

Language Advisory Service

A Language Advisory Service is available in the Language Resources Centre to give advice and support to anyone wishing to learn or already learning a language.

| Key facts | |
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| Availability: | Monday-Friday, throughout weeks 2-12 of the academic year |
| Sessions | |
| Avenue Campus: Languages Resources Centre, Room 2155, Building 65, Avenue Campus. General language advising for all students and staff learning as part of their studies, for work or leisure. | Semester 1 2013/14: |
| | Monday 14.00 - 18.00 |
| | Tuesday 13.00 - 17.00 |
| | Wednesday 13.00 - 17.00 |
| | Thursday 13.40 - 15.40 |
| | (please check sign-up sheets outside the LRC for details) |
| Booking information: | Please write your name on the advising schedule sheets outside the Language Resources Centre (65/2155), by the day and time of your choice. |
| Contact details: | Karla Guedes advising@southampton.ac.uk |
| Fee: | Free to all University of Southampton students and staff |

Your advising session

Language advising is an opportunity for you to discuss your language learning (or proposed language learning) needs and interests constructively in an informal setting. Please note that it is neither 1:1 teaching nor language-specific advice (nor proof-reading!). The advisors will not therefore usually correct or prescribe pieces of work or impose their ideas on you. Instead, they will help you to analyse, plan and manage your own progress in the language according to your individual learning style, needs, goals and interests.

General Language Advising

Each session lasts 20 minutes and learners tend to see an advisor individually. However, you may also book a double slot with another learner if you feel that this would be useful to you both.

Language advisors will be available to see you for your pre-booked sessions in the **Languages Resources Centre** (Avenue 2155) at the times shown throughout weeks 2 to 12 of the academic year.

In order to get the most out of your advising sessions, please prepare yourself; i.e. take the time to reflect on your progress/proposed language of study; e.g. consider what is going well which is just as relevant as what is going not so well. Think of questions you would like to ask your advisor to help you make further progress, e.g. how to approach an aspect of your language learning differently, or information about useful resources.

Full Time Stages 3 and 4 Students and Accelerated Courses

You are required to attend one language advising session per semester, per language studied at Stages 3 and/or 4 (or 1-3/1-2 if you are doing one of the accelerated courses). Each session lasts 20 minutes and learners tend to see an advisor individually.

The primary purpose of these sessions is to help you develop your critical learning skills. You may do this by explaining and analysing how you have revised a piece of written work in the foreign language that your language tutor has marked and annotated. Your language tutor will give you some suggestions to help you prepare for this. You should discuss the revision process with your advisor in English. Your advisor will ask you questions to prompt your reflections but the session will take the form of a constructive conversation rather than a student presentation followed by Q&A.

Alternatively, you may have identified a specific language area or skill which you would like to develop (e.g. how to make progress with listening in the foreign language or how to increase your vocabulary). Your advisor will discuss this with you and help you explore different strategies, resources or approaches that you may not have previously considered.

These sessions should help you to increase your critical awareness of your personal language learning processes which should in turn help you to take greater control over your own learning progress.

In order for you to derive maximum benefit from these sessions within the schedule of your Stages 3 and 4 language courses, you must have attended the requisite number of advisory sessions by the following deadlines:

1. Semester 1: end of Week 12 2. Semester 2: end of Week 7 **NB** Please note that this is a heavily subscribed service, so ensure that you book your place/s well in advance to reserve a day and time that is most convenient to you.

Academic English Language Advising

Face to Face Advising

Each session lasts 20 minutes and learners tend to see an advisor individually. These sessions are primarily to advise international students about their academic English but native English-speaker students may also use this service for language advice or academic study skills support (e.g. essay writing help in English).

Please note that this is not a proof-reading or language correction service. Instead, your language advisor will look at specific questions you may have about your academic spoken or written English. It is a good idea to show your advisor a short sample of your work in which you have identified particular points that you would like to focus on. This should help you develop your academic expression methodically in your own time.

Online Advising

Email advising is no longer being offered by the language advising team. If you have any questions or comments on the language advising service, please do not hesitate contacting us on **advising@southampton.ac.uk** (Please note that this e-mail is only checked on Mondays and Wednesdays during term-time only).

Cancellations and changes

You can cancel and reschedule your face-to-face language advising sessions on the manual sign-up sheets outside the Language Resources Centre.

If you have any problems or questions, please email us at:
advising@southampton.ac.uk

We hope that you find your face-to-face advising sessions at the University of Southampton useful and welcome your comments about this service.