

Academic year	2019-20
Subject	21800 - Comprehension and Interpretation of Academic Texts in the English Language
Group	Group 6

Subject

Subject / Group	21800 - Comprehension and Interpretation of Academic Texts in the English Language / 6
Degree	Degree in English Studies - First year Degree in Philosophy - First year Degree in History - First year Degree in Catalan Language and Literature - First year Degree in Spanish Language and Literature - First year Degree in History of Art (2014 syllabus) - First year
Credits	6
Period	2nd semester
Language of instruction	English

Professors

Lecturers	Office hours for students					
	Starting time	Finishing time	Day	Start date	End date	Office / Building
Xavier Ordinas Ribas						
<i>Responsible</i>	You need to book a date with the professor in order to attend a tutoring session.					
xavier.ordinas@uib.cat						

Context

English is the international language of academic study throughout the world. This course aims at providing students who study Arts and Humanities with the necessary strategies and skills to search for, read and analyse academic texts in English that enable them to complete their university studies and progress professionally in their future lives. On the one hand, the course will be designed to help students develop essential research skills, such as being able to autonomously search for general and specific information about a topic, conduct online research, successfully navigate library resources and understand and use academic referencing systems. On the other hand, the course will explore critical reading skills needed to succeed in understanding research and becoming part of the academic community. A wide variety of texts from different disciplines will be analysed including essays, journal articles, reviews, book chapters and interviews. The course will largely consist of practical sessions which will be supported by seminars on theoretical aspects of academic English. Searching and reading skills will be honed through different practical exercises including website searches, text analyses, the study of specific vocabulary groups, analyses of specific structural characteristics and stylistic features of academic written texts. The competences and skills acquired in this course will be fundamental to the study of specific Arts and Humanities courses.

Requirements

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Essential

This subject will be taught in English and students will have to read academic texts in this language. Therefore, it is **essential for students to have an intermediate level of English (B1)** in, at least, listening and reading comprehension. This is the level of English students should have reached at the end of their highschool studies and the one required to pass university access exams. Students who do not have this level of English will find a list of self-study resources in the bibliographical section of this guide and it is their responsibility to reach this level prior to the beginning of the course. Furthermore, the "English Lab" room (Jovellanos building's library) is at the disposal of UIB students for them to use the varied resources for the study of English that the lab contains with the help of 3rd/4th-year English Studies students. For further information on the "English Lab" check this link <http://diari.uib.cat/arxiu/Coneixeu-lEnglish-Lab.cid376924>, or the Lab's social media site https://www.facebook.com/englishlabUIB/info?tab=page_info

Skills

Specific

- * C20. Ability to understand, interpret and analyse academic documents related to the students' field of study
- * C22. Ability to find and manage information related to the discipline in online databases, and to use software applications related to the field

Generic

- * C1. Ability to autonomously analyse information
- * C2. Ability to find and deal with information so as to enhance the students' learning process throughout their lives
- * C3. Ability to critically interpret, analyse, summarise and evaluate information
- * C4. Ability to relate and integrate information from different sources and disciplines and apply them for practical purposes

Basic

- * You may consult the basic competencies students will have to achieve by the end of the degree at the following address: <http://www.uib.eu/study/grau/Basic-Competences-In-Bachelors-Degree-Studies/>

Content

Range of topics

INTRODUCTION. Academic English
Formal features of academic English.

PART ONE. Getting Started

1. Reading Academic English

1.1. How is academic English different from other kinds of writing?

1.2. Academic genres and text types

1.3. Where to find academic texts

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2. Impact Factor and Plagiarism

2.1. Journal impact factor

2.2. Citation analysis

2.3. H index

2.4. Plagiarism

3. Textbooks

3.1. Getting to know your textbook

3.2. Choosing what to read

3.3. Practice activities

PART TWO. Academic texts

1. Analysing academic style

1.1. What is research?

1.2. Reading and analysing academic texts

2. Academic texts

2.1. The academic text

2.1.1. Introductions and thesis statements

2.1.2. Body paragraphs, topic sentences and supporting details

2.1.3. Conclusions

2.1.4. Referring to sources: Chicago 17

2.2. The abstract

2.3. The critical review

3. *Academic Vocabulary in Use* (with answer key)

Teaching methodology

Both the **practical assessment TWO** and the **final test must be passed with a 5** for the student to get a pass in the subject. Consequently, should one or the two parts not be successfully passed by the student, the rest of their grades will not be taken into account, even if the average score is a PASS (5 or higher). In this case, the student will have a 4.5 in their record (UIB Digital). In the case that the average score is not a pass (5 or higher) despite having passed with a 5 both parts (practical assessment two and final test), the student will be given the choice of resitting either or both of the exams.

IMPORTANT NOTE: Mobile phones and other electronic devices are NOT allowed in the classroom. Laptop computers are acceptable ONLY if used for purposes related to classroom activity. No electronic device whatsoever (including computers) is allowed in the classroom during exams/practical sessions, unless

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otherwise specified by the lecturer (e.g. if the practical session entails use of the internet for pedagogical purposes).

In-class work activities (2.4 credits, 60 hours)

Modality	Name	Typ. Grp.	Description	Hours
Theory classes	Theory lessons	Large group (G)	Introduce students to different strategies in searching for diverse academic bibliographical sources in English and to the formal characteristics and stylistic features of academic written texts in English.	38
Practical classes	Search and analysis of academic texts in English	Medium group (M)	Activities to search for and critically analyse academic texts in English	14
Assessment	Final exam	Large group (G)	Final exam where students have to show the knowledge, skills and strategies developed during the course. Its mark will count 50% towards the subject final grade. This final exam must be passed with a 5 for the student to get a pass in the subject. If the final exam is failed, it can be resat in the <i>evaluación extraordinaria</i> .	4
Assessment	Analysis of academic texts in English	Large group (G)	Practical assesment 2: Compulsory attendance to one session during the course (the date will be specified in the course timetable (<i>cronograma</i>)). In this session, activities relating the comprehension and interpretation of academic texts in English will be carried out. To attend this session it is essential that students prepare from material given prior to the lessons. This session will be assessed and its mark will count 30% towards the subject final grade. Failure to attend this session will entail a zero (0) in this section. This assessment must be passed with a 5 for the student to get a pass in the subject. It can only be resat in the <i>evaluación extraordinaria</i> .	2
Assessment	Reading strategies	Medium group (M)	Practical assessment 1: Compulsory attendance to one session during the course (the date of the session will be specified in the course timetable (<i>cronograma</i>)). In this session, activities relating the theoretical and practical parts of the contents seen in class will be carried out. To attend this session it is essential that students prepare from material given prior to the lessons. This session will be assessed and its mark will count 20% towards the subject final grade. Failure to attend this session will entail a zero (0) in this section. Students who fail this practical assessment or do not attend the session will NOT be allowed to resit.	2

At the beginning of the semester a schedule of the subject will be made available to students through the UIBdigital platform. The schedule shall at least include the dates when the continuing assessment tests will be conducted and the hand-in dates for the assignments. In addition, the lecturer shall inform students as to whether the subject work plan will be carried out through the schedule or through another way included in the Aula Digital platform.

Distance education tasks (3.6 credits, 90 hours)

Modality	Name	Description	Hours
Individual self-study	Revision activities	Reading strategies, vocabulary and grammar revision activities	50
Group self-study	Revision activities	Activities to revise the analytical strategies explained throughout the course	10
Group or individual Self-study self-study		Preparation for the two seminars. This will entail research activities, comprehension and evaluation activities in which students will have to autonomously apply the strategies learned during theory and practical lessons.	30

Specific risks and protective measures

The learning activities of this course do not entail specific health or safety risks for the students and therefore no special protective measures are needed.

Student learning assessment

PATHWAY A

Attendance is compulsory to two sessions, and to the final official exam:

1. **Assessment ONE:** 20% of final mark. It **CANNOT** be resat.
2. **Assessment TWO:** 30% of final mark. It **CAN** be resat.
3. **Final exam:** 50% of final mark.

Both assessment TWO and the final exam must be passed with a 5. Should one or the two parts be failed, the rest of the grades will not be taken into account, even if the average score is a PASS. In this case, the student will have a 4.5 in their record.

If a student fails to hand in an assignment or to show up on the day and at the time established by the lecturer, the grade for that assessment/test will be a 0, if this assessment represents more than 30% of the total assessment in the subject. Only if the assessment accounts for 30% or less of the total assessment, will the grade be NP.

The dates and times of the different assessments/tests will not be altered UNDER ANY CIRCUMSTANCES except those contemplated by the *UIB Reglament Acadèmic*. **Students will not be allowed into the classroom when the practical session or test has already started.**

REMEMBER: Article 33 in the *Reglament Acadèmic* will be applied in cases of cheating, plagiarism, cyberplagiarism or any other fraudulent practice in the process of assessment :

"1. Amb independència del procediment disciplinari que es pugui seguir contra l'estudiant infractor, la realització demostradorament fraudulenta d'algun dels elements d'avaluació inclosos en guies docents de les

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assignatures comportarà, a criteri del professor, una menysvaloració en la seva qualificació que pot suposar la qualificació de «suspens 0» a l'avaluació anual de l'assignatura.

2. En particular, es considera un frau:

- a) En els exàmens o proves escrites, l'ús de qualsevol mitjà encaminat a facilitar les respostes.
- b) En els treballs i pràctiques individuals o de grup, la inclusió de fragments d'obres alienes presentats de tal manera que es facin passar com a propis (plagi)"

PATHWAY B

Students officially recognised by the UIB as part-time students will follow Pathway B, which has the **same assessment criteria** established in Pathway A. The only difference between part-time and full-time students is that the former are not expected to regularly attend or actively participate in sessions.

Frau en elements d'avaluació

In accordance with article 33 of Regulation of academic studies, "regardless of the disciplinary procedure that may be followed against the offending student, the demonstrably fraudulent performance of any of the evaluation elements included in the teaching guides of the subjects will lead, at the discretion of the teacher, a undervaluation in the qualification that may involve the qualification of "suspense 0" in the annual evaluation of the subject".

Final exam

Modality	Assessment
Technique	Objective tests (recoverable)
Description	Final exam where students have to show the knowledge, skills and strategies developed during the course. Its mark will count 50% towards the subject final grade. This final exam must be passed with a 5 for the student to get a pass in the subject. If the final exam is failed, it can be resat in the evaluación extraordinaria.
Assessment criteria	Ability to reflect on the comprehension and textual analytical skills developed during the course.
Final grade percentage: 50% for pathway A with a minimum grade of 5	
Final grade percentage: 50% for pathway B with a minimum grade of 5	

Analysis of academic texts in English

Modality	Assessment
Technique	Real or simulated task performance tests (recoverable)
Description	Practical assesment 2: Compulsory attendance to one session during the course (the date will be specified in the course timetable (cronograma)). In this session, activities relating the comprehension and interpretation of academic texts in English will be carried out. To attend this session it is essential that students prepare from material given prior to the lessons. This session will be assessed and its mark will count 30% towards the subject final grade. Failure to attend this session will entail a zero (0) in this section. This assessment must be passed with a 5 for the student to get a pass in the subject. It can only be resat in the evaluación extraordinaria.
Assessment criteria	Ability to solve problems related to the theoretical content and practical skills learned during the course.
Final grade percentage: 30% for pathway A with a minimum grade of 5	
Final grade percentage: 30% for pathway B with a minimum grade of 5	

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Reading strategies

Modality	Assessment
Technique	Real or simulated task performance tests (non-recoverable)
Description	Practical assessment 1: Compulsory attendance to one session during the course (the date of the session will be specified in the course timetable (cronograma)). In this session, activities relating the theoretical and practical parts of the contents seen in class will be carried out. To attend this session it is essential that students prepare from material given prior to the lessons. This session will be assessed and its mark will count 20% towards the subject final grade. Failure to attend this session will entail a zero (0) in this section. Students who fail this practical assessment or do not attend the session will NOT be allowed to resit.
Assessment criteria	Ability to reflect and solve problems related to the reading skills developed during the course.
Final grade percentage: 20% for pathway A	
Final grade percentage: 20% for pathway B	

Resources, bibliography and additional documentation

Complementary bibliography

GLENDINNING, E.H. & B.A. HOLMSTROM. 2000. *Study Reading*. Cambridge: CUP.
 PORTER, D. 2001. *Check Your English For Academic Purposes*. London: Peter Collin Publishing.
 MORROW, K. 1980. *Skills for Reading*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.
 ARNAUDET, M.L. & M.E. BARRET. 1984. *Approaches to Academic Reading and Writing*. Englewood Cliffs, N.J.: Prentice Hall Regents.
 FLOWERDEW, J. (ed.) 1994. *Academic Listening: Research Perspectives*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
 JAMES, K., R.R. JORDAN, A. MATTHEWS & J. P. O'BRIEN. 1991. *Listening Comprehension and Note-Taking Course*. London: Nelson.
 ALCARAZ VARÓ, E. 2000. *El inglés profesional y académico*. Madrid: Alianza.
 MCCARTHY, M. & O'DELL, F. 2008. *Academic Vocabulary in Use*. Cambridge: CUP.

Other resources

Grammar :

McCarthy, Michael and Felicity O'Dell (2005). *English Vocabulary in Use. Elementary*. Cambridge University Press.
 McCarthy, Michael and Felicity O'Dell (2001). *English Vocabulary in Use. Upper-intermediate and Advanced*. Cambridge University Press.
 Murphy, Raymond and Fernando García Clemente (2008). *Essential Grammar in Use*. Cambridge University Press.
 Swan, Michael and Catherine Walter (2001). *The Good Grammar Book. With Answers*. Oxford University Press.
 Redman, Stuart (2002). *English Vocabulary in Use. Pre-intermediate and intermediate*. Cambridge University Press.
 Vince, Michael and Kevin McNicholas (2003). *Elementary Language Practice with Key. English Grammar and Vocabulary*. Macmillan.
 Vince, Michael and Paul Emmerson (2003). *Intermediate Language Practice with Key. English Grammar and Vocabulary*. Macmillan.
 Vince, Michael (2009). *First Certificate Language Practice with Key. English Grammar and vocabulary*. Macmillan.



Syllabus

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<http://englishonline.sites.uol.com.br/english/intermediate.htm>
<http://www.bbc.co.uk/worldservice/learningenglish/language>
<http://www.uefap.com/index.htm>
<http://a4esl.org>
<http://www.grammar-quizzes.com/index.html>
<http://english.baladre.org/sedaviwebfront/grammarindex.htm>
<http://www.englishexercises.org>

