

Republic of Yemen
Sana'a University
Faculty of Languages
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**Matching English Requirement Courses to Labor
Market Needs: A Case Study of English Requirement
Courses Taught at Microbiology Department, Hajja
Faculty of Applied Sciences**

A Thesis Submitted by
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To

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Abstract

This study aimed at investigating to what extent English requirement courses taught at the Microbiology department, Hajja University, Yemen match labor market needs. To achieve this the study followed a descriptive mixed –methods approach. The study sample was all level four students of the Microbiology Department at the Faculty of Applied Sciences using the complete census method. A questionnaire and interviews were designed to collect data. The questionnaire was applied and the interviews were conducted during the academic year 2020/2021. Since qualitative and quantitative data was collected, the data collected through a questionnaire was analyzed by SPSS, whereas the data obtained through interviews was thematically analyzed. The findings of the study revealed that there was no match between the English requirement courses taught at the Microbiology department and the market needs. Although there was an ESP course, the course failed to satisfy students both academic and labor market needs. It was found that there is a lack of coordination between market needs and higher education institutions in terms of quantity and quality of English instruction. In light of these findings, the study concluded with a set of recommendations to English teachers as well as Microbiology Department to develop English courses and adopt new teaching materials and which should be coordinated continuously with the labor market to know their changing needs. Both student’s academic and future needs should also be taken into consideration, as this would create strong motivation among students to succeed in their studies and be ready to join the labor market.