**ENGLISH LANGUAGE**

**Obiettivi Formativi**

General Learning Outcomes:

By the end of the course the student should have reached a level of proficiency at least equivalent to C1+ (Advanced)\* in all four skills: reading comprehension, listening comprehension, writing and speaking (both monologue and interaction), However, the main emphasis is placed on the productive skills.

Students should already be independent language learners but this aspect of the course will also be developed further. To be able to do this students are encouraged to develop a heightened awareness not only of what it means to learn a language but how English works and in what way it differs from their L1 and other L2s.

Specific Learning Outcomes – Knowledge and Understanding

By the end of the course students should have acquired:

* Advanced (C2) active knowledge of all aspects of language (grammar, lexis, pronunciation English in Use)
* Explicit knowledge of how English works (grammar, pronunciation, lexis, lexico-grammar including collocation and colligation etc) i.e. metalinguistic awareness and knowledge
* awareness of English as a discourse practice, including issues of style, register, genre, specialised lexis, in particular knowledge of institutional (in particular supranational institutions), professional and social practices but also awareness of adapting message to audience/interlocutor
* knowledge of how to critically evaluate texts (spoken and written)
* knowledge of different Englishes (including American English, EU-Speak, etc) and awareness of questions relating to English as a Lingua Franca and other Intercultural issues
* knowledge and awareness of communication conventions in different contexts including both academic and professional settings
* awareness of how languages are learned and knowledge of tools and resources to enhance student’s own approach to language learning (metacognitive knowledge)

Specific Learning Outcomes – Applied Knowledge, Skills and Competences

By the end of the course

* ability to understand (receptive skills) at C2 level and communicate effectively (productive skills) at C1+ level
* ability to process and critically evaluate texts of all kinds (spoken or written, academic or professional) to perform other tasks (summarise, critique, counter argue, debate, negotiate) in real time
* ability to use language skills to communicate their specific knowledge and expertise to any audience (specialised or not) and to operate effectively and appropriately in any context and adapt to any audience (institutional, professional, social) i.e. heightened awareness of audience/interlocutor
* effective use of interpersonal communication skills necessary to effectively interact in teams, networks and professional communities and debate and negotiate with others
* ability to use effective language learning skills and strategies, including talking about language in appropriate terms (metalinguistic skills)
* effective use of tools and resources for language learning, in particular for self-directed learning
* ability to use language analysis tools, in particular dedicated software and online corpora, both in drafting and editing written work and to promote life long learning skills (self-directed learning)

\* C1+ - Common European Framework of Reference. For details of this level see <http://www.coe.int/t/dg4/education/elp/elp-reg/Source/Key_reference/Overview_CEFRscales_EN.pdf>

**Prerequisiti**

Students who have been awarded one of the certificates listed below after June 2011 will be admitted to the course

IELTS 6.0 (or above) in all skills

TOEFL internet-based 93 (or above) with minimum of 23 in each skill

Degree taught entirely in English

**Contenuti del Corso**

The English Language course is annual.

The whole class will attend one lesson a week with the course lecturer, Kate Riley, during both the autumn and spring semesters and one lesson a week in smaller groups during the spring semester.

Alongside the lessons with the course lecturer, there will be language support lessons. Details of these lessons and the groups will be provided at the start of the academic year. The first of these courses, with Richard Straub, is annual and focuses on academic writing. The other, with Lesley Orme, will focus in Legal English. The course syllabus of the Legal English module is based on the content of the Course in International and European Law, introducing students to the specialist terminology and developing awareness of how language is used in legal documents. The lessons will, in the main, consist in an examination of leading cases, chosen by the Law professors, an analysis of the language in these cases and discussion of the salient aspects.

The English course has a double focus on both academic English and language learning skills. Study skills such as listening strategies, note-taking skills, skimming and scanning, writing academic texts and giving academic presentations will be covered. Some attention will also be paid to professional English in particular, communication in international organisations and institutions. Questions such as style and register, the language of procedure will also be introduced (in the main by the course lecturer).

In the second semester the focus of the lessons with the course lecturer will be on developing reading and oral skills, in particular presentation skills and debating skills, alongside critical thinking.

Students will also be shown tools and resources to enable them to develop a heightened awareness to such lexical relations as collocation and colligation as well as how to increase their knowledge of specialised vocabulary and its use in context.

**Metodi Didattici**

To achieve the learning objectives, learners need to practice their language skills as much as possible. All language courses therefore focus greatly on tasks and activities both in and out of the classroom. These include, presentations, discussions, brainstorming, analytical and critical thinking activities, writing essays, reports, reviews etc. Students are required to participate actively in ALL lessons, both with the course lecturer and with the language teachers. Learning a language requires a great deal of time and effort; success depends on practising as much as possible.

In the second semester, as the main focus will be on developing oral skills through a series of student-led seminars. The ability to present information clearly and concisely, express an opinion, defend a position and criticize other positions in real time, the active participation of all students is fundamental.

In order to improve both oral skills and critical thinking and offer an opportunity for ENGLISH FOR INTERNATIONAL COMMUNICATION

**Obiettivi Formativi**

General Learning Outcomes:

By the end of the course the student should have reached a level of proficiency at least equivalent to C2 (Advanced)\* in all four skills: reading comprehension, listening comprehension, writing and speaking (both monologue and interaction). The main emphasis is placed on spoken English, in particular persuasive speaking.

Specific Learning Outcomes – Knowledge and Understanding

By the end of the course students should have acquired:

* Advanced (C2) active knowledge of all aspects of language (grammar, lexis, pronunciation, English in Use)
* Explicit knowledge of how English works (grammar, pronunciation, lexis, lexico-grammar including collocation and colligation etc) i.e. metalinguistic awareness and knowledge
* awareness of English as a discourse practice, including issues of style, register, genre, specialised lexis, in particular knowledge of institutional (in particular supranational institutions), professional and social practices but also awareness of adapting message to audience/interlocutor
* knowledge of how to critically evaluate texts, in particular spoken texts and how to react appropriately
* knowledge of different Englishes, in particular institutional varieties, and awareness of questions relating to English as a Lingua Franca and other Intercultural issues
* knowledge and awareness of communication conventions in different contexts and professional settings
* awareness of how languages are learned and knowledge of tools and resources to enhance own approach to language learning (metacognitive knowledge)

Specific Learning Outcomes – Applied Knowledge, Skills and Competences

By the end of the course

* ability to understand (receptive skills) and communicate effectively (productive skills) at C2 level
* ability to process and critically evaluate texts of all kinds (spoken or written, academic or professional) and to respond accordingly
* ability to perform specific oral tasks effectively (present, persuade, critique, counter argue, debate, negotiate) in real time
* ability to use language skills to communicate specific knowledge and expertise to any audience (specialised or not) and to operate effectively and appropriately in any context and adapt to any audience (institutional, professional, social) i.e. heightened awareness of audience/interlocutor
* effective use of interpersonal communication skills necessary to effectively interact in teams, networks and professional communities and debate and negotiate with others
* ability to use effective language learning skills and strategies, including talking about language in appropriate terms (metalinguistic skills)
* effective use of metacognitive skills and strategies, not least language awareness skills and strategies, which enable them to become proficient life-long language users and learners in their specific professional and/or academic fields

For details of what is meant by C2 level see <http://www.coe.int/t/dg4/education/elp/elp-reg/Source/Key_reference/Overview_CEFRscales_EN.pdf>

**Prerequisiti**

Students should have at least C1 level of English to be admitted to the course and have already acquired the skills and competences outlined in the English Language Syllabus. Students who have either passed the English Language Course or who have one of the following English language certificates will be admitted to the course: IELTS 7.5 + (no skill lower than 7.5), CPE, TOEFL internet-based 110 no skill lower than 26.

**Contenuti del Corso**

The course will focus on the language of International Institutions and effective communication in an international professional context. In more practical terms the course will consist in students performing a series of tasks. First, preparatory tasks at home which will then be a springboard for the work carried out during the lessons/workshops, class activities, simulations, debates and seminars. Class activities will be followed up with written tasks.

One or more of the debates may be connected to other second year courses.

Alongside the lessons with the course lecturer, there will be language practice lessons with Dott.ssa Lesley Orme. Details of these lessons and the groups will be provided at the start of the academic year. The lessons with Dott.ssa Orme will focus on oral development and debating/discussion/negotiating skills.

Thanks to a focus on developing language awareness, in particular to such questions as text genre, style and register, students will develop a working knowledge of a wide range of text types used in International Organisations, from reports to summary statements, memos to press releases etc. This will further develop receptive skills to enable students to to access, process and critically evaluate information of all kinds and identify, analyze and evaluate issues from a wide range of sources/contexts to then debate issues effectively.

**Metodi Didattici**

The course is annual

The whole class will attend one lesson/workshop a week both during both the autumn and spring semesters with the course lecturer, Kate Riley, and one lesson a week with the language teacher, Lesley Orme.

Gien the focus on the productive skills, students are required to participate actively in all lessons, both with the course lecturer and with the language teacher. The course focuses on developing the ability to present information clearly and concisely, express an opinion convincingly, defend a position and counter argue other positions in real time, therefore active participation of all students is fundamental.

In order to further improve both oral skills and critical thinking and offer an opportunity for a genuine exchange of ideas, a series of interclass debates (First and second year students) will be organised over the year where students will discuss controversial topics of the day. For second year students these debates are an integral part of the course.

**Modalità di verifica dell’apprendimento**

Continuous assessment.

Continuous assessment consists in assessment of participation in the 4 main debates, negotiations or other simulations done during the year as well as assessment of the other tasks set during the year, activities carried out in class and active class participation.

Students must take an active role in at least two of the debates, discussions and simulated negotiations as part of their assessment. This participation can be either as debator/negotiatior OR chair.

Some peer assessment will also be used, for the debates and presentations, group work and written work.

As the focus in the second year is on professional English, assessment will give greater weight to awareness of professional discourse practices, both spoken and written.

**Testi di riferimento**

Materials will be provided during the course. There is no set book.

**Altre informazioni**

Students whose English is only just adequate to be admitted to the School are warmly advised to improve their English as much as possible over the summer and may be advised to enrol on either the IELTS or a C1 course at the university language centre (CLA).