ENGLISH AS AN INTERNATIONAL LANGUAGE

English as an International Language (EIL) is a newly emerged area of study in the field of Applied Linguistics. As a program, it equips students with knowledge of the diversity of English as a result of its global spread, and the ability to communicate with diverse users of English from diverse cultural backgrounds. It is also a program that is developed to meet and respond to Monash’s internationalisation of education initiatives.

Why study English as an International language?

English as an International language is commonly misunderstood as a program that teaches English as a second language to non-English-speaking background students. What it actually does is provide a new perspective on the English language in the globalised and internationalised world of the 21st century, with a focus on the importance of developing intercultural awareness and intercultural communication skills.

The program is designed for students who wish to work in a multicultural and multilingual environment. It equips you with an understanding of the diversity of English resulting from global spread, and an ability to communicate with diverse users of English from diverse cultural backgrounds, for local as well as international purposes. As our world becomes globalised professionals who understand developments in learning and teaching English become crucial.

Complementary study areas

If you are interested in English as an International Language, you may also like to consider:

» Linguistics
» Other languages (e.g. Indonesian, Chinese, Korean, French etc.)
» Sociology
» Communications and media studies
» Education

What are some of the topics English as an International Language explores?

Your first year will consist of foundation units in order to build up a comprehensive understanding of the study area. In your first year you can take:

» English language, society, and communication
» International communication

As you progress in the course a much larger range of units will become available to you, some of these are:

» Cultural linguistics
» Writing across cultures
» Language and education
» Language and globalisation

How English as an International Language fits into your Arts degree

English as an International Language is offered as a major, a minor or simply as elective units within your degree.

Career prospects

As our world becomes more connected there is an important need for English language specialists. A few of the career outcomes our graduates have gone onto are:

» International development manager
» International liaison/project officer
» Marketing/Management
» English language teachers
» Translators/Interpreters