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## **English Specialised Texts (Year 2) (Master’s degree in Foreign languages, literatures and cultures, curriculum Language Sciences, Terminologies and Text Types, The Art & Industry of Narration)**

## Prof. Pierfranca Forchini

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

The course aim is to promote an awareness of the linguistic and visual features of certain specialized and non-specialized genres by exploring movie discourse, provide students with the metalinguistic skills needed to evaluate them, gain transferable skills in terms of project work and develop critical thinking.

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

– discuss theories of specialized, popularized and movie discourse in English;

– recognize and analyze the morphosyntactic, lexical, textual, visual and pragmatic features characterizing specialized, popularized and movie discourse;

– develop critical reasoning;

– build a corpus and analyze texts using concordance software;

– write a short research paper in English about movie discourse

***COURSE CONTENT***

The course will cover the following topics:

– ESP vs. Popularized texts: definition (morphosyntactic, lexical, textual, visual and pragmatic) features, scope, analysis and production.

– Movie Discourse: the **audio-visual** nature of movies, the lexico-grammar of spoken and movie language, some aspects of legal and crime movies and of leadership and superheroes in American movies.

– Multi-Dimensional Analysis and Corpus linguistics as methodologies: basic notions, movie corpora, practical corpus building and analysis through linguistic software

***READING LIST***

Pierfranca Forchini (Ed). 2021. The American Movie Corpus: A Tool for the Development of Spoken Lexico-Grammatical Competence. Milano: EDUCatt.

Further Texts and materials will be communicated in class and through Blackboard.

***TEACHING METHOD***

Lectures, active participation in guest seminars, exercises on specialized and popularized texts, practical sessions to develop critical thinking and analyze movie texts, presentations and group work.

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 are required to write a research paper (4,000 words) reporting on the results of the analysis of a corpus and quoting the authors from the course texts and materials. The paper will account for 60% of the final mark. The students will need to demonstrate that they can apply the methods, tools and thoretical concepts presented in the course to carry out an in-depth analysis of a specialized text and to compare it to a popularized text. The assessment will take into account the structure of the paper (30%) and the quality of the linguistic analysis (30%). The students’ knowledge of the course contents, as well as the ability to discuss the topics critically and with linguistic competence will constitute 40% of the final mark and will be assessed during the oral exam.

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

The exam for the official course can be taken in January/February 2021.

***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 Prof Forchini’s office hours take place on a weekly basis, as publicized on her University webpage, on the third floor in Via Necchi 9 (Milan). Timetable variations will be communicated through Blackboard and/or her university webpage.

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

## Prof. C. Bell; Prof. P. Prostitis; Prof. J. Rock; Prof. J. Villis; Prof. 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 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.

Further information can be found on the lecturer’s webpage at http://docenti.unicatt.it/web/searchByName.do?language=ENGor on the Faculty notice board.

# 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.