency that allows them to successfully engage with their studies and participate in English speaking environments on graduation.

At ALRA we **do not** have an English Only Policy. At ALRA we encourage students to use and speak English at all times but we do not believe that an English only policy is beneficial by forcing student to use English through a system of rewards and punishment.

ALRA believes that promoting an effective English learning environment is a shared responsibility between students, instructors, all staff, policy, and curriculum design and assessment. It is also the responsibility of ALRA to encourage students to use English as much as possible through resources that are available to students. This also includes providing students to participate and use the English skills in environments and situations outside the classroom.

This policy reflects the requirements that course design processes "provide for the appropriate development of key attributes in students including English language proficiency". This policy also desires students to be able to demonstrate effective communication in oral and written English language and visual media".

Procedures

1. Instructors may have an English Only Rule in their classroom. Students may ask permission of the teacher to speak in their mother tongue during class. This will be at the discretion of the instructor.
2. Instructors and staff will use English as the language of communication with all students and at all times on school property (except in counseling situations and in case of emergencies).
3. Entry Standards
 - a) ALRA's English language entry standards for courses, as prescribed in the Admissions Policy, are set at a level that ensures that students are sufficiently proficient in the English language on entry to participate effectively in their studies.

4. Development of English Language Proficiency
 - a) The Principal monitors the development of students' English language proficiency, and determines appropriate strategies in response to the needs of student cohorts.
5. Students' Responsibilities
 - a) Prospective and current ALRA students will be informed about the resources and opportunities for developing English language proficiency during their studies.
 - b) Students are responsible for making use of the language development activities and resources that are provided by ALRA.
6. Staff Responsibilities
 - a) ALRA provides staff with ongoing opportunities and training to extend their skills and knowledge in supporting the development of English language proficiency in their students.
 - b) In addition to supporting the development of English language proficiency, all staff share the responsibility for developing language skills of their students.
7. Integrated Curriculum Approach to Developing English Language Proficiency
 - a) English language proficiency is integrated into curriculum design and assessment practices.
 - b) Course approval and review processes assess the extent to which English language proficiency is articulated throughout the course design.
 - c) ALRA also fosters English language proficiency development through social, community, and cultural experiences in formal and informal settings.
8. All students must meet our minimum English language requirements.
9. We test all student's English language proficiency through universally recognized language tests such as the Versant English Placement Test or the Pearson Test of English (PTE).
10. All about English proficiency
 - a) All of our courses and assessments are delivered in English. It is important for students to demonstrate English language proficiency to us and make the most of their studies
11. Other International Tests
 - a) ALRA recognizes other English assessments such as International English Language Testing System (IELTS), Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL), and the Cambridge Advanced English (CAE).

Approval Date: August 2019