Syllabus
Course description

Course title	English 1
Scientific sector	L-LIN/12 - English
Course code	96115
Degree	Faculty of Design and Art Master in Eco-Social Design (LM-12)
Semester	II
Year	2023/2024
Credits	3
Modular	No
Prerequisites	Certified knowledge at level B2 (Common European Framework of Reference for Languages – CEFR)
Course page	All information and materials can be found on OLE. Please join the platform using the code on cockpit.
Lecturer	Birgit Spechtenhauser Mayr E-Mail: Birgit.Spechtenhauser1@unibz.it
Scientific sector of the lecturer	L-LIN/12
Teaching language	English
Total lecturing hours	30
Office hours	9
List of topics covered	Building on issues related to eco-efficient products and services as well as sustainable production, consumption and lifestyles, the course will provide students with the opportunity to practice their basic language skills in reading, writing, listening and speaking, with a focus on academic English. Special attention will be given to the written improvement of students' academic English, as well as its practical application with particular reference to the communication of transdisciplinary knowledge in the field of eco-social design. Topics covered include: - The structure and the organisation of academic texts - Basic sentence structure; variation of sentence structure - Common grammatical structures and phrases in academic texts; specialized terminology

	- Paraphrasing - Summarizing - Paragraph structure; linking of paragraphs - Critical reading of subject-specific literature - Writing of an abstract - Critical analysis of scientific discourses - Reporting on projects through a poster presentation - Writing of the Transdisciplinary Meta-Reflection (TMR)
Specific educational objectives and course description	The course essentially aims to provide students with an understanding of the conventions of academic writing based on principles similar to those underlying the scientific method, i.e. objectivity, conciseness, clarity, efficiency and precision. Students will thus become more familiar with the organisation and structure of scientific texts, as well as the way in which information is presented and communicated in this context. The focus will also be on expanding the lexical range of the students, who will be particularly encouraged to deal with and use subject-specific terminology. Additionally, the coherent use of vocabulary, which includes the use of logical connectors and signpost phrases, as well as the use of adequate grammatical structures/sentence structures will be practiced in order to train students to guide the reader through the argument. Through practical sessions, which involves the analysis of subject-specific texts and the application of cohesion and coherence tools through the drafting and writing of text modules, the writing of an abstract and the preparation of a poster, students will have the opportunity to further develop their writing techniques. Further attention will be given to the development of students' oral academic skills through the analysis of the structure and procedure of academic talks and the preparation and presentation of a poster on a project. In this context, students will also be given the opportunity to work on their presentation techniques and to learn and deepen the application of useful phrases and strategies for presentations.

Teaching format	In the theory-oriented opening part of the course essential principles of academic discourse will be introduced. Following this part, students will be given the opportunity to reflect individually and discuss in small groups how these principles can be applied to concrete examples of their personal work. Finally, in practical sessions, students will draft an outline/skeleton of a scientific manuscript, prepare a poster on a subject-specific topic/project (which they will present in a short presentation) as well as a transdisciplinary meta-reflection.
Expected learning outcomes	At the end of the course, students should - have an understanding of typical structures of scientific texts and be better able to plan, draft, structure and write a scientific text - have an understanding of typical sentence structure and paragraph structure in English paragraphs and be better able to write coherent, well-structured sentences and linked paragraphs - understand the concept of register, particularly in relation to the register associated with formal writing - know language associated with written, formal English, the language of science; be more familiar with basic terminology of their discipline - be able to identify and use different functions (e.g. illustration, comparison, explanation) that are important in scientific texts - be able to paraphrase and summarize the ideas and data of others - have practiced and improved their coherence and cohesion in their formal writing - generally be more acquainted with the most important conventions of scientific writing - be able to structure a simple poster - to more familiar with the structure of scientific talks - be better able to properly organize and structure short talks and coherently link the different parts of a presentation - be more familiar with the use of a few useful phrases in order to guide the audience through a talk - have improved their presentation techniques - be better able to comprehend and interpret posters and academic talks as well as different scientific texts - be able to evaluate processes, ideas and theories, provide descriptions of methodologies, formulate opinions, present arguments, establish transdisciplinary

	connections and include such reflections in the Transfolder
Assessment	Since active engagement with the content, work assignments such as the preparation of a poster as well as work in small groups and continuous exchange between students makes a significant contribution to the achievement of the specified course objectives and thus substantial academic progress, regular participation and attendance is vital. Assessment is based on active participation throughout the course, the presentation of a poster as well as on the submission of the tasks and the oral exam. 1. a: Written and oral task: preparation and presentation of a poster b: TMR: production of the 450-500 word Transdisciplinary Meta-Reflection for the Transfolder 2. Oral exam: oral presentation and related Q & A session demonstrating a command of spoken production and interaction of English at B2+ as well as knowledge of subject-related terminology Task a and the TMR have to be submitted in June (i.e. before the first exam session) in order to be admitted to the oral exam. The submission deadline in June will be announced during the course and will also be uploaded on the OLE platform. Students who have questions regarding attendance, prerequisites for exam registration, etc. are kindly requested to contact the lecturer at the beginning of the semester.
Assessment language	English
Evaluation criteria and criteria for awarding marks	60% oral presentation & TMR, 40% oral exam Further concerns regarding the oral exam procedure will be provided during the course and on OLE
Supplementary readings	Davis, M. (2005) *Scientific papers and presentations.* San Diego: Academic Press. Gillett, A., Hammond, A. and Martala, M. (2009) *Successful Academic Writing*. London; NY: Pearson. Paterson, K., Wedge, R. (2013) *Oxford Grammar for EAP*. Oxford: OUP. Skern, T. (2011) *Writing Scientific English: A Workbook*. Vienna: WUV. Further material will be provided during the course