Universidad Zaragoza

Year : 2020/21

29998 - Technical English

Syllabus Information

Academic Year: 2020/21
Subject: 29998 - Technical English
Faculty / School: 110 - Escuela de Ingeniería y Arquitectura
Degree: 436 - Bachelor's Degree in Industrial Engineering Technology
440 - Bachelor's Degree in Electronic and Automatic Engineering
434 - Bachelor's Degree in Mechanical Engineering
558 - Bachelor's Degree in Industrial Design and Product Development Engineering
271 - Bachelor's Degree in Industrial Design and Product Development Engineering
435 - Bachelor's Degree in Chemical Engineering
438 - Bachelor's Degree in Telecomunications Technology and Services Engineering
470 - Bachelor's Degree in Architecture Studies
476 -
430 - Bachelor's Degree in Electrical Engineering
581 - Bachelor's Degree in Telecomunications Technology and Services Engineering
439 - Bachelor's Degree in Informatics Engineering
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Subject Type: Optional

Module: ---

1.General information

1.1.Aims of the course

1. Be able to communicate accurately in written and oral discourses, according to the audience and the discourse purpose in academica and professional contexts.
2. To develop strategies for oral and written communication that allow them to prepare, process and present information.

1.2.Context and importance of this course in the degree

English is a lingua franca in professional and academic communication. Discourse competence in English is essential for the professional competence. Students of technical English must be able to use the English language to develop different activities related to their discipline and future career. Given the instrumental nature of this subjet, it is particularly suited to

collaborations with other subjects from the engineering and architecture degrees. Thus, at the end of their degrees, students will be able to write their dissertations in English. Nor should we forget that there are many students who study abroad thanks to the Erasmus exchange programme and English becomes the language for instruction.

1.3.Recommendations to take this course

This subject is recommended for all students taking a degree from EINA.

The entrance level is B1 (CEFR) and by the end of the course they will have achieved a higher level.
The course has a professional and academic focus on the study and practise of English, related to a technical environment.
Interaction in class will be in English.
Having a good level of general English will be very useful, but that does not mean mastering the technical use of English.
Students must learn to communicate effectively in a professional context and to understand the appropriate linguistic conventions and functions for different situations.

2.Learning goals

2.1.Competences

1: Communicate and transfer knowledge, abilities and skills.
2: Work in a multi-disciplinary group and in a multilingual environment.
3: Use and express in a second language.
4: Learn in a continuous way and develop autonomous learning strategies.
5: Use ICTs
6: Write reports and documents in English.

2.2.Learning goals

The students will be able to...
1: understand and use technical terminology relevant to their professional and academic context.
2: use a reasonable level of correction in grammatical structures and functions characteric of technical communication. 3: understand technical documments and their content, find and use information selectively.
4: write professional and academic documents, at an intermediate nivel (following the conventions associated with different types of text and demonstrating a variety of grammatical structures, vocabulary and accuracy).
5: perform oral presentations on a topic of their specialty, showing an intermediate level of English (fluently, accuracy and wide vocabulary) and/or participate in other oral interactions related to their professional context, such as negotiations and telephone conversations, understanding their speakers and expressing themselves with clarity and accuracy.

2.3.Importance of learning goals

It provides added value to all the profiles gathered in Campus Rio Ebro. It is designed so that the student can modify the scientific and technical convetions to be able to find and apply original and effective solutions, that is, to be more efficient.

3.Assessment (1st and 2nd call)

3.1.Assessment tasks (description of tasks, marking system and assessment criteria)

CONTINUOUS ASSESSMENT

1. **Written** assessment (55%)
    1. Reading comprehension activities
    2. Listening comprehension activities
    3. Vocabulary and use of English activities
2. **Oral assessment (15%):** oral expression activities. Warning: because of the individual nature of the test, dates and schedules can be different from the written assessment, for organisational reasons.
3. **Practical tasks (30%):** Written and oral production actividades.

ASSESSMENT BY FINAL EXAM

1. **Written** assessment (70%)
    1. Reading comprehension activities
    2. Listening comprehension activities
    3. Vocabulary and use of English activities
2. **Oral assessment (30%):** oral expression activities. Warning: because of the individual nature of the test, dates and schedules can be different from the written assessment, for organisational reasons.

In order to pass the subject a total of 50% must be obtained.

Final exam and second assessment

The percentages are the same as in the first assessment (by final exam), however the student must take only the assessment (written or oral) failed in the first assessment, maintaining the mark obtained in the assessment passed.

4.Methodology, learning tasks, syllabus and resources

4.1.Methodological overview

The methodology followed in this course is oriented towards the achievement of the learning objectives. A wide range of teaching and learning tasks are implemented, such as lectures and practice sessions.

Although 20 hours are assigned to theory and 20 hours to practice in this course, theory and practice will be combined due to the methodological approach applied and the practical nature of it. Students will play a very active role in the learning process, working individually and in groups. Apart from the oral and written skills, the students will be able to develop other transversal competencies that are expected from engineers and architects such as the capacity for solving problems, working in teams, analyzing and synthesizing information, organizing and planning and managing information and making decisions.

4.2.Learning tasks

This course includes the following learning tasks:

- **Lectures**: Students will acquire concepts related to the use of English (grammar, vocabulary) in technical English. They will do reading/listening comprehension exercises.
- **Practice sessions**: Students will practice and develop oral and written skills in English.

4.3.Syllabus

The course will address the following topics:

1. TERMINOLOGY AND SPECIFIC FUNCTIONS RELATED TO THE TECHNICAL FIELD

- Products, descriptions, materials, properties, functions, and applications.
- Projects: production, technical specifications and technology.

1. WRITTEN PRODUCTION AND COMPREHENSION OF PROFESSIONAL AND ACADEMIC TEXTS
2. ORAL COMMUNICATION IN PROFESSIONAL AND ACADEMIC CONTEXTS

- Oral presentations, English in other professional situations (phone conversations, information exchange, etc.)

4.4.Course planning and calendar

Further information concerning the timetable, classroom, office hours, assessment dates and other details regarding this course will be provided on the first day of class or please refer to the College of Higher Engineering and Architecture (EINA) website (https://eina.unizar.es/) and Moodle.

4.5.Bibliography and recommended resources