Desires and Expectations of ESP Students: A Needs Analysis Approach

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This study investigated what language skills Iranian undergraduate students need in general to meet their specific academic goals. It also intended to examine the students’ satisfaction level and expectations regarding their ESP courses. A total of 158 undergraduate engineering students from different universities participated in this study. The data were collected through a survey using questionnaire. Statistical analysis of the data revealed that the students needed to develop their reading skill more than other language skills to meet their field-specific requirements. Major and gender were found to have no significant effect on the students’ needs for the 4 language skills. Moreover, it was found that most of the students were not really satisfied with their English language courses. Also, a majority of the students expressed their desire to have their ESP classes twice a week during 2 semesters in their bachelor’s program, having a teacher whose education is in the same field as their own field. The implications for ESP/EAP instruction and course design will be discussed.