**The evaluation of an English for Specific Purposes (ESP) course taught to pre-sessional undergraduate students in tandem with General English**

The presentation describes an action research project undertaken to assess an English for Specific Purposes (ESP) course, and a General English course, conducted to pre-sessional undergraduate students at Imam Abdulrahman Bin Faisal University, Dammam, in order to maximize the project’s validity and reliability. Data was generated from interviews with 11 students, 6 focus group discussions conducted with students and teachers, 14 classroom observations, 241 questionnaires, 12 examples of student writing, and 27 transcripts, as well as 745 results of students’ submitted work for grading. An analysis of the data concludes that conducting the courses in tandem does not discriminate against the students with less of a command of the language, but, in order to maximize the procedure’s effectiveness, students undertaking the course do require a certain level of command of the English language. Therefore, it is recommended that streaming is undertaken, with this cohort benefitting from a prolonged initial focus on General English. In addition, the language should be viewed as being on par with course content, with the needs of students being met through a constant procedure of analyses and the revision of the material presented, in order to ensure its relevance, with the provision of teacher training for those in need of it.