

Foreign language I (English)

Code: 103574
ECTS Credits: 6

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

Teachers

Arnau Roig Mora

Prerequisites

Students should have a B1 level (intermediate) of English. This level is reached at the end of secondary education, and will be the starting point in this class.

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, the simple present, 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 different kinds of oral and written texts, and will work on learning strategies to improve oral and reading comprehension/expression.

Supervised activities:

The teacher will supervise some oral and reading activities. Time will also be devoted to the discussion of various linguistic aspects (grammar, lexicon and pronunciation), and also 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.

Activities

Title	Hours	ECTS	Learning outcomes
Type: Directed			
In-class activities	50	2	
Supervised activities	25	1	
Type: Autonomous			
Independent activities	50	2	

Evaluation

The final grade will be calculated as follows:

- Class participation (and homework): 5%
- Oral presentation: 15%

The teacher can choose a topic area (literature, movies, etc).

Students can do the oral presentation in pairs.

- Final project: 10%

The final project consists in handing in the three revision units that are available in *Keynote* upper-intermediate every two units. The teacher may want to add another activity.

- Midterm exam: 35%

Based on the three first units of the book.

- Final exam: 35%

Based on the three last units of the book.

IMPORTANT:

- The subject follows continuous assessment, and it will include all the work during throughout the semester.
- Non-assessable students are those who have done less than a 30% of the assessment items of the course.
- In order to pass the course, it is necessary to have a mean of **5**.

Procedure for Reviewing Grades Awarded

On carrying out each evaluation activity, lecturers will inform students (on Moodle) of the procedures to be followed for reviewing all grades awarded, and the date on which such a review will take place.

Reassessment

Only those students who have successfully completed a series of activities whose value is equivalent to a minimum of 70% of the total course grade are entitled to opt for reassessment.

The reassessment will be a final exam including the material of the whole semester.

The maximum grade that can be obtained through reassessment is a **5**.

Evaluation Activities Excluded from Reassessment

The following activities are not eligible for reassessment: in-class assignments and oral presentations.

Approximate assessment calendar

Midterm: week 7-8

Final exam: last week in the semester

Oral presentations: throughout the semester

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
Class participation and homework	5%	2	0.08	7, 4, 5, 6
Examen final	35%	8	0.32	7, 4
Final project	10%	2	0.08	7, 3, 5
Midterm exam	35%	8	0.32	7, 4, 5, 6
Oral presentation	15%	5	0.2	8, 3, 4, 1, 2

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.