

Subject: SEGONA LENGUA ESTRANGERA (Anglès)

Code: 29164 (Humanitats)

Credits: 10,5

Semestre: Anual

Grups: 1 50

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OBJECTIVES

The purpose of this subject is twofold: a) improve students' linguistic and communicative competence up to a First Certificate level; and b) enhance students' autonomy in language learning, which allows them to plan and organize their learning based on their own needs and objectives.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

The methodology of the course will be mostly based on students' autonomous work, which they will carry out in the Centre d'Autoaprenentatge de Llengües (CAL) (on the third floor of the Biblioteca d'Humanitats), under the supervision of the course instructor. In order to support students' learning, the course will also include group sessions with the teacher, which will be offered every week. Hence, the course will consist of the following:

- Teacher-led introductory sessions: These initial sessions will be held with the whole class in the room assigned at the Facultat de Lletres, and will be used to introduce students into the course and into autonomous learning and to prepare them for the work students will have to do on their own.

-Autonomous work. Following the introductory sessions, students will begin working on their own or in groups at the CAL, by using the resources of the center and by following the course activities they will have specified in their personal Learning Plan. Students should note that attendance at the CAL every week is an obligatory requirement of the course.

-Teacher-led seminars and practical sessions. Every week, students will alternate their autonomous work with group sessions, which will be offered by the course instructor, either on Tuesday or on Thursday. These sessions, which will be held in room L-315 of the CAL, will serve different purposes: a) to sensitize learners to better ways of learning and improving their English; b) to offer practice in different types of exercises (similar to those of FCE Cambridge exam); c) to solve linguistic or methodological doubts, and d) to offer oral practice in groups, such as debates and oral presentations.

SYLLABUS

Throughout the course, students will be working on different resources and materials following their Learning Plan. These activities should allow them to improve their reading

and listening comprehension as well as their speaking and writing skills. In addition, students will also be expected to work on their linguistic (grammar and vocabulary) knowledge of English. To improve these skills, students will spend time working both at the CAL as well as at home (e.g. to prepare course assignments). The following paragraphs describe how each skill will be practiced and what the requirements and assignments for each will be:

-*Grammar and vocabulary*. Students are expected to work on their own on one of the recommended Grammar and Vocabulary books (see below). They should prepare the book at home, but they may want to complement their learning of specific grammar points or of vocabulary by using other reference materials when they work at the CAL. There will be regular group sessions where linguistic doubts will be dealt with and where complementary practice and tests will be offered.

-*Speaking*: This skill can be practiced in communicative activities which students may undertake individually, in pairs or in groups, some of which will be supervised by the instructor in the oral sessions. During the second semester, students will prepare an oral presentation on a topic of their choice.

-*Listening*. This can be extensively practiced with the resources available at the CAL (videos, dvd's, satellite tv, cd-roms, tapes, cd's). Students will be required to submit the summary of one of the oral presentations they will hear in the oral practice sessions as well as one summary of a documentary.

-*Writing*. This skill will be practiced with the writing materials of the Cal as well as with the writing and rewriting of various texts, among them an argumentative essay, a narrative essay, a descriptive essay, a letter, a CV and two book reviews they will have to submit throughout the course.

-*Reading*. This will be enhanced by the reading of various types of text, both original and adapted, among them, academic texts, newspaper articles, and adapted novels. At the end of each semester, students will be expected to submit the book review of a novel they have chosen as well as the summary of a newspaper article.

Students will be required to gather evidence of the work done at the CAL throughout the course (exercises, lists of recorded vocabulary, photocopied materials, self-recordings, written texts and revisions, self-assessment, record sheets, etc.) in a **Portfolio**, which they will have to submit at the end of the program.

ASSESSMENT

The course is based on continuous assessment. The final grade will be based on the following:

- Final (40%) and midterm (10%) exams 50 %
 - Home and class assignments 30 %
 - Portfolio 20 %

Observations:

-Final exam. In order to pass the course, students have to pass the final exam. However, only taking the final exam is no guarantee the student will pass the course as it is only 50 % of the final grade. Dates will be announced by the instructor on the Campus Virtual.

-Home assignments: Bear in mind that these tasks are an essential part of the course and need to be submitted by the deadline specified by the instructor.

TUTORIAL

The teacher will hold individual counselling sessions with students in order to follow up their learning plan and check their progress.

BIBLIOGRAPHY AND COURSE MATERIALS

Recommended Grammar and vocabulary books. Choose one.

-Vince, M. *First Certificate Language Practice*. With key. Heinemann.

-Prodromou, L. *Grammar and Vocabulary for First Certificate* (with key). Longman.

Recommended reference grammars:

-Evans, V.(1995) *Round Up. English Grammar Practice* 6. Longman (strongly recommended for those students who need further grammar revision and extra practice)

-Swan, M. *Basic English Usage*. Oxford University Press (useful for solving grammar doubts).

-Fuchs, M. & Bonner, M. (2003). *Grammar Express with answers*. Longman.

Recommended dictionaries and other books

- ◆ *Dictionary of Contemporary English*. Longman.
- ◆ *English Dictionary for advanced learners*. McMillan.
- ◆ *Word selector Anglès-Català*, Cambridge.
- ◆ *Language Activator*, Longman.

