

Basic English Usage

Code: 103409
ECTS Credits: 12

Degree	Type	Year	Semester
2500245 English Studies	FB	1	A
2501902 English and Catalan	FB	1	A
2501907 English and Classics	FB	1	A
2501910 English and Spanish	FB	1	A
2501913 English and French	FB	1	A

Contact

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Use of languages

Principal working language: english (eng)
Some groups entirely in English: Yes
Some groups entirely in Catalan: No
Some groups entirely in Spanish: No

Teachers

Montserrat Capdevila Batet
Christina A. Howes
Elisenda Pilar Vila Estrada
Merce Coll Alfonso
Susagna Tubau Muntanya
Elisabet Pladevall Ballester

Prerequisites

Students are advised that they should have a level equivalent to Common European Framework of Reference for Languages B2 in order to follow the course successfully.

Students are recommended to read the explanations and do the exercises in the "Curso de inglés avanzado" and the vocabulary and pronunciation sections in <http://www.ejerciciodeingles.com/>

It is also recommended that students attend the "Curs Propedèutic" English Academic Skills, which the Departament de Filologia Anglesa i Germanística offers from 4th to 8th September 2017.

Objectives and Contextualisation

"Basic Uses of the English Language" forms part of the Language area courses in the first year, along with "Descriptive Grammar." It runs for two semesters, with "Descriptive Grammar", "Introduction to Linguistics" and "Comparative Literature" in the first semester, "English Literature of the Twentieth Century", "Great Themes of

Philosophy", "Major Themes in History" and "Foreign Language" in the second semester, and "History and Culture of the British Isles" which is also annual.

Objectives:

- Improve students' instrumental use of the English language, both written and oral, to a C1 level of language skills, and prepare students for the core material from "English Language".
- Understand authentic non-specialized texts of average difficulty.
- Talk about non-specialised topics without basic grammar mistakes, and with acceptable fairly accurate pronunciation.
- Understand audiovisual material on a variety of non-specialised topics .
- Write argumentative essays on different topics. Students must organize ideas and content appropriately and use appropriate discourse connectors. They will also use a moderate variety of grammatical structures and accurate vocabulary.

Skills

English Studies

- Demonstrate they know a wide variety of texts in English language of any mean (oral, written, audiovisual) and recognising implicit meanings.
- Executing in oral and written form a flexible and effective use of the English language with academic, professional and social purposes.
- Produce clear and well structured and detailed texts in English about complex topics, displaying a correct use of the organisation, connection and cohesion of the text.
- Utilising new technologies in order to capture and organise information in English and other languages, and applying it to the personal continued training and to the problem-solving in the professional or research activity.

English and Catalan

- Demonstrate they know a wide variety of texts in English language of any mean (oral, written, audiovisual) and recognising implicit meanings.
- Produce clear and well structured and detailed texts in English about complex topics, displaying a correct use of the organisation, connection and cohesion of the text.

English and Classics

- Demonstrate they know a wide variety of texts in English language of any mean (oral, written, audiovisual) and recognising implicit meanings.
- Executing in oral and written form a flexible and effective use of the English language with academic, professional and social purposes.
- Produce clear and well structured and detailed texts in English about complex topics, displaying a correct use of the organisation, connection and cohesion of the text.

English and Spanish

- Demonstrate they know a wide variety of texts in English language of any mean (oral, written, audiovisual) and recognising implicit meanings.
- Produce clear and well structured and detailed texts in English about complex topics, displaying a correct use of the organisation, connection and cohesion of the text.

English and French

- Demonstrate they know a wide variety of texts in English language of any mean (oral, written, audiovisual) and recognising implicit meanings.
- Executing in oral and written form a flexible and effective use of the English language with academic, professional and social purposes.
- Produce clear and well structured and detailed texts in English about complex topics, displaying a correct use of the organisation, connection and cohesion of the text.

Learning outcomes

1. Carrying out oral presentations in English about a variety of topics of public interest.
2. Demonstrating they know English specialised and non-specialised texts of high difficulty level, and interpreting them in a critical manner.
3. Drawing up brief argumentative essays in English about non-specialised topics of average difficulty.
4. Locating and organising relevant information in English that is available on the Internet, in databases, etc.
5. Show comprehension of a wide variety of (non-colloquial) auditory material in standard British and American English, whether in face-to-face interactions at C1 level or from the media, on specialist and non-specialist topics of high difficulty.
6. Using the English language with the appropriate expression (correctness, fluency, pronunciation, communicative strategies) in formal (presentations, debates, formal interactions) and informal contexts (conversation) with a level C1.

Content

Grammar and Vocabulary

Consolidation of the basic grammar of English tenses, conditionals, modal verbs, pronouns and determiners, use of passive structures, relative clauses, indirect speech and aspects of cohesion and punctuation, among others.

Error correction exercises

Grammar conversion exercises

Vocabulary exercises based on texts and audiovisual material

Collocation exercises

Written production: writing argumentative and opinion texts.

Exercises on planning and structuring of texts.

Rewriting and self-correction exercises

Exercises on cohesion, punctuation and argumentation.

Oral production:

Participation in oral activities on selected topics. Oral Presentation.

Reading comprehension:

Summary and comprehension exercises based on real or adapted texts on different topics.

Listening:

Activities on understanding authentic audiovisual materials.

Methodology

The Methodology will be based on the following activities:

Directed activities (30%, 3.6 cr)

Supervised activities (15%, 1.8 cr)

Autonomous activities (50%, 6 cr)

Assessment activities (5%, 0.6 cr)

Guided Exercises:

- Lecture classes with technological / on line support. Collective discussion.
- Completion of exercises.

Supervised work:

- Tutorial support.
- Oral Practice Groups

Autonomous Student Study:

- Reading manuals, text books and dossiers.
- Drawing up plans and summaries of class notes and texts.
- Practical exercises and assigned writing
- Participation in virtual environment.

Assessment Activities:

- Written Exam.
- Oral Exam.

Activities

Title	Hours	ECTS	Learning outcomes
Type: Directed			
Guided Exercises	90	3.6	5, 1, 3, 6
Type: Supervised			
Supervised Work	45	1.8	6
Type: Autonomous			
Autonomous Student Study	150	6	5, 4, 3

Evaluation

Assessment activities

- In-class or at home weekly tasks (6 Essays, 2 Quizzes, Oral Presentation) (30%).
- Partial written exam (10%)
- Final written and oral exam (60%)

Assessment Calendar (approximate)

- Partial Exam: End of December 2017 / Beginning of January 2018.
- Essays: Handed in every four weeks.
- Final Exam: End of May 2018.
- Re-assessment: June 2018. Re-assessment dates are assigned by the university.

Note:

- Any assigned work not handed in will be evaluated as **0**
- Students who complete more than 30% of the tasks assigned for evaluation cannot receive "**no evaluable**" (impossible to evaluate) as final mark.
- In order to take the final oral exam, students must achieve a minimum of 60/100 on the written part. Each part must be equal to or higher than 45/100.
- Failing the oral implies a FAIL for the whole course.
- The pass mark for any exercise/essay/précis/or part of an exam is 60%

Re-assessment:

- Students must obtain a mark equal or superior to 45/100 on the final exam to be eligible for re-assessment.
- Students will re-assess only those parts of the exam that they did not pass.
- The maximum mark that can be awarded at re-assessment is PASS.

VERY IMPORTANT:

Complete or partial plagiarism of any of the exercises assigned leads automatically to a FAIL for the assigned exercise. PLAGIARISM is copying texts or sections of text from unidentified sources and presenting them as one's own work, (THIS INCLUDES COPYING PHRASES OR FRAGMENTS FROM THE INTERNET AND INCLUDING THEM WITHOUT MODIFICATION AS ONE'S OWN WORK) and is a serious offence. Others' intellectual property rights must always be respected, and sources used must be identified. Students are responsible for the originality and authenticity of their own work.

Evaluation activities

Title	Weighting	Hours	ECTS	Learning outcomes
Final Written Exam	60%	4	0.16	5, 2, 3, 6
Individual and Classroom Tasks	30%	7	0.28	5, 2, 1, 4, 3, 6
Partial Written Exam	10%	4	0.16	5, 2, 3

Bibliography

Obligatory Bibliography

Dummett, P., Stephenson, H. and Lansford, L. (2016) Keynote Advanced for "Usos Bàsics" (UAB SPECIAL EDITION,) Hampshire:National Geographic Learning.

Kennedy-Scanlon, M., Pladevall, E. And Cebrián, J. (2012)) Guided Error Correction: Exercises for Spanish-speaking Students of English. Level B2. Bellaterra: Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona Servei de Publicacions.

Vince, M. Macmillan (2013) English Grammar in Context. Advanced (with CD Rom) Oxford: Macmillan.

Complementary Bibliography

Colonna, M.R. and Gilbert, J.E. (2003) Reason to Write. Strategies for Success in Academic Writing, Advanced. Oxford: OUP.

Cunningham, G and Bell, J. (2009) Face2Face. Advanced. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

Cunningham, S. and Moor, P. (2003) Cutting Edge. Advanced. Harlow: Longman.

Mann, M. and Taylore-Knowles, S. (2006) Destination B2. Grammar and Vocabulary. Oxford: Macmillan.

Norris, R. (2004) Ready for CAE. Oxford: Macmillan.

Oxenden, C. and Latham-Koenig, C. (2010) New English File. Advanced (Student's Book and Workbook with key). Oxford: OUP.

Swan, M. and Walter, C. (2001) How English works. Oxford: OUP.

Swan, M. (2003) Practical English Usage. Oxford: OUP

Vince, M. and Emmerson, P. (2003) First Certificate Language Practice (with key). Oxford: Macmillan.

Dictionaries

Oxford Advanced Learner's Dictionary, OUP.

Collins Cobuild English Dictionary, Harper Collins Publishers.

Cambridge Advanced Learner's Dictionary, CUP.

Collins English-Spanish/Spanish-English Dictionary, 6th ed., Grijalbo.

Longman Language Activator. Longman.

Webs

- www.ldoceonline.com (Longman Dictionary of Contemporary English)
- www.merriam-webster.com (Merriam-Webster dictionaries on line)
- dictionary.cambridge.org (Cambridgedictionaries on line)
- www.flo-joe.co.uk (Cambridge official examination practice)
- www.els-lab.com (listening exercises with self-correction multiple-choice activities)
- www.pbs.org (American public television. Documentaries. American English)
- 5yiso.appspot.com (Oxford Collocations Dictionary for Students of English)