

Syllabus

Course description

Course title	Advanced Scientific English
Course code	46002
Scientific sector	L-LIN/12 - English
Degree	PhD in Sustainable Energy and Technologies / PhD in Mountain Environment and Agriculture
Semester	1
Year	1
Academic year	2016/2017
Credits	3
Modular	No

Total lecturing hours	24 + 6
Total hours of self-study and / or other individual educational activities	about 45
Attendance	not compulsory but recommended
Prerequisites	There are no prerequisites, but participants need to have a good command of receptive (reading and listening) and productive (writing and speaking) English.
Course page	All material can be found in the University Library's New Reserve Collection

Specific educational objectives and course description	<p>This specifically designed course aims to develop students' proficiency in using academic scientific English. It covers the main areas of scientific communication that PhD students will encounter to assist them in the linguistic aspects of their research.</p> <p>Specific educational objectives include the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • to improve academic and scientific written skills through practice of subject-specific texts; • to improve spoken interaction and production through the practice and production of academic scientific presentations; • to improve receptive skills through the exposure to and analysis of various types of written and spoken discourse; • to develop grammatical and lexical range and accuracy so that communication has a degree of fluency.
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Lecturer	<p>Jemma Prior</p> <p>office POS 1.04, e-mail jemma.prior@unibz.it, tel. +39 0471 013131, webpage http://www.unibz.it/en/design-</p>
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Scientific sector of the lecturer	L-LIN/12
Teaching language	English
Office hours	http://www.unibz.it/en/organisation/staffdetails.html?personid=564&hstf=564
Teaching assistant	
Office hours	tba
List of topics covered	<p>Topics covered include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • how to write research papers including literature reviews, data collection and analysis, descriptions of methodologies/research design, presenting prevailing theories, presenting arguments; • how to write references; • how to write abstracts and proposals for papers; • academic and domain-specific vocabulary acquisition and word-building techniques; lexicogrammar; • how to prepare and give scientific and/or academic presentations, including poster presentations. <p>Emphasis is placed on improving the four main skills (reading, writing, listening and speaking) through practical, communicative tasks.</p>
Teaching format	<p>Teaching format is based on the seminar format which envisages teacher and student co-operation and participation in the classroom through individual, pair and group work.</p> <p>The final exercise hours are organised as a block to provide authentic practice in presentation skills on students' specific research topic(s).</p>
Expected learning outcomes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Knowledge and understanding:</u> Knowledge of grammatical structures and subject-specific academic and professional lexis at the C1 level, understanding of authentic subject-specific spoken and written texts. • <u>Applying knowledge and understanding:</u> Producing specific academic texts related to their field of research providing opinions and accounting for the views presented. Presenting clear descriptions, analysis and evaluation of specific fields, developing points and formulating opinions in written and oral texts. • <u>Making judgments:</u> Integrating knowledge and understanding acquired in the course with knowledge and understanding from other courses to achieve academic and professional purposes

	<p>within the scientific fields of the PhD course followed.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Communication skills</u>: Communicating (in both speaking and writing) with a good degree of fluency. Ability to adapt language style to show awareness of both the intended purposes and audience. • <u>Learning skills</u>: Ability to pursue autonomous learning based on the input provided in the classes and lectures and the feedback received.
Assessment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Written assignment comprising one of the scientific texts covered in the course: 50%; • Oral exam – presentation and related Q&A session: 50%.
Assessment language	The same as the teaching language.
Evaluation criteria and criteria for awarding marks	50% final written assignment, 50% oral exam.
Suggested readings	<p>Davis, Martha. 2005. <i>Scientific Papers and Presentations</i>. San Diego: Academic Press.</p> <p>Graff, Gerald & Cathy Birkenstein. 2006. <i>They say, I say: the moves that matter in academic writing</i>. New York: W.W. Norton & Co.</p> <p>Reeves, Carol. 2005. <i>The Language of Science</i>. London: Routledge.</p> <p>Trafford, Vernon & Shosh Lesham. 2008. <i>Stepping Stones to achieving your Doctorate</i> Maidenhead: McGraw-Hill</p>
Supplementary readings	Articles and other texts from the specific field of research.