

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/PhD in Food Engineering and Biotechnology/ PhD in Advanced-Systems Engineering
Semester	1
Year	1
Academic year	2020/2021
Credits	3
Modular	No

Total lecturing hours	24
Total Exercise hours	6
Total hours of self-study and / or other individual educational activities	
Attendance	Required
Prerequisites	None
Course page	

Specific educational objectives and course description	<p>The course aims to improve students' knowledge and use of the conventions of academic and scientific English. It will cover some of the areas of scientific communication that PhD students should master in order to successfully promote their research, including how to write cohesive and coherent sentences and paragraphs, how to paraphrase, how to write research papers and abstracts, and how to prepare and deliver academic presentations. Students will get a chance to practice their writing and speaking skills, and improve their academic English vocabulary and grammar.</p>
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Lecturer	Dr. Valentina Adami
Scientific sector of the lecturer	L-LIN/12
Teaching language	English
Office hours	
Teaching assistant	
Office hours	
List of topics covered	<p>The course will cover the following topics:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • using verb tenses properly

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • conditionals • passive vs. active • using articles and quantifiers • relative pronouns and clauses • punctuation • word order • structuring sentences and paragraphs • link words • avoiding redundancy • editing, paraphrasing, summarizing • giving oral presentations
Teaching format	<p>The lectures will provide theoretical guidelines and principles as well as practical examples from scientific texts and exercises to teach students how to apply the guidelines to their own work.</p> <p>The exercise hours will be organized as a two-day seminar, during which students will be invited to give an oral presentation on a topic of their choice, in order to put into practice the skills acquired during the lectures.</p>
Expected learning outcomes	<p>At the end of the course, students should be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Write coherent and cohesive sentences and paragraphs - Write cohesive abstracts - Give effective presentations - Understand written texts on scientific topics
Assessment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Abstract (50%) - Oral presentation or poster (50%)
Assessment language Evaluation criteria and criteria for awarding marks	<p>No marking is foreseen, but students will get feedback on their abstracts and presentations. To get the CP, students will need to get a "pass" in both the written and the oral tasks.</p>
Suggested readings	<p>K. Paterson, R. Wedge. Oxford Grammar for EAP. OUP, 2013.</p> <p>Wallwork, English for Academic Research Series (3 manuals + 3 exercise books). Springer-Palgrave, 2013-2016.</p>
Supplementary readings	<p>Gillett, Successful Academic Writing (Pearson, 2009) (related website: http://www.uefap.com/writing/writfram.htm)</p>

The Purdue Online Writing Lab (OWL):
<https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/>

Lee, Richard. *English for Environmental Science in Higher Education Studies*. Reading: Garnet Education, 2009.

Alley, Michael. *The Craft of Scientific Presentations: Critical Steps to Succeed and Critical Errors to Avoid*. New York: Springer, 2002.

Alley, Michael. *The Craft of Scientific Writing*. New York: Springer, 2009.

Glasman-Deal, Hilary. *Science Research Writing for Non-Native Speakers of English*. London: Imperial College Press, 2010.

Johnson, John and Anna Rita Pasi. *Scientific English. L'inglese scientifico per relazioni e conferenze in medicina, biologia e scienze naturali*. Bologna: Zanichelli, 2007.

McGraw-Hill's *Dictionary of Environmental Science*.

McGraw-Hill's *Dictionary of Scientific and Technical Terms*.

Skern, Tim. *Writing Scientific English: A Workbook*. Vienna: WUV, 2009.