

Syllabus Course description

Course title	Foreign language – linguistic skills: Academic writing
Course code	97134
Scientific sector	SECS-P/08
Degree	Bachelor in Design and Art (L-4) – Major Art/ Major Design
Semester	Winter and Summer semester 2024/2025
Year	2 nd
Credits	3
Modular	No
Total lecturing hours	30
Exercise hours	to be organised with the students using appointments
Total hours of self-study and/ or other individual educational activities	about 45
Attendance	not compulsory but recommended
Prerequisites	none
Maximum number of students per class	
Course description	<p><i>The course belongs to the class "altro" in the curriculum in Design and Art.</i></p> <p>An advanced English skills course focusing on the specific language used in certain sectors of the design and art fields which aims to improve students' writing skills predominantly, as well as reading and critical thinking skills from the B2 level up. The course is also designed to assist students in their preparatory work for their final degree project, if they choose to do it in English.</p>
Specific educational objectives	<p>Knowledge and understanding</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - to improve specific academic writing skills through the practice of subject-specific texts including, though not exclusively, writing paragraphs, introductions and conclusions, and essays; - to improve specific reading skills through the exposure to and analysis of various types of written discourse; - to develop grammatical and lexical range and accuracy so that written communication has a good degree of spontaneity and fluency

Lecturer	<p>Dr Jemma Prior e-mail: Jemma.Prior@unibz.it tel.: +39 0471 013131, webpage: https://www.unibz.it/en/faculties/engineering/academic-staff/person/564-jemma-f-prior</p>
Teaching Assistant	Mary Elisabeth Adams
Scientific sector of the lecturer	L/LIN-12
Teaching language	English
Office hours	These will be communicated at the start of each semester
List of topics covered	<p>The topics covered are listed below. The emphasis will be on improving students' writing skills, so that students can produce accurate, cohesive texts in English mainly for academic purposes although many of the skills can be adapted for professional use.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • General introduction to course incl. brief language review; • Introduction to and analysis of effective reading skills; critical thinking skills; • General academic writing skills: summarising and paraphrasing, organising paragraphs, writing introductions and conclusions, creating cohesion, referencing sources; • Specific academic writing skills: descriptions and comparisons, problem-solution texts and writing short academic essays; <p>Exercise hours with the teaching assistant will allow for specific skills practice as well as a revision of some of the language areas that are problematic at this level.</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>Any student who has specific learning needs that they feel may have an impact on their ability to benefit fully from this course will be offered individual support on request.</p>
Expected learning outcomes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Knowledge and understanding</u>: Knowledge of advanced grammatical structures and subject-specific academic and professional lexis at the B2+/C1 level, understanding of authentic (general and subject-specific) longer written texts including

	<p>specialised texts and other texts produced for various purposes and representing different varieties of English, as well as different registers and styles.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Applying knowledge and understanding:</u> Producing written texts on specific design and art topics providing reasoned interpretations. Presenting clear, detailed descriptions of complex subject-specific topics, developing points, formulating opinions and persuading the audience in written texts. • <u>Making judgments:</u> Integrating knowledge and understanding acquired in the course with knowledge and understanding from other courses to achieve mainly academic, but also some professional purposes within the field of design and art. • <u>Communication skills:</u> Communicating flexibly and effectively in writing with a 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.
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<p>Assessment</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Written exam • Portfolio • Extra credit exercises (ECE)
<p>Assessment language</p>	<p>The same as the teaching language</p>
<p>Evaluation criteria and criteria for awarding marks</p>	<p>The final assessment is based on the content covered in the course using the following criteria:</p> <p>Written exam: the written exam comprises questions that test specific skills and language covered in the course, such as reading skills and critical thinking skills, within a clear discipline-specific context and a writing production task of approx. 350 words based on subject-specific input;</p> <p>Portfolio: a series of short academic texts based on authentic input (written and/or spoken) (approx. 1000 words);</p>

	<p>Extra credit exercises (ECE): a series of written exercises throughout the course that will provide up to an extra 2 points to the overall score (/30).</p> <p>Written exam: 60% Portfolio + ECEs: 40%</p>
<p>Required readings</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Criado Perez, C. 2020. <i>Invisible Women: exposing data bias in a world designed for men</i>. London: Chatto & Windus • Vince, M. 2003. <i>Advanced Language Practice</i> Oxford: Macmillan. or any other student's grammar at the B2 level or above. • Advanced learners English dictionary, e.g. Longman DCE, Oxford Advanced Learners Dictionary, Collins COBUILD or Macmillan English Dictionary for Advanced Learners. <p>All books are available in the University Library's Reserve Collection. (http://pro.unibz.it/rc)</p> <p>Course slides will be available on OLE.</p>
<p>Supplementary readings</p>	<p>Any other texts from English-language publications such as The Guardian, the Economist, etc. that are deemed suitable will be provided by the lecturer in the form of downloadable documents and/or links in the course's OLE.</p>