ABSTRACT


Keywords: student needs, English for specific purposes (ESP), syllabus

One of the difficulty in designing the English for mathematics course is in designing the syllabus. A good syllabus must be accommodated to the student needs. However, finding out the student needs does not apply in designing the syllabus. Therefore, it indicates mismatch syllabus. The student needs in learning English for mathematics in mathematics education department of Sunan Ampel state Islamic university is found by questionnaire, interview, and document studies. 89 students are filled the questionnaire, 5 second semester students, 2 eight semester, a graduate student, and the lecture of English for mathematics are interviewed. In addition, to find out whether the syllabus has accommodated the student needs or has not, it finds by analyzing the syllabus. English for mathematics is academic purposes oriented. Based on the second semester students, speaking is the most expected skill to be learnt because it can support them during study and in a career, such as discussion and presentation. However, they are aware that reading is very influenced their study. The argument is also supported by the graduate students, the eight semester students, and the lecture that reading is the most needed language skill to support their study, especially for comprehend text book and journal, speaking has covered to the syllabus but writing article and listening does not been covered yet. Because of lack practicing in listening skill, students consider listening as the most difficult skill to learn. Additionally, students need learning English about mathematics terms. The student needs also covered in the syllabus. Moreover, the student needs as students in an Islamic university also covers in the topic of Islamic mathematics. Therefore, in some parts the syllabus has been covered the student needs.