



Online Language Course
**English for Sustainable
Resource Management**
2026



CRES-Network

DAAD-Project, 2025-2029

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Course Title: English for Sustainable Resource Management

Goal: The course *English for Sustainable Resource Management* is designed to strengthen English language competencies of students, PhD researchers, and academic staff at the partner universities in Ukraine. The course program focuses on equipping participants with the linguistic, academic, and communicative skills necessary to interact smoothly with English speaking partners in the academic and professional environments. The participants will gradually form their competence in using professional terminology related to ecology, land and water management, environmental monitoring and sustainability, improve reading and listening skills, develop speaking and lecturing skills to be able to actively participate in international projects. The course integrates content-based learning (CLIL) and language development, enabling participants to enhance interaction strategies relevant to teaching, research, and policy-related activities.

Target Group

Academic staff, PhD researchers and students from Kharkiv National Automobile and Highway University, Sumy State University, Admiral Makarov National University of Shipbuilding, and Kherson State Agrarian and Economic University.

Course length and structure

The course encompasses 90 academic hours, delivered through weekly online sessions lasting 2 academic hours each. The course participants are also expected to dedicate additional time to independent study to solidify their learning (180 academic hours).

Teaching Format

Synchronous online format (class times will be arranged additionally).

Certificate:

Upon successful completion of the final exam, participants will receive an internal project certificate from Dresden University of Technology equivalent to 9 ECTS credits.

Instructor:

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Coordinator:

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Registration:

Please fill out the registration form by **April 11, 2026**, using the following link:

<https://forms.gle/bjNrXNafQnHT7WaK7>

Participants will receive the invitation to the first organizational meeting by email, sent to the address indicated during registration.

CONTENT

Learning outcomes for the course

By the end of this course, the participants will be able to:

Knowledge (language-focused):

- Understand and use professional vocabulary related to ecology, agriculture, land use, soil science, wetlands, climate change, sustainability and innovation
- Apply appropriate grammar structures in academic contexts
- Use hedging language with a high level of accuracy
- Use functional language for defining, classifying, explaining processes, making arguments, hedging, assessing, comparing, contrasting and giving feedback
- Use linking and stance words appropriately

Skills (communication and critical thinking):

- Understand various types of texts in the field of ecology and resource management, demonstrating awareness of causal relationships and particular terminology
- Communicate effectively in English on topics related to ecology, agriculture, land use, soil science, wetlands, climate change and sustainability and innovation
- Formulate well-supported arguments with relevant evidence
- Deliver clear and structured oral presentations
- Deliver structured academic lectures in English on specialized topics
- Present research findings clearly and logically
- Participate confidently in academic discussions and Q&A sessions
- Analyse peer presentations and provide feedback
- Collaborate with international partners in research and teaching contexts
- Compare and evaluate processes, strategies, and results using logical reasoning
- Assess risks, trends, and adaptation measures

CONTENT

Module 1: Core Concepts in Ecology and Land Use <i>(20 academic hours / 10 lessons)</i>
Objectives <ul style="list-style-type: none">• understand short texts on environmental topics• express basic opinions and importance• participate in simple professional discussions• use basic grammar structures• master professional vocabulary related to land use and ecology
Thematic Content <p>Natural systems. Climate and ecosystems. Land resources. Soil formation and properties. Global agricultural land use.</p>
Grammar <p>Present Simple Active, Present Continuous Active, Past Simple Active Present Simple Passive, Past Simple Passive Modal verbs (obligation, necessity) Quantifiers and comparative form</p>
Functional Language <p>Defining concepts. Sequencing processes. Expressing cause and effect. Giving explanations and examples. Structuring short talks.</p>
Special Skill Focus <p>Understanding short academic texts. Explaining key concepts and ideas. Building logical connections in speech. Delivering short, structured monologues and dialogues.</p>
Module Assessment. <p>Writing a module test. Giving feedback</p>
Module 2: Effective Resource Management in the Context of Climate Change <i>(30 academic hours / 15 lessons)</i>
Objectives <ul style="list-style-type: none">• use specialized vocabulary related to climate change, land use and soil science, sustainability and innovation• synthesize information from multiple sources to develop informed arguments• deliver short, clear, well-structured presentations• analyse and interpret trends and data from diagrams• participate in academic discussions, contributing relevant ideas and responding to others' viewpoints• apply target grammar structures with an appropriate level of accuracy in both written and spoken academic discourse
Thematic Content <p>Climate change impacts. Anthropogenic and technogenic transformations. Challenges of agricultural land use. Quality monitoring and assessment. Enhancing sustainability. Innovation and digital technologies. Political and socio-economic aspects of resource management.</p>

Grammar

Present Perfect
 Future forms for predictions and projections
 Advanced comparative and superlative structures
 Complex passive constructions
 Conditional sentences (first and second) for hypotheses
 Linking words for cause-effect relationships
 Modal verbs (suggestion, possibility)
 Defining and non-defining clauses

Functional Language

Assessing and evaluating. Comparing and contrasting. Explaining risks and describing consequences. Making predictions.

Special Skill Focus

Presentation skills. Working with graphs and analysing trends. Taking part in the discussion.

Module Assessment.

Giving a presentation. Providing feedback.

Module 3: Ecosystems and Climate-Adaptive Water Management

(40 academic hours / 20 lessons)

Objectives

- use grammar structures with a high level of accuracy
- apply functional language appropriately for academic contexts
- deliver a lecture with a clear structure and appropriate signposting
- present data and research findings with appropriate hedging
- handle Q&A sessions confidently
- provide constructive peer feedback orally and in writing
- demonstrate professional presentation delivery skills
- explain complex topics clearly to academic audiences

Thematic Content

Biodiversity and ecosystems. Pollutants. Ecology of wetlands. Water quality monitoring. EU water directives. Conservation and restoration of aquatic ecosystem. Sustainable flood protection. Wetland restoration and rehabilitation. Climate change adaptation and sustainable development. Technological advancements. Policy and international cooperation

Grammar

Continuous aspects (Past Continuous, Future Continuous)
 Perfect aspects (Present Perfect Continuous, Past Perfect)
 Advanced modals
 Complex noun phrases
 Full passive system
 Third and mixed conditionals
 Hedging and academic structures

Functional Language

Describing processes and states. Expressing probability and uncertainty. Making arguments. Hedging. Explaining complex concepts. Handling question and response strategies.

Special Skill Focus

Academic lecturing. Conference-style presentations. Peer feedback and discussion moderation.

Final Assessment and Feedback

Final short academic lecture with a Q&A session.

Final Test.

Individual feedback on language accuracy, structure, terminology, and delivery.

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