

Degree	Type	Year	Semester
2502758 Humanities	FB	1	1

Contact

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Use of languages

Principal working language: english (eng)

Some groups entirely in English: No

Some groups entirely in Catalan: No

Some groups entirely in Spanish: No

Prerequisites

Students should have a B1 level (intermediate) of English.

Objectives and Contextualisation

This course focuses on the oral comprehension of the English language. Through several Ted Talks, the students will work on different grammar and vocabulary points (i.e. comparative and superlative, future time, etc.). Writing skills, reading comprehension and pronunciation will be worked in class too.

Skills

- Developing critical thinking and reasoning and communicating them effectively both in your own and other languages.
- Students must be capable of applying their knowledge to their work or vocation in a professional way and they should have building arguments and problem resolution skills within their area of study.
- Students must be capable of collecting and interpreting relevant data (usually within their area of study) in order to make statements that reflect social, scientific or ethical relevant issues.
- Students must be capable of communicating information, ideas, problems and solutions to both specialised and non-specialised audiences.

Learning outcomes

1. Ability to maintain an appropriate conversation.
2. Carrying out oral presentations using an appropriate academic vocabulary and style.
3. Communicating in oral and written form in the studied language, properly using vocabulary and grammar.
4. Identifying the main and secondary ideas and expressing them with linguistic correctness.
5. Interpreting the meaning of unknown words thanks to its context.
6. Making predictions and inferences about the content of a text.
7. Producing a written text that is grammatically and lexically correct.
8. Producing an oral text that is grammatically and lexically correct.

Content

Unit 1: Working life

Grammar: Present simple - Expressions of frequency - Indirect questions

Vocabulary: Working life collocations (verb+noun) - Jobs

Unit 2: Trends

Grammar: Present simple and continuous

Vocabulary: Verbs describing trends - Relationships

Unit 3: Money

Grammar: Countable and uncountable nouns - Expressions of quantity - Extension

Vocabulary: Money

Unit 4: Success

Grammar: Past simple and continuous - Past perfect

Vocabulary: Success and rewards - Prepositional phrases

Unit 5: Marketing

Grammar: Comparatives and superlatives

Vocabulary: Marketing collocations

Unit 6: Communication

Grammar: Verb patterns with infinitive and -ing - Infinitive and -ing clauses

Vocabulary: Communication collocations - Small talk phrases

Methodology

In class activities:

In class, students will analyze and practice with different kinds of oral and written texts; students will work on learning strategies to ease the oral and reading comprehension/expression.

Supervised activities:

The teacher will supervise some oral activities and will practice different kinds of readings. There will be time devoted to questions (grammar, lexicon and pronunciation) and some time to improve the students' writing skills.

Independent tasks:

Students will work on assignments and exercises on their own.

Students will have to hand in a portfolio (self-corrected), which will contain all their self-study work.

Virtual Campus:

The course will have a Virtual Campus that will work as an information source through which students will be able to access documents, exercises, a forum, etc.

Activities

Title	Hours	ECTS	Learning outcomes
Type: Directed			
In-class activities	45	1.8	
Supervised activities	25	1	
Type: Autonomous			
Independent activities	45	1.8	

Evaluation

-The evaluation will be continuous and on-site. It will include in-class exercises, assignments, homework, participation and assessments.

-The student will have a no available as a final grade if s/he hands in less than a 30% of the course tasks. In other words, if the student does more than a 30% of the tasks s/he will be assessed.

-To pass the subject students need a 5 (minimum).

-Reassessment will be offered to those students who did a continuous and on-site course and failed or did not hand in some of the assignments (up to a 30%) or failed one of the exams with a mark that was higher than 3,5. Some of the tasks cannot be re-evaluated (class participation, oral presentations, in-class exercises).

-Reassessment will consist in a written exam which will contain all the content given throughout the course. Students will get a maximum of 5 as a final grade.

VERY IMPORTANT: Partial or total plagiarising will immediately result in a FAIL (0) for the plagiarised exercise (first-year subjects) or the WHOLE SUBJECT (second-, third- and fourth-year subjects). PLAGIARISING consists of copying text from unacknowledged sources -whether this is part of a sentence or a whole text- with the intention of passing it off as the student's own production. It includes cutting and pasting from internet sources, presented unmodified in the student's own text. Plagiarising is a SERIOUS OFFENCE. Students must respect authors' intellectual property, always identifying the sources they may use; they must also be responsible for the originality and authenticity of their own texts.

Evaluation activities

Title	Weighting	Hours	ECTS	Learning outcomes
Exercises and participation	5	5	0.2	7, 4, 5, 6
Oral exam	20	5	0.2	8, 3, 4, 1, 2
Oral presentation	5	5	0.2	8, 3, 4, 2
2 written exams	30	5	0.2	7, 4, 5, 6
2 written tasks	40	15	0.6	7, 4

Bibliography

Textbook:

-National Geographic. Keynote Intermediate. Student's Book. Cengage Learning.

Other books:

- Swan, M. Practical English usage. Oxford, OUP.

Dictionaries:

-Cambridge Advanced Learner's Dictionary

-Collins Cobuild English Language Dictionary

-Collins Dictionary Spanish-English / English-Spanish

-Longman Dictionary of Contemporary English (with CD-ROM)

-Macmillan English Dictionary for Advanced Learners of English (with CD-ROM)

-Oxford Dictionary of Spanish-English / English-Spanish

Other:

- To improve written skills:

- Fawcett, S. & Sandberg, A. Evergreen. Boston: Houghton Mifflin.

- Raimes, A. Keys for Writers: a Brief Handbook. Boston: Houghton Mifflin

- White, R. & Arndt, A. Process Writing. London: Lognman

- To improve oral expression:

- Baker, A. Ship or Sheep? An intermediate pronunciation course.

- Hancock, M. English pronunciation in use.

- To improve reading comprehension:

-Penguin Readers selection (levels 4 to 5)

-Mikulecky, B. S. & Jeffries, L. More Reading Power. London: Longman.