## **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 English discourse;

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

– develop critical reasoning;

– build a corpus and analyze texts using concordance software programs;

– write a short research paper and prepare an effective presentation in English.

***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, dubbing.

– 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 prepare a presentation or 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 / presentation 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 / presentation (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 2024.

***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 (Room 302) in Via Necchi 9 (Milan). Timetable variations will be communicated through Blackboard and/or her university webpage.