

BLACKBOARD LMS POLICY FOR ELSD STUDENTS

(2020/2021)

INTRODUCTION

The ELSD provides online content to Common First Year students through Oxford University Press activities integrated into KSU Blackboard platform. It serves as a virtual learning environment that complements the on-campus experience to improve student engagement and achievement.

PURPOSE

LMS activities aim to boost students' active participation and communication by providing them with 24-hour online access to course information and multimedia resources to enhance their language learning outcomes inside and outside of the classroom. This encourages learner independence and promotes autonomous learning.

POLICY

To optimise LMS activities participation, students are required to complete a minimum number of 150 activities per semester that counts for 10% of their overall semester marks. There are hundreds of activities available for students to attempt during the semester but the minimum participation requirement is illustrated in the table on page 3.

BLACKBOARD CONTENT

Blackboard LMS provides a variety of resources for students. Students are encouraged to engage with the LMS activities in their own time.

The list of content available on Blackboard for ELSD students:

1. **Homepage** (Introductory video about LMS)
2. **Course Description** (Curriculum course description)
3. **Course Objectives** (Curriculum course objectives)
4. **Assessment Framework** (Semester mark breakdown)
5. **LMS Activities** (Course-related mandatory practice activities)
6. **Revision Materials** (Activities to help students practise their English skills)

LMS STUDENT'S GUIDE

Students can find information on how access LMS activities as well as how to navigate the Blackboard on:

- **LMS > Courses > [ENGS Section] > LMS Activities > Instructions**
- **Common First Year > Departments > English Language Skills > ELSD Documents > Blackboard ([LINK](#))**

TRACKING PROGRESS

LMS has a 'Progress' function that allows students to monitor and track their progress and performance on each activity.

The LMS activities are automatically scored. Students have unlimited attempts and they are encouraged to reattempt the activities as wished to ensure understanding of the activities' objectives.

WEEKLY FEEDBACK

Teachers are expected to give their students weekly feedback on their progress and help them with areas in which they need support. Students should regularly refer to the LMS Activity Distribution Schedule to be aware of the activities that need to be completed for each week.

SUPPORT

If students face any difficulties using Blackboard LMS, they should report the problems to their teachers as soon as possible. For information on how to use Blackboard LMS and which browsers to use, students can watch the video and refer to the documents available on Blackboard and Common First Year website.

NOTES

- Students are advised **not** to use mobile phones to access the Blackboard LMS, they should **ONLY** use laptops or desktops/PCs.
- Students **must not** attempt to access the LMS activities by using the *iQ Online* code found in their book. Instead, students **must** access the Blackboard LMS activities via KSU platform (lms.ksu.edu.sa) to attain 10% of the semester marks; else their progress will not be recorded by KSU LMS.

LMS Activity Distribution Schedule (Semester 1 : 2020-21)				
Q: Skills Online Activities	WEEK 2 - 3	WEEK 4	WEEK 5 - 12	Semester 1 Activities Deadline (Disabling LMS)
	Sep 6 – Sep 13	Sep 20	Sep 27 – Nov 15	
Reading & Writing	7 LMS Activities	5 LMS Activities	7 LMS Activities	
Listening & Speaking	7 LMS Activities	5 LMS Activities	7 LMS Activities	

- LMS Activities commence in **Week 2** on **September 6th, 2020**
- Students are recommended to complete an **average** of **14** LMS activities per week
- Students are expected to complete a **minimum** of **150 activities per semester** to attain 10% of semester marks
- Students can **select activities from any unit of their choice** within the specific books and timeframe given
- All activities must be submitted via the KSU's Blackboard LMS website (lms.ksu.edu.sa)
- Any attempts via *iQ Online* website using Student Access Code will **NOT** be accepted
- LMS should be accessed on a computer or a laptop and **not** mobile devices. Refer to LMS Guides for more details
- Students are allowed **unlimited** attempts
- The **deadline** for students to complete LMS activities is **Thursday, November 19th, 2020 at 11:59pm.**