

## *Department of English*

### **THE TUTORIAL SYSTEM**

The teaching in the Department of English is based on a system of tutorials and language practicals.

In the practical course (English IB) students have weekly tutorials as well as two practical periods (language and pronunciation) in the language laboratory. The stress in tutorials is on the ability of the student to express himself and communicate effectively in English. The course is intended for students of Law and Journalism (amongst others) who wish to improve their command of the language.

In the academic courses students also have a weekly tutorial. In practical terms this means that in any given section of the work, such as Poetry, a certain aspect of the syllabus is covered in the course of lectures. One aspect or theme is then set as an essay topic for the students to prepare at home. These essays are then presented in the course of the tutorial. Opportunities for discussion are created so that students can learn to develop and to defend their own critical positions. The lecturer also corrects any mistakes the student may have made, either orally after his presentation or by marking the essay formally.

Marks are always awarded for tutorial work, and these marks constitute an important part of the student's year mark. Attendance at tutorials is compulsory.

It has been found that students welcome the contact that is established in tutorials as it gives them an opportunity to express themselves. They gain a great deal of confidence while having an opportunity to have their work evaluated. The system can thus be regarded as forming the backbone of the teaching work in the department.

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