

Anual Curs 1998-99

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O B J E C T I V E S

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.

O R I E N T A T I O N

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 (30 September, 1998).

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. 34% of the final grade will depend on the written and oral work throughout the course (extensive reading, compositions, projects, group presentations). All assignments must be turned in on time (late work may be rejected or have a lower evaluation).

Unless otherwise provided the remaining 66% will be based upon the results of a final exam. 22% of the final grade will correspond to reading skills. 22% will be allotted to writing skills and 22% 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 mid-year test on January 15 1999 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

This course is a nine-month project and therefore it requires the constant interest and dedication of those registered. Thus very special efforts are requested from the students of Sociology to follow English classes on a regular basis.

CONTENTS

LANGUAGE SKILLS

Revision of Simple Past.
Question formation.
Would and used to: similarities and differences.

Unit 1

STUDY SKILLS

Writing about events in time.
Reading with questions in mind.

Present Perfect and Simple Past.
Revision of time markers.

Unit 2

Relatives: *who/whom/ whose/which/ that/where/what*.
Defining and non-defining clauses.
General order of adjectives.
Prepositions in relative clauses.
-ing adjectives versus -ed adjectives.
Words related to the Social Sciences: *politics/policy; social/societal*.

Unit 3

Revision of modals.
Words related to gender.
Too and enough.
Phrasal verbs: introduction.

Unit 4

Revision of comparatives and superlatives.
Location words.
Causative *have*.
Order of word groups.
So and such.

Unit 5

Verbs and expressions followed by -ing forms.
Verbs which change their meaning after -ing forms or infinitive.
Contrast clauses.
Words related to demography.
Conditionals.

Unit 6

Contrast: future with *going to* (intentions and predictions)/ *will + verb* (spontaneous decision)/ present progressive (definite arrangements).
Wish (facts and habits).

Reading for inference.
Opening sentences.

Defining concepts.
Classifying.
Ways of reading.
Finding the main point.
Chapter structure.
Surveying a textbook.
Using a dictionary.

Interpreting graphs.
Preparing a C.V.
Note taking.
Writing formal letters.
Looking for pros & cons.
Reading abstracts & summaries.

Organizing texts: general-specific.
Making contrasts and comparisons.
Distinguishing fact from opinion.
Comparing sources.
Linking paragraphs.

Cause-effect: linkers.
Signpost expressions.
Forms of argument.
Writing abstracts & summaries.
Identifying text structure.

Sociology of writing: cultural constraints.
Using sources.
Using counter-arguments.
Comparing text structures.

False friends/ words easily confused.

Unit 7

Purpose clauses: *to, in order to, so that*. Linear relationships:
Reason clauses: *because, since, as*. process.
Be allowed to + verb. "I" in academic writing.
Make and let + personal object + verb. Emphasizing the message.
The Passive.
Words related to the academic prose.

Unit 8

Modals of obligation in the past. Structuring texts:
Modals + perfect infinitive. situation, problem,
The third conditional. solution and evaluation.
Result clauses. Promoting nominal style.
The language of electoral campaigns.
Passive and modals.
Styles of language: formal vs. informal
vs. colloquial.

Unit 9

Reported speech: reporting verbs, change of tenses. Critical reading: comparing viewpoints.
Contrasting *say* and *tell*. Reading the press.
Contrasting orders and statements. Analysing editorials.
Contrasting questions and requests. Writing reports.
Prepositions used after verbs. Preparing a project.
Structural features of headlines: Comparing TV and press reports.
omission, change of tenses,
adjective use of nouns.

Unit 10

Modal verbs of deduction and speculation in the past. Creating texts.
Future simple and future perfect The honesty principle:
Definite and indefinite articles. degrees of certainty.
Use of past participles as adjectives. Preparing a speech.
No and *not*
Had better and *would rather*.
Inversion after 'negative adverbs'.
Grammar and Social Theory.
Understanding the English of the Classics.

B I B L I O G R A P H Y

The bulk of the material used in class will include texts in English appearing in the bibliography of the other subjects studied this year, as well as newspapers, magazines, TV and video extracts.

There will be no textbook. Dossiers containing material related to our courses will be made available at the photocopy centre.

Here is a list of supporting written material:

Books of Reference.

A. Language Skills

AZAR, B. S. *Understanding and Using English Grammar*.
Prentice Hall Regents, 2nd ed., 1989.

CADIERNO C., D. JOHNSTON, C. SERT & J. SUREDA *Circles 3. S.G.E.L.*,
Madrid, 1991.

CHALKER S. *Current English Grammar*. Macmillan, London.

DOWNING & P. LOCKE *A University Course in English Grammar*.
Prentice Hall International, London.

EASTWOOD J. *Oxford Practice Grammar. With Answers*. Oxford U.P., 1994.

FOWLER W.S. *New Proficiency English, book 3*. Nelson, 1985.

GRAVER B.D. *Advanced English Practice*. Oxford U.P.

JONES L. *Use of English*. Cambridge U.P., 1985.

---- *New Progress to first Certificate*. C.U.P., 1997

MURPHY R. *English Grammar in Use: With answers*. C.U.P., 1997

SPANKIE G. M. *More Grammar you Need*. Macmillan.

SWAN M. *Practical English Usage*, Oxford U.P.

YI QIU Z. & P. NOBLE SULLIVAN *ARCO's TOEFL Super Course*. Prentice
Hall, New York, 1993.

B. Study Skills: Reading and Writing for Academic Purposes

BENESCH S., M. RAKIJAS & B. RORSCHACH *Academic Writing Workshop*.
Heinle & Heinle (USA).

---- & B. RORSCHACH *Academic Writing Workshop II*. Heinle &
Heinle.

DONAHUE LATULIPPE L. *Writing as a Personal Product*. Prentice Hall International UK.

FRANK M. *Writing as Thinking. A Guided Process Approach*. Prentice Hall International UK.

GLENDINNING E.H. & B.HOLMSTRÖM *Study Reading. A Course in Reading Skills for Academic Purposes*. Cambridge U.P., 1992.

HAARMAN L, P.LEECH & J. MURRAY *Reading Skills for the Social Sciences*. Oxford University Press, 1988.

HAMP-LYONS L. & B.HEASLEY *Study Writing. A course in written English for academic and professional purposes*. Cambridge U.P.1987.

HOLSCHUH L. W. & J.P. KELLEY *Academic Reading*. Macmillan, London.

HOWE N. *Advanced Practical Sociology*. Nelson, 1994.

JOLLY D. *Writing Tasks*. Cambridge U.P. 1994.

LEKI I. *Academic Writing*. Macmillan, London.

MARKSTEIN L. & L. HIRASAWA *Developing Reading Skills*. Newbury House (USA) 1981.

SELFE P. *Work Out Sociology A Level* Macmillan, London, 1993.

WALLACE M. *Study Skills in English*, Cambridge U.P.

C. Culture, Society and Civilization

BROMHEAD P. *Life in Modern America*. Longman, London.

--- *Life in Modern Britain*. Longman, London.

BROOKES H. F. & C.E. FRAENKEL. *Life in Britain*. Heinemann.

GARWOOD C., G. GARDANI & E. PERIS *Aspects of Britain and the USA*. Oxford U.P. 1992.

HOOPER J. *The New Spaniards*. Penguin Books, Harmondsworth, 1995.

KEARNY E. *The American Way. An Introduction to American Culture*. Prentice Hall International UK.

TOWNROE C. & G. YATES *Sources in Sociology*. Longman, London, 1989.

Periodicals

Newsweek, The Economist, The Guardian, The Herald Tribune, Time, a selection of dailies in English.
News Programmes. Sky News, CNN, ABC.

Most of the books mentioned here have no date of publication. That's because new editions are constantly coming out.

A list of suitable monolingual and bilingual dictionaries will be provided on request.