# Specialist English – Second-level Degree in Psychology for Organizations: Human Resources, Marketing and Communication

# Prof. Barbara Bettinelli

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

The course will train the professional psychologist to communicate in English at the international level by developing the following skills:

– oral comprehension and production skills needed in a variety of professional situations;

– linguistic and operational skills needed in this specific professional field;

– operating procedures and problem-solving skills.

At the end of the course students will be able to:

1. Manage international telephone conversations and conference calls;
2. Prepare and give presentations of different types to specific professional groups;
3. Write a CV and a covering letter;
4. Interact in a job interview;
5. Manage and hold work meetings and demonstrate specific skills; listening, negotiation, sharing and team working.

***COURSE CONTENT***

The syllabus will focus on the following areas:

– developing the intercultural and linguistic skills needed to interact with other professionals in the international arena;

– preparing and giving individual and group presentations;

– chairing and interacting in professional meetings of different types.

***READING LIST***

A course dossier will be prepared by the lecturer and will be available a couple of weeks before classes commence.

Materials uploaded to Blackboard.

***TEACHING METHOD***

As the course will focus mainly on developing spoken and listening skills, students will be involved in pair- and group-role-playing activities which will give them the opportunity to use the vocabulary, structures and functions they need in order to perform successfully in a professional environment. Video and audio materials will be used to develop students’ understanding of conversations, business meetings and presentations.

***ASSESSMENT METHOD AND CRITERIA***

The final exam consists of an oral exam divided into two parts.

1. Oral presentation.

Students will be able to choose between two possible formats.

– A group presentationin which students will illustrate their experience of the EP project. The presentation will last approximately five minutes and each participant will be expected to contribute to it. At the end of the presentation there will be time for questions

– An individual presentation of about ten minutes on a subject of their own choice related to the topics covered in either the English course or in the other degree course subjects. At the end of the presentation there will be time for questions

The assessment of the presentation, whether individual or in group, will focus on three aspects:

– structure and organization of the presentation (15 marks). Correct presentation structure is a compulsory requirement for passing the test.

* accuracy and effectiveness of slides (3 points);
* ability to present the topic chosen using the appropriate register and terminology, and the correct grammatical structures and pronunciation (12).

The assessment grid used to evaluate the presentation is available in the dossier and on Blackboard and will be explained in detail in class.

1. Role-play

Students will be asked to interact in a group role-playing activitywhich aims at testing their ability to interact in a professional situation. On the day of the exam, students will receive a role-play card and will have around ten minutes to prepare for the role-play. The assessment of this part of the exam will focus on three aspects:

* completion of the task while respecting the assigned role;
* ability to interact in a group, using the register and terminology appropriate to the task (15 points);
* correct use of grammatical structures and pronunciation (15 points).

The assessment grid used to evaluate the role-play activity is available in the dossier and will be explained in detail in class.

A final "pass" mark will be awarded to students who obtain a sufficient mark (18/30) in both tests.

***NOTES AND PREREQUISITES***

Students’ English level should be B1. During the first semester students will be invited to sit a test to establish their language level. Students whose level is below B1 will be advised to follow an online revision course organised by the tutor and available on Blackboard.

In case the current Covid-19 health emergency does not allow frontal teaching, remote teaching will be carried out following procedures that will be promptly notified to students.

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