

[Education] Mass Closing of University English Departments in Taiwan

Nationwide surveys on college and university English-related departments show that eight departments have closed down or stopped recruitment over the past eight years, and nine applied foreign language departments transformed themselves into something else, such as tourism.

A forum held by the Global Education Association in Taiwan (GEAT) revealed a survey that showed that 31.5% of English departments admit to facing student shortages. English departments no longer seem like a popular choice for prospective college students.

Chen Chao-ming, the CEO of GEAT and an English professor at Shih Chien University, said that he often finds that the English proficiency of other majors is just as good, if not better, than English majors. This results in almost no competitive advantage for students of this department. He believes that the English departments should redefine themselves to cultivate more than teachers, secretaries, or writers. They should provide cross-cultural training and enhance students' management knowledge and cross-disciplinary specialization, and cooperate with industries under the major trend of "trans-national management". This way, students could make more practical use of their English language training.

重要單字片語

1. prospective (adj.) 將來的；預期的

The manager is interviewing *prospective* employees this week.
經理這禮拜在面試有希望成為未來員工的人。

2. proficiency (n.) 精通度；熟練

Studying in the United States requires *proficiency* in English.
要在美國唸書必須精通英文。

3. cultivate (v.) 培養

Her taste in music was *cultivated* by her studies at the National Music Academy.
她的音樂素養是在國立音樂學院求學時培養出來的。

4. specialization (n.) 專長；專門化

the *specialization* of industry

工業之專門化

- 以上部分例句摘錄自 遠東圖書公司 實用英文字彙 (1~4500 字) (A~K) (L~Z) 、實用英文字彙 (4501~7000 字) 、遠東實用英漢辭典

Analysis

1. transform into 轉變成

transform 是一個動詞，轉變的意思；要轉變成的那個事物，接在 into 之後帶出。

Have you ever seen a car that can *transform into* a robot?

你有看過會變形成機器人的車子嗎？

2. admit (to) sth. 承認某事情

admit 是承認的意思，admit to sth.就是承認某事情，或是承認「做了」某事的話，to 後面記得加動詞 ing，admit to doing sth.承認做某事。

I *admitted to* breaking Dad's vase.

我承認打破爸爸的花瓶。

[教育] 全台多所大學關閉英語科系

針對全國大專院校英語相關科系的調查顯示出，在過去 8 年中，有 8 個英語系所關閉或是停招，而有 9 個應用外語系所則轉型為其他形式，例如觀光系。

台灣全球化教育推廣協會(GEAT)所舉辦的論壇公布了一項問卷調查，調查中顯示 31.5%的英語系所承認面臨著學生不足的情況。英語系所對準大學生來說，似乎不再是一個受歡迎的選擇。

台灣全球化教育推廣協會執行長、實踐大學英語系教授陳超明表示，他時常發現，其他系所學生的英語程度若不是和英語系的學生一樣好，就是比英語本科系的學生還要更好。這樣的結果使得英語本科系的學生幾乎沒有競爭優勢。他認為英語系所應該重新定位自身，以培養教師、秘書或作家之外的人才。英語系所應該要提供跨文化的訓練、加強學生們的管理知識與跨學科專業，以及在跨國界管理的主要趨勢下，與產業界合作。透過這種方式，學生們所受的英語訓練才得以有更實際的運用。