# English Specialised Texts (Year 2) (Master’s degree in Foreign languages, literatures and cultures, curriculum in International Management)

Gr. A-K: Prof. Amanda C. Murphy; Gr. L-Z: Prof. Francesca Seracini

***COURSE AIMS AND INTENDED LEARNING OUTCOMES***

The course aim is to develop a critical understanding of the linguistic and multimodal features characterising certain specialised genres in the areas of business and institutional communication and provide students with the metalinguistic skills needed to evaluate them.

*Knowledge and understanding*

By the end of the course the students will be expected to have acquired:

– knowledge of the theories and development of ESP

– understanding of the discourse features that realise different genres

– understanding of the concepts of knowledge communication and popularisation

– knowledge of the strategies employed in the popularisation process

– knowledge of the key concepts of corpus linguistics analysis

*Ability to apply knowledge and understanding*

At the end of the course, students are expected to:

– be able to discuss theories of specialised discourse in English;

– have developed an awareness of the linguistic and multimodal features of certain specialised genres;

– be able to recognise and analyse the morphosyntactic, lexical, textual, visual and pragmatic features characterising specialised and popularised texts;

– be able to identify persuasive strategies in specialised discourse.

*Transferable skills*

– concepts and tools of corpus linguistics for the analysis of specialised and popularised texts

– the ability to negotiate work in a team and/or prepare slides for effective presentations

***COURSE CONTENT***

The course will cover the following topics:

– ESP: definition, theories and development

– Specialised vs. popularised texts: morphosyntactic, lexical, textual, multimodal and pragmatic features;

– knowledge communication;

– persuasive strategies in specialised discourse;

– corpus linguistics: key concepts and tools for linguistic analysis.

***READING LIST***

– Compulsory text for the students who choose assessment method a) (see *Assessment Method and Criteria*):

Seracini F. L. – Poli F. (eds.). 2021. *Specialised Texts.* Milano: EDUCatt.

– Compulsory texts for the students who choose assessment method b) (see *Assessment Method and Criteria*):

Garzone G. 2012. *Perspectives on ESP and popularisation.* Milano: Edizioni Unicopli.

Seracini, F. L. – Poli F. (eds.). 2021. *Specialised Texts.* Milano: EDUCatt.

Additional texts and materials may be communicated in class and through Blackboard.

***TEACHING METHOD***

Lectures, active participation in group work, exercises on specialised and popularised texts, practical sessions to develop critical thinking and analyse texts, guest seminars.

If the health situation caused by the COVID-19 pandemic prevents teaching in the classroom, students will be notified in good time of the alternative lessons which will be provided via the online platforms used by the University.

***ASSESSMENT METHOD AND CRITERIA***

Students may choose between two alternative assessment methods:

a) – a test on Blackboard of theoretical content towards the end of the course (worth 50% of the final mark), and a group written assignment based on a corpus of a type of specialised or popularised text to be submitted at the end of the course and discussed individually at the oral exam (worth 50% of the final mark). The oral exam will assess the student’s knowledge of the course contents, and the ability to discuss the topics critically in correct, fluent English. Participation in class will be taken into consideration.

In the group assignment students will need to demonstrate that they can apply the methods, tools and theoretical concepts presented in the course to carry out an in-depth analysis of a corpus of specialised or popularised texts.

b) – a written presentation of a text analysis (worth 50% of the final mark) to be uploaded on Blackboard prior to the exam date. The presentation should contain between 12 and 15 slides. Instructions concerning the texts to be analysed, guidelines and deadlines will be provided via Blackboard;

– an oral exam (worth 50% of the final mark). The oral exam will assess the student’s knowledge of the contents of the course materials and of the texts in the reading list, and the ability to discuss the topics critically in correct, fluent English.

If the health situation caused by the COVID-19 pandemic prevents examining in the classroom, students will be notified in good time of alternative assessment methods and criteria, if necessary.

***NOTES AND PREREQUISITES***

Students are expected to have a C1 level (CEFR) of English. The course is taught in English and students must enrol in the course on Blackboard. It is suitable for Erasmus and exchange students. Students may take the exam at the end of the course, but have to pass the written language essay test (prova intermedia scritta - which they can take from May onwards) before their final mark can be officially registered.

*Place and time of consultation hours*

During the semester, office hours will take place on a weekly basis upon appointment.

# English language classe (Year 2 – First level degree)

## C.Bell, P.Prostitis, J.Rock, J.Villis, L. Williams

***COURSE AIMS AND LEARNING OUTCOMES***

This skill-based course aims to train students to understand authentic videos and develop advanced extended writing skills to a C2 level.

By the end of the course, students are expected to be able to:

– understand authentic audio-visual materials on contemporary topics of interest;

– take notes while listening and develop them into an extended, well-organised written commentary.

***COURSE CONTENT***

The course focuses primarily on the following skills:

– understanding and commenting on a variety of film types, such as documentary, lecture, interview, speech, film, presentation, and report;

– taking detailed notes during an audio and/or video clip, selecting the salient points and recording the information accurately in a detailed, written commentary;

– writing extended prose, comparing and contrasting points of view, or providing reasons and appropriate arguments for a particular position or point of view.

***TEACHING METHOD***

There are 3 hours of practical language lessons for each group per week in which active participation is required. Teachers upload relevant materials on Blackboard to be consulted, or use a course pack available via EduCatt.

***ASSESSMENT METHOD AND CRITERIA***

The learning outcomes are assessed through a written document of 600-800 words based on an audio or visual recording. The listening/video material lasting approximately 15 minutes is played twice during the exam, and students have 2 and a half hours to write their report/essay. The exam is the same for all students and can be taken starting from the exam session in May/June. Non-specialised monolingual and bilingual dictionaries may be used during the exam.

***NOTES AND PREREQUISITES***

The reference point for the organisation of the English Language courses is the email address: celi.inglese[@unicatt.it](mailto:chei@unicatt.it) which is managed by the coordinator, prof. Jane Christopher. The president of the final exam commission coincides with the name of a professor of English linguistics (in the second year, Prof. Amanda Murphy), but the president cannot answer questions about language courses, groups or exams.

Students are divided into equally sized groups at the beginning of the academic year according to alphabetical order.

Students who do not pass the exam should consult their teacher for self-study material.

Students who choose English as a third language (with a one-year or two-year course in the BA or MA degrees, annualisti or biennalisti) should consult the appropriate Blackboard page.

*Orario e luogo di ricevimento*

The teachers are available to see students after lessons.

# American English Language Classes – American English and culture

## Coordinator: Prof. Pierfranca Forchini

## Teachers: Michael Bergstein

***COURSE AIMS AND INTENDED LEARNING OUTCOMES***

The course in American English and Culture is an elective course for third year BA students and for the students of the Master’s Degree in Language Science (first and second year) (all curricula).

The aim of each module (20 hours, 2 hour-session per week) is to provide students with the opportunity to get to know and deepen their knowledge of American language and culture.

*Knowledge and understanding*

At the end of the course, students are expected to have gained knowledge through the use of written and audio-visual tools of the language and culture of the United States of America (for example, important historical moments and documents, geography, specific cultural values of the American system, music, politics, school and university education systems, among others).

*Transferable skills*

At the end of the course students are expected to have enhanced their communicative skills in English by participating actively in the tasks in the classroom.

***READING LIST***

P. Forchini, *Focus on* *American English & Culture*,EDUCatt, Milan, 2010, 2nd ed.

***TEACHING METHOD***

Each module is worth 2 CFU and attendance is compulsory.

***ASSESSMENT METHOD AND CRITERIA***

Students are expected to participate actively in the classrooms and evaluation assesses their participation, as well as their performance of a brief oral presentation on topics covered at the end of the module.

***NOTES AND PREREQUISITES***

The course (worth 2 CFUs) can be attended only by students who are in the third year of the *Laurea Triennale* or in the *Laurea Magistrale*. It does not prepare students for the *prove intermedie scritte*, but is an extra course which is particularly useful for oral skills and for those interested in all aspects of language and culture of the United States. Students must enroll in the course by sending an email to Prof. Pierfranca Forchini at american.english@unicatt.it. The places on the course are limited.