

ALPHA & OMEGA COLLEGE



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INTERNATIONAL FOUNDATION ACADEMIC

PROGRAMME



Accredited by:

The British Council
ASIC (Accreditation Service for
International Colleges)
EDI (Education Development
International)



Members of:

English in Wales
MEA (The Middle East
Association)
BBG (The British Business
Group)



Approved exam centre for:

TOEFL iBT
ESOL
IAM



Alpha and Omega International Foundation Academic Programme (IFAP)

Our mission statement

The mission of Alpha and Omega College is:

- to provide a fulfilling education to focused and serious-minded students who wish to achieve British college or university level fluency through a scholarly rigorous curriculum.
- to provide a quality learning experience
- to give excellent value for money
- to foster a friendly, caring and professional learning environment
- to ensure that all of our students, regardless of race, gender or religion, gain the maximum enjoyment and benefit from their course

Alpha and Omega is proud to introduce our International Foundation Academic Programme. This twelve month intensive academic programme has been designed for International students who need academic skills in addition to a high level of English. Students who successfully complete IFAP increase their study potential and qualify for further studies, whether undergraduate or postgraduate. At the end of the course students will receive a vocational certificate in addition to General English, Academic English, English for Specific Purposes (ESP) certificates and will have a TOEFL iBT or IELTS certificate as proof of their level of English.

The course has been developed to meet the academic needs and interests of international students. Students will improve their English competence, develop English exam skills (IELTS or TOEFL), develop academic skills and study English in a real context (CLIL). They will be given the opportunity to choose vocational courses as part of their preparation. Alpha and Omega's successful students will receive a world-wide recognised certificate from our awarding bodies upon completion of the vocational module.

The course is suitable for students who would like to improve their English and Academic Skills and have a recognised vocational qualification.

Course structure

The International Foundation Academic Programme (IFAP) consists of 4 modules of 12 weeks each. Students will study for 25 hours a week. Students' level of English should improve by 1 band in IELTS per module, depending on students' full participation in their training. This means they should be at a level of 6-6.5 at the end of the fourth module.

We are accredited by:

- The British Council
- ASIC (Accreditation Service for International Colleges)
- EDI (Education Development International)
- IAM (Institute of Administration Management)

We are members of:

- English in Wales
- MEA (the Middle East Association)
- BBG (the British Business Group)

We are approved exam centres of:

- TOEFL iBT
- ESOL
- IAM
- EDI (for vocational courses)





1. Module one: General English and Introduction to Academic Skills.

Entry requirements: Certificate of Secondary Education and certificate of English (A2- pre-intermediate, IELTS 3, TOEFL iBT 25-30 or equivalent)

Assessment: progress tests, written assignments, presentations, end of module test.

Pass mark: 70%

Achievement: Certificate of achievement for English B1 (intermediate level). Students' level of English should be 4 IELTS or 39-45 TOEFL iBT

- Please note this is just a sample of our timetable, which may vary to suit students' needs.

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
9-12	General English (grammar and speaking)	General English (vocabulary and reading)	General English (listening and speaking)	General English (writing)	General English (integrated skills)
12 -12.30	LUNCH		BREAK		
12.30-2.40	Introduction to Academic Skills (Reading)	Introduction to Academic Skills (Listening)	Introduction to Academic Skills (Writing)	Introduction to Academic Skills (Speaking)	General English (integrated skills)

2. Module two: English for Academic Purposes and exam preparation (IELTS or TOEFL iBT. Please note that we are an accredited centre for TOEFL iBT exams so students have the advantage of sitting the exam in our centre)

Entry requirements: successful completion of IFAP Module 1 from Alpha Omega College, IELTS 4, TOEFL iBT 39-45, or equivalent.



Assessment: progress tests, written assignments, presentations, end of level test. Students completing Alpha Omega College Module 1 and Module 2 can sit one TEOFL iBT exam in our centre for FREE. This offer is available for students enrolled for the 4 modules. Fees for IELTS are not included in the course fees.

Pass mark: 70%

Achievement: Certificate of Achievement for English (upper-intermediate level), TOEFL iBT certificate (scores 59-65). Students' level of English should be at IELTS 4.5-5

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
9-12	English for Academic Purposes (reading)	English for Academic Purposes (speaking)	English for Academic Purposes (listening)	English for Academic Purposes (writing)	Exam Preparation TOEFL/IELTS
12-12.30	LUNCH		BREAK		
12.30-2.40	Exam Preparation TOEFL/IELTS	Exam Preparation TOEFL/IELTS	Exam Preparation TOEFL/IELTS	Exam Preparation TOEFL/IELTS	Exam Preparation TOEFL/IELTS

3. Module three: English for Specific Purposes (Business Studies, Human Resources and Management Studies), Research Skills, Academic Writing and a vocational course level 1.



Entry requirements: Successful completion of IFAP module 2, TOEFL iBT 59-65 or IELTS 4.5-5

Assessment: progress tests, written assignments, presentations, end of level 1 vocational course written assignment.

Pass mark: 70%

Achievement: Certificate of English for Academic Purposes and a certificate for a vocational course on offer issued by one of our external bodies. Students' level of English should be at 5-5.5 IELTS or 65-70 TOEFL iBT

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
9-12	Vocational level 1 course	Vocational level 1 course	Language Development and exam preparation	Language Development and exam preparation	Language Development and exam preparation
12- 12.30		LUNCH	BREAK		
12.30-2.40	Vocational level 1 course	Vocational level 1 course	Language Development and exam preparation	Research Skills and Academic Writing	Research Skills and Academic Writing

- Students can choose a level 1 course from our offer.

4. Module four: CLIL (content and language integrated learning): English for Specific Purposes and a level 2 course.

Please check our website for the full offer for level 2 courses or contact the college for more information on the courses available.

Entry requirements: IELTS 5-5.5, TOEFL iBT 65-70 or equivalent and vocational level 1 certificate for one of the Alpha Omega courses on offer or relevant experience in the field.



Assessment: progress tests, written assignments, presentations, end of level 2 vocational course written assignment.

Pass mark: 70%

Achievement: Certificate of ESP (English for Specific Purposes) and level 2 certificate for one of the vocational courses on offer. Students' level of English should be at 6-6.5 IELTS or 80-90 TOEFL iBT.

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
9-12	Vocational level 2 course	Vocational level 2 course	Language Development and Exam preparation	Language Development and Exam preparation	Research, study skills and Academic writing
12-12.30		LUNCH	BREAK		
12.30-2.40	Vocational level 2 course	Vocational level 2 course	Language Development and exam preparation	Language Development and exam preparation	Research, study skills and academic writing

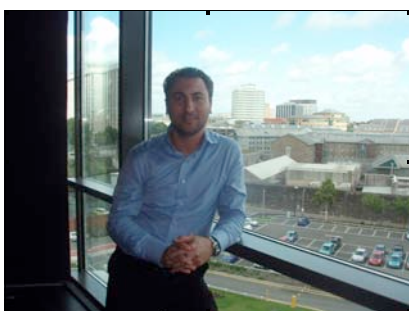
Note: All our vocational courses are externally accredited by EDI, IAM or other partner awarding bodies.

Why CLIL?

Our International Foundation Academic Programme (IFAP) offers a new and modern approach to learning, which combines content with language learning (CLIL)

By using this new method students will:

- build intercultural knowledge and understanding
- develop intercultural communication skills
- improve language competence and oral communication skills
- develop multilingual interests and attitudes
- have more opportunities to study content through different perspectives
- have more contact with the target language
- be more confident in both the language and the subject being taught
- have a certificate at the end of the course, which is recognised nationally and internationally



'Alpha and Omega has been the right choice for me. There is a real warm and friendly atmosphere that makes you feel at home from the start. The staff are always ready to help and give you the support you need with vast experience in their subject and sensitive to the different cultures students come from.'

I would like to recommend the college to future students. I have had a great time here and I have learnt a lot. Those of you who enjoy interesting things, such as being in a multicultural environment, having access to excellent facilities and surrounded by wonderful people, Alpha and Omega is the place to come!'

Tareq Allaghi, Libya

"I am very happy with all the teachers, they have helped my English and really helped me to improve and get better at English. I have learned a lot at Alpha and Omega."

Daniely, Brazil



Why Alpha and Omega College

Quality is very important at Alpha Omega College and we work hard to keep to the highest standards in teaching.

Our staff are carefully selected on the basis of their academic and professional qualifications, as well as their experience in teaching. Between them staff at Alpha and Omega College have more than 30 years experience. Our teaching methods are constantly reviewed and improved according to the highest standards. We are regularly inspected by external assessors for quality assurance.

Choosing a small college is becoming increasingly more popular as it is not only more affordable but it also has additional benefits of smaller class sizes, specialised courses to cater for all needs and more individual attention, which makes for a more friendly and personable experience.

As an Alpha and Omega student you will have full support from the moment you enrol for your course. Our friendly team is always ready to advise and help you.

1. As we work in partnership with other universities, we will be able to help you with choosing your future studies and assist you with the application process.
2. We can help with accommodation.
3. You will be able to take part in our social programme, which will give you a chance to get to know Welsh culture and traditions and the Welsh system of education. In addition, you will make friends and have fun while practising your English.
4. You will have your personal tutor who will monitor your progress and support you during your studies.
5. You will get a student card which will show you are a full time international student.
6. We will issue you with a letter so you can open a bank account
7. We will issue you with a letter so you can register with the police.
8. We will help you register with a GP.

You will also benefit from:

- Free monthly progress reports. These highlight the strengths and weaknesses of the student and how students can improve their English.
- Free progress tests and end-of-course tests. Regular testing allows students to see their strengths and weaknesses and allows the student to track their ability level
- Free leisure activities and trips. A teacher will accompany the group to a local cultural location. (Entrance fee to some venues may be needed)
- Free personal and friendly service from our staff members regarding any welfare problems a student might have.
- Free Sky/TV access. Allowing students to catch up with the latest news, sport and entertainment.
- Free faxing. Free printing.
- Free photocopying.
- Free Skype access.



- Free computer use. (To help students develop their IT skills)
- Free internet access. Use the computers in our school free in lunch breaks and after lessons.
- Free social talks from teachers and outside guests. This includes cultural talks, historical talks and lessons on British social culture.

How to apply

1. Fill in the application form.
2. Email/send by post/ fax or bring in person the application form with copies of your passport, English language certificate and copies of school results.
3. If your application is successful you will receive a letter of acceptance and an invoice.
4. Pay the course fees. You can pay the whole fee in advance or pay 60% in advance and the remaining 40% plus 5% interest in the first 2 months after the beginning of the course. Alternatively you can pay one module at a time (£2,225 per module on average)

Course fees

The tuition fees for the 2010-2011 courses are £8,900, which include:

- £100 administration fee
- \$185 registration fee for ONE TOEFL iBT exam for students enrolled with us for the whole year. The test will be taken at the end of the second module.
- Registration with our external awarding body (EDI, IAM or other associated partners)
- End of module certificate for English
- Certificate from our awarding body for the vocational part of the course. (This certificate is recognized internationally).
- Course books (General English, IELTS/TOEFL, Academic Skills, vocational)
- Free social talks from teachers and outside guests. This includes cultural talks, historical talks and lessons on British social culture.

What next?

1. You can progress to level 3 and 4 Diploma courses, level 5 Advanced Diploma. These can be done in our centre. Then you can do a top-up degree for a final year at the university.
2. You can progress to University to study for a BSC or BA course
3. We can help you with your application for university. Your level of English will be at 6-6.5, which will make it easier to get an offer for the university of your choice. Our partner universities include:
 - University of Glamorgan
 - University of Wales Institute of Cardiff
 - Newport University
 - Hertfordshire University
 - Buckingham University
 - Aberystwyth University
 - Bath Spa University



Go for employment with the right qualification!

Students visiting, the Atrium, Glamorgan University



Directions

You can find us by taking the train to Cardiff central train station. Cardiff is also well linked by a good bus service. Cardiff international Airport is reachable within about half an hour of the city centre.



By Foot

(Time: 15 minutes)

From Cardiff Central train station you need to head south on **Great Western Lane** and turn left onto **Central Square**. Turn right onto **Great Western Lane**. Turn left at **Saunders Road**. Continue on **Mill Lane** and continue straight onto **Caroline Street**. Turn right onto **The Hayes** and left at **Bridge Street**. Turn Left at **Charles Street**. Turn right at **Heol y Frenhines**. Turn left at **Dumfries Place**. Continue on **Windsor Place**. Alpha and Omega College will be on the left.



Coach

There are a number of Coach operators that connects the UK, including Gatwick and Heathrow airports, to Cardiff.

National Express

- Website - <http://www.nationalexpress.com>
- Telephone - 08705 80 80 80.

Megabus

- Website - <http://www.megabus.com>
- Telephone - 08705 50 50 50



Train

National Rail provides train routes from all areas of the UK to Cardiff.

National Rail

- Website - <http://www.nationalrail.co.uk>
- Telephone - 08457 48 49 50



Car

You can route a car journey from any location in the UK to Alpha and Omega College through the AA route planner. Put Alpha and Omega's postcode (CF10 3BY) into the 'To' field on the AA Route Planner website and the location you are traveling from on the 'From Field'.

AA Route Planner

- Website - <http://www.theaa.com/route-planner/index.jsp>