



**ALTINBAŞ UNIVERSITY**  
**School of Foreign Languages**

**Basic English Department**  
**2018-2019 Academic Year**

**B1 LEVEL**

**READING- WRITING – CRITICAL THINKING**  
**COURSE OUTLINE**

**1. Course Description**

This course is designed to develop all language skills, including language sub-skills and grammar. The course aim is to prepare students to be able to understand the main points of clear standard input on familiar matters regularly encountered in work, school, leisure, etc. Students at this level can understand sentences and frequently used expressions related to areas of most immediate relevance (e.g. very basic personal and family information, shopping, local geography, employment), communicate in simple and routine tasks requiring a simple and direct exchange of information on familiar and routine matters, describe in simple terms aspects of his/her background, immediate environment and matters in areas of immediate need.

**2. Goals and Learning Outcomes**

*Course Aim:*

The course aims at helping learners to achieve Basic English language skills of Basic User defined as A2 level on the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR). By the end of the course, students will be able to understand short, simple texts containing high frequency vocabulary and shared international expressions. They can find specific, predictable information in simple everyday material such as advertisements, prospectuses and timetables.

*Course objectives:*

*The course is intended to develop students' language skills to:*

- Reading to detect main ideas, details and specific information in a written text, categorize detailed information, make inferences from the context of written text and synthesize information from a written text.
- Writing by analysing parts of a written text, creating appropriate topic sentences, thesis statements, introductory, body and conclusion paragraphs, arranging and rearranging paragraphs for a better essay.
- Think critically; to analyze cause and effects of an issue and making connections between them by creating a chain; to compare and contrast things referring to a diagram; to organize ideas by referring to a table; to analyze a map; to evaluate solutions to a problem considering advantages and disadvantages of the issue, to choose the best solution amongst others; to analyze advantages and disadvantages of an issue referring to a T-chart; to list pros and cons of a topic by brainstorming; to identify types of support in a text; to categorize arguments; to

criticize the strength of the arguments, to justify arguments with evidence and examples and to analyze a line graph by interpreting line graphs and their organization.

- Listening to identify main ideas and details in a video, make inferences for statements, ideas and unknown concepts from a video.
- Speaking to discuss on a specific topic and express opinions, produce and practise dialogues.

### 3. Overall Structure of the Course and Requirements

The format of this course will be based on in-class discussions on the assigned materials and exercises designed to reinforce important listening & speaking skills and strategies. Students are expected to attend class regularly, participate in listening and speaking activities, complete the given assignments before and after class, ask questions and turn in assignments on time and correct their mistakes upon teacher and peer feedback.

### 4. Course Policies

**Assignments:** All assignments are due at the start of the lesson hour unless otherwise specified. The assignments and other tasks must be submitted as scheduled in the syllabus and as announced in class. Exceptions will only be made in exceptional circumstances.

**Electronic devices:** No iPods, mobile phones or other electronic devices will be allowed in class. Cell phones must be switched off during the class.

**Plagiarism:** Plagiarism refers to a form of cheating that has been defined as ‘the false assumption of authorship; the wrongful act of taking the product of another person’s mind and presenting it as one’s own. To use another person’s ideas or expressions in your writing without acknowledging the source is to plagiarize. Plagiarism, then, constitutes intellectual theft. Simply put, plagiarism is not tolerated in this university. Respect yourself enough to have faith in what you can accomplish on your own, rather than stealing someone else’s work. Any student caught cheating or plagiarizing (meaning copying something from the Internet and /or from a friend and turning it in as their own work) will receive a 0 (ZERO) on that assignment.

### 6. Rules

- Attend class every day. If you are unable to attend class, email your instructor, or talk to your instructor before you need to be absent.
- Be on time for class and participate. Your success and the success of your peers in this course are influenced by your prompt attendance and participation. You are expected to participate in class and in groups.
- Do all of your work, and do it on time! You must complete all of your homework and in class work for this course on the day it is due. When you return to class after an absence, it is your responsibility to talk to your instructor or friends before class to find out which work you have missed.
- Hand in 4+2 speaking assignments throughout the semester.
- Do not plagiarize. All of your work must be your work, not someone else’s. Do not ask friends, roommates, or anyone else to do your work. Plagiarism may result in failure.

o Throughout the lessons only English will be used as a means of communication, both between teacher-student and between student-student interactions. Breaking any of these rules will result in negative points.

## 7. Assessment and Grading

Students must satisfactorily complete all course requirements to receive a passing grade in this class. Grades will be assigned using the following weights:

<b>ASSESSMENT AND GRADING</b>	
<b>WRITING TASKS</b> 4 tasks x 5 points each	20 points
<b>SPEAKING TASKS</b> Face to face: 4 tasks x 5 points each	20 points
<b>LITERATURE CIRCLES</b> 2 tasks x 20 points	20 points
<b>QUIZZES</b> (5 quizzes x 10 points each) (6th quiz 25 points)	75 points
<b>CLASS PROJECT</b>	20 points
<b>ONLINE ASSIGNMENTS</b>	50 points
<b>MIDTERM</b>	100 points
<b>TOTAL</b>	305 points
<b>MINIMUM GRADE FOR ELIGIBILITY</b>	198 points