# ANGLES Curs 1996-1997

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### OBJECTIVES

This course is designed for students of sociology who need to develop their language and study skills for an academic context, either in the U.A.B. or later in an English-speaking University. It is also a foundation course for those who may need it professionally in the future.

Students will be given a working knowledge of the main structures of the English language in its four integrated skills-oral comprehension, speaking, reading and writing, with the stress put on their academic and professional needs. This implies:

- the ability to understand lectures and talks given at reasonable speed.
- the ability to read quickly and understand the content of reading material related to sociology and political science (summaries, articles, abstracts, reviews, textbooks).
- the ability to take notes, write summaries, compositions and papers, demonstrating the competence to synthesise and develop a theme.
- the ability to express orally the student's own ideas and to converse at normal speaking speed about any subjects related to the courses followed in our Faculty.

The course will include work on study skills and will also incorporate information on the social and political background of some relevant English-speaking countries.

# ORIENTATION

In the two weekly classes the emphasis will be on the active participation of the students in the realization of the objectives.

The students will be required to summarise orally texts read in and out of class, participate in discussions, be eager to work in groups, and comment on assignments for other subjects studied in the Faculty.

Students will be expected to read at least two hours every week out of class, to prepare a short written text once a week and, either individually or in group, to write a project about matters from the programme of one of the subjects taught in this Faculty under the supervision of the corresponding teacher.

The class will have access to video material related to current events and sociological issues.

Having in mind the different backgrounds, academic and professional interests and also the different ability of the members of the class, individual attention will be given to cater for the specific needs of students.

So as to make the groups as homogeneous as possible a placement test will be taken on the first day of class.

### EVALUATION

Students will be assessed on the basis of their weekly work in and out of class, the final project and/ or a final exam. 25% of the final grade will depend on the written and oral work throughout the course (compositions, projects, group presentations).

Unless otherwise provided the remaining 75% will be based upon the results of a final exam. 25% of the final grade will correspond to reading skills. 25% will be allotted to writing skills and 25% will depend on assessing grammar structure in use. In order to have a pass, an acceptable level of performance should be attained in all the four parts.

There will also be a series of short tests throughout the year to check the students' progress. These tests will not be eliminatory.

Special arrangements will be provided for those students who demonstrate having an advanced level of English.

#### ATTENDANCE

Experience has shown that attendance to language classes in our Faculty tends to be erratic because of the amount of work needed to complete other courses, and also because of the misconceptions about the purpose and contents of a class of English in an academic environment. Thus very special efforts are requested from the students to follow English classes on a regular basis. This course is a nine-month project and therefore it requires the constant interest and dedication of those registered.

### CONTENTS

# LANGUAGE SKILLS

Unit 1

Relatives: who/whom/ whose/which/ that/where/what. Defining and non-defining clauses. General order of adjectives.

### STUDY SKILLS

Defining concepts.
Classifying.
Ways of reading.
Finding the main point.