

CONTENT BASED ESL CURRICULUM (CBEC) AND ACADEMIC LANGUAGE PROFICIENCY

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We often face situation when technical Universities students acquire quite good communicational skills in English and can adequately survive in social settings, but not so in academic settings. Strong academic English can be achieved by adopting a content-based English curriculum (CBEC), when mainstream subjects are taught in English. The integration of language and subject-matter instruction is no longer a new trend in ESP teaching. A collaboration of the subject specialist with the language tutor while teaching self-contained courses is supposed to be “ideal” for students’ progress in English by many researchers. The undisputable advantages of such educational model are *substantial contact time with a target language and the use of language for meaningfully educational and professional activities intimately interwoven with learning and thinking*. Ten years experience of CBEC application in our University has provided students with high standard education without leaving the country. There are sound reasons to view CBEC as an alternative to expensive immersion models of language training abroad