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## **A Perceived Needs Analysis Study for an English for Specific Purposes (ESP) Course for Sri Lankan Undergraduates in a Bachelor of Architecture Degree Programme**

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### **Abstract**

Currently, sound English proficiency has become a vital demand for any student who wants to pursue the immense changes and requirements in the modern complex world. Hence, the goal of English for Specific Purposes (ESP) programmes is to equip students to communicate effectively in English in academic and professional settings. The concept of examining learners' requirements or Needs Analysis, has been viewed as an important component of course design in the field of teaching English for Specific Purposes. Therefore, the purpose of this study is to investigate the perceived English language needs of undergraduates who study in the Bachelor of Architecture degree programme at the University of Moratuwa intending to provide recommendations for redesigning the existing course outline and developing an appropriate ESP textbook that acknowledge the language demands reflecting upon real-world necessities. A randomly selected sample of 30 third-year undergraduates who study in the Bachelor of Architecture (B. Arch) degree programme participated in the study as they have to participate in the internships and training programmes during the third year by applying the learnt language skills. A mixed approach was employed as data was collected through a questionnaire and semi-structured interviews. As findings, students highlighted the significance and the requirement to improve sub-skills to be used in realistic contexts they encounter such as giving oral presentations, understanding assignments, telephone and interview etiquette, writing reports and professional CVs/letters and listening to lectures/meetings. In conclusion, it is beneficial to co-operate with language learners in preparation of an ESP curriculum and in fulfilling the learners' requirements.

**Keywords:** *Architecture, Curriculum development, English for Specific Purposes, Needs Analysis*

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