REPORT ON THE INTENSIVE ENGLISH SUMMER COURSE FOR PRC POSTGRADUATE STUDENTS

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This report presents the content and format of a pilot teaching program undertaken during the summer of 1994 within the English Language Teaching Unit of the Chinese University of Hong Kong. The three-week, thirty-six-hour, non-credit course was designed to meet the special English language needs of CUHK postgraduate students from the People's Republic of China. The aim was to help students improve spoken English in tasks relevant to their actual needs as postgraduate students, tutors, and demonstartors. A content-based approach was adopted focusing on teaching and presentation skills. Student response to the program was enthusiastic with students reporting gains in pronunciation, fluency, confidence, and presentation skills. This report discusses the cultural and intellectual appropriateness of the approach, methods and techniques used, and concludes with a discussion of the major issues and problems that were encountered during the program.