English for Academic Purposes (EAP): enabling non-1st English language international student engagement in Higher Education

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QQI - Who we are and what we do

- Quality Assurance
- Qualifications
- NFQ
- Recognition
- International

Plain English Approved by NALA

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INTRODUCTION

1. English for Academic Purposes – *what is it?*
2. Opportunities (and challenges)
3. The international student – *what do they think is important?*
4. Academic literacies
5. Any questions?
‘The future of (global) higher education will depend on successful, sustainable, mutually beneficial partnerships and collaboration, not just in a single area (such as student mobility) but a holistic approach that facilitates

- Mobility (of students, staff and researchers as well as qualifications and institutions)
- Shared teaching and delivery partnerships
- Research collaborations’

Pre-sessional and in-sessional ....

• Eligibility requirements
  - proficiency exam scores, e.g. TOEFL, PTE Academic, IELTS Academic
  - pre-sessional supports

• In-sessional supports
  - for students
  - for academic staff

= EAP/ EPP competence graduate
‘The teaching of English with the specific aim of helping learners to study, conduct research or teach in English-medium contexts.’

Flowerdew J, & Peacock, 2001
EAP is ....

Not centrally focused on general English proficiency development

BUT

Focused on the processing and creation of English as it is used in academic contexts...

‘with the teacher facilitating students’ participation in the academic world.’
HE EAP provision

Support service?
- commodified
- servicing function
- similar to other HEI support services
- teacher as technician
- non-academic status
- ‘cash cow’

Research-informed academic subject?
- integral HEI unit
- informed by research
- part of academia
- teacher as academic staff
- synergistic & collaborative
Academic literacy includes .....
Trans-national education

Council of Europe 2002, Code of Good Practice in the Provision of TNE

‘the learners are located in a country different from the one where the awarding body is based.’

ESG 2015 ‘... apply to all higher education offered in the EHEA regardless of the mode of study or place of delivery. Thus, the ESG are also applicable to all higher education including transnational and cross-border provision.’
Employability – what are employers looking for from graduates?

1. Good communication skills
2. Problem-solving skills
3. Innovative approach
4. Qualifications and professional expertise
5. Team work

Source: Inside India, Education Intelligence, British Council 2013
Awards standards: For Pre-higher education foundation awards for international students at NFQ Levels 5 (UG) and 8 (PG)

Questions ....
References

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