THE EFFECTIVENESS OF INTEGRATED ENGLISH COURSES
TO DEVELOP ENGLISH SKILLS

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Abstract
Integrated English Courses is being implemented in Business English study program of Politeknik Ubaya, Surabaya since 2007 until now. There are three integrated courses which are Intensive English Course, English Communication Skills, and English for Business. Although the content are varied; the courses have something in common, they teach 4 (four) basics English skills; listening, speaking, reading, and writing, to the Business English students. According to the Collins’ online dictionary integrated course is a course that covers several subjects or it provides a fully integrated course leading to a solid grounding in the four component subjects. The purpose of this preliminary study is to find the effectiveness of integrated English courses to develop 4 (four) English skills of the students of Business English study program. This study is determined by the following goals: to establish how the learning materials beneficial for the students English skills development, how the integrated English syllabus affect the students performance, and how the teachers’ implementation of the syllabus as well as the learning materials boost positive influence to develop students English skills. The target population of this study is the semester 4(four) of Business English students. Questionnaire is distributed to the students to reveal the effectiveness of the integrated English courses with the students’ English skills development. The finding of this research is beneficial for students, study program and Politeknik Ubaya. Since it can be use by the study program as a tool for the next curriculum review. Instead of depend only on the regular courses, students should also be motivated to enhance their learning activity with the self-access learning activity through videos, songs, and books in order to increase their reading and listening skills. Students can also develop their speaking skill through an extracurricular activity such as English Communication Club (ECC). The club can facilitate the students to communicate fluently in English. Since this study is only a preliminary research, a further study should be implemented in order to compare which one is better for students; integrated or non integrated English courses to develop students’ English skills.

Keywords: Integrated English Courses, effectiveness, four English skills, learning materials, Business English study program

Paper Type: Research Paper

REFERENCES


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